

farming in Canada, and the resulting data, published in 1913, gave an impetus to the industry.¹ The Prince Edward Island Silver Fox Breeders' Association was formed in 1915, and the Canadian Silver Fox Breeders' Association in 1920. Fox farming is now carried on in all provinces of the Dominion and the number of farms is steadily increasing.

Although the fox has proved the most suited to domestication, other kinds of fur-bearing wild animals are being raised in captivity—mink, raccoon, skunk, marten, fisher and rabbit. Karakul sheep, from which are obtained the furs known as "persian lamb," "astrachan" and "broadtail," are also being raised successfully in Canada. Mink farms are the most numerous of the miscellaneous class, raccoon farms coming next. A few of the fox farms also raise miscellaneous fur-bearing animals in addition to the foxes.

Fur Farms of Canada, 1924.—The term "fur farm" includes farms devoted entirely to the raising of fur-bearing animals, together with parts of farms where the raising of fur-bearing animals is carried on as a distinct branch of the operations. Of such farms there were 1,551 in Canada in 1924, comprising 1,466 fox farms and 85 farms raising fur-bearing animals other than foxes. Chief in number among the latter are mink farms numbering 30, raccoon farms numbering 29 and rabbit farms numbering 11. Compared with 1923, the fox farms show an increase of 287 and the miscellaneous fur-bearing animal farms an increase of 37. Farms for the raising of Chinchilla rabbits, of Siberian hares and of coyotes were recorded in 1923 for the first time. Increases in the number of fur farms are shown by all the provinces except the Yukon, but the largest proportionate increases are in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. The total value of the fur farms in 1924 was, as shown in Table 23, \$10,966,310, comprising \$2,576,923, the value of land and buildings, and \$8,389,387, the value of the fur-bearing animals. As compared with 1923, an increase of \$504,697 is shown in the value of land and buildings, and an increase of \$2,081,155 in the value of the fur-bearing animals, a total increase in the value of property of \$2,585,852. Table 24 shows the number and value of fur-bearing animals on fur farms in Canada for the years 1922-1924, and Table 25 the number and value of fur-bearing animals sold and of pelts sold for the years 1923 and 1924. The former table shows that the number of fur-bearing animals on fur farms increased from 29,282 in 1923 to 37,101 in 1924, and that their value increased from \$6,308,232 to \$8,389,387.

Fur-bearing animals sold from fur farms during 1924 numbered 13,041, of the value of \$2,553,380, as compared with 7,030, value \$1,314,493, in 1923, silver foxes numbering 11,193, value \$2,484,166, in 1924, as against 6,084, value \$1,286,375, in 1923. The total number of pelts sold from fur farms in 1924 was 7,339, of the value of \$664,620, as compared with 9,212, value \$859,872, in 1923. Of silver foxes the number of pelts sold was 5,714, value \$620,810, as compared with 7,894, value \$819,429, in 1923. The average value for silver fox pelts was \$108.65 in 1924, as against \$103.80 in 1923.

Altogether the revenue derived from the sale of live foxes and of pelts totalled \$3,218,300 in 1924, as compared with \$2,174,365 in 1923. Silver foxes and pelts amounted in value to \$3,104,976 in 1924 and \$2,105,804 in 1923.

For further particulars the reader is referred to the report on Fur Farms, 1924, which may be obtained from the Dominion Statistician, Ottawa.

¹Fur Farming in Canada. By J. Walter Jones, B.A., B.S.A., Commission of Conservation, Ottawa, second edition revised and enlarged, 1914.