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LIVE STOCK SURVEY - DECEMBER 1, 1948

Ottawa, April 2, 1949: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the second report on the December Live Stock Survey. The report covers estimates of the numbers of cattle, sheep and horses on farms in Canada at December 1, 1948. A report released on March 12 dealt with swine estimates. These reports are based on compilations from schedules completed by farmers in December, 1948 and are prepared in cooperation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture.

CATTLE

There were 8,251,000 cattle on farms in Canada at December 1, 1948. This estimate indicates a decline of 7.7 per cent from the 8,944,000 total at December 1, 1947. Reductions occurred in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and British Columbia. The total number of milk cows declined only 3.5 per cent. Favourable prices resulted in greater liquidation of other classes of cattle and calves than of milk cows.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

The total of 1,322,000 sheep and lambs on farms in Canada at December 1, 1948 represents a 16.7 per cent reduction from 1,587,000 at December 1, 1947. Decreases were most marked in Quebec and Manitoba. Lambs were marketed earlier than in 1947 and a smaller proportion of the spring lamb crop was carried over. The reduction in breeding stock was less than that shown in the accompanying tables for total numbers. Sheep over one year old declined about 13 per cent from the number on farms at December 1, 1947.

HORSES

Total horses on farms at December 1, 1948 were estimated at 1,842,000, a decline of almost 7 per cent from the total at the same date in 1947. Decreases occurred in all provinces but were greater in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario than in other provinces.

Table 1

CATTLE: NUMBERS ON FARMS IN CANADA, AT JUNE 1 AND DECEMBER 1, 1941 TO 1948

Year		June 1	December 1
		'000	'000
1941	.....	8,517	8,249
1942	.....	8,945	8,854
1943	.....	9,665	9,506
1944	.....	10,346	10,258
1945	.....	10,759	9,961
1946	.....	9,665	9,016
1947	.....	9,718	8,944
1948	.....	9,470	8,251

Table 2

CATTLE: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AT DECEMBER 1, 1947 AND 1948

Province	1947			1948			1948 Total
	Milk	Other	Total	Milk	Other	Total	% of
	Cows	Cattle		Cows	Cattle		1947
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
P.E.I.	40,300	46,500	86,800	40,300	47,100	87,400	101
N.S.	96,400	94,600	191,000	91,100	91,400	182,500	95.5
N.B.	107,200	79,300	186,500	99,100	75,300	174,400	93.5
Que.	1,104,300	691,700	1,796,000	1,094,700	634,200	1,728,900	96.3
Ont.	1,256,400	1,590,700	2,847,100	1,219,400	1,504,200	2,723,600	95.7
Man.	264,600	437,400	702,000	240,100	365,700	605,800	86.3
Sask.	385,700	918,200	1,303,900	358,300	751,200	1,109,500	85.1
Alta.	318,100	1,191,200	1,509,300	306,000	1,010,200	1,316,200	87.2
B.C.	93,600	227,300	320,900	90,400	232,600	323,000	101
CANADA	3,666,600	5,276,900	8,943,500	3,539,400	4,711,900	8,251,300	92.3

Table 3

SHEEP AND LAMBS: NUMBERS ON FARMS IN CANADA, JUNE 1 AND DECEMBER 1, 1941 TO 1948

Year		June 1	December 1
		'000	'000
1941	.....	2,840	2,254
1942	.....	3,197	2,483
1943	.....	3,459	2,733
1944	.....	3,726	2,822
1945	.....	3,622	2,456
1946	.....	2,942	1,782
1947	.....	2,707	1,587
1948	.....	2,251	1,322

Table 4

SHEEP AND LAMBS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AT DECEMBER 1, 1947 AND 1948

Province	1947	1948	1948 Total % of 1947
	No.	No.	%
Prince Edward Island .....	27,300	23,000	84.2
Nova Scotia .....	80,000	73,000	91.2
New Brunswick .....	51,000	42,000	82.4
Quebec .....	342,200	260,500	76.1
Ontario .....	385,600	341,000	88.4
Manitoba .....	86,500	66,100	76.4
Saskatchewan .....	177,200	149,600	84.4
Alberta .....	372,000	305,700	82.2
British Columbia .....	64,900	61,400	94.6
CANADA .....	1,586,700	1,322,300	83.3



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Table 5

HORSES: NUMBERS ON FARMS IN CANADA, AT JUNE 1 AND DECEMBER 1, 1941 TO 1948

Year		June 1	December 1
		'000	'000
1941	.....	2,789	2,886
1942	.....	2,816	2,886
1943	.....	2,775	2,845
1944	.....	2,735	2,780
1945	.....	2,585	2,663
1946	.....	2,200	2,243
1947	.....	2,032	1,979
1948	.....	1,905	1,842

Table 6

HORSES: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AT DECEMBER 1, 1947 AND 1948

Province	1947	1948	1948 Total % of 1947
	No.	No.	%
Prince Edward Island .....	23,700	22,600	95.1
Nova Scotia .....	32,100	31,300	97.5
New Brunswick .....	42,900	41,700	97.2
Quebec .....	315,700	304,200	96.4
Ontario .....	451,000	419,200	92.9
Manitoba .....	181,600	171,200	94.3
Saskatchewan .....	486,600	441,900	90.8
Alberta .....	393,800	360,300	91.5
British Columbia .....	52,000	49,500	95.2
CANADA .....	1,979,400	1,841,900	93.1