

and ermine showed substantial increases in quantity, value and average price per pelt, while red fox recorded an increase in average price only, and white fox a decrease in all three items.

6.—Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Taken in Canada, by Kind, Years Ended June 30, 1939 and 1940

Kind of Pelt	Pelts		Total Values		Average Values	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Badger.....	3,237	4,663	22,485	15,460	6.95	3.32
Bear, black and brown.....	1,583	1,037	2,841	2,006	1.79	1.93
Bear, grizzly.....	Nil	2	-	14	-	7.00
Bear, white.....	115	150	1,616	2,108	14.05	14.05
Bear, unspecified.....	43	21	182	84	4.23	4.00
Beaver.....	64,086	78,659	985,743	1,429,647	15.38	18.18
Cat, domestic.....	213	282	29	47	0.14	0.17
Coyote or prairie wolf ¹	33,995	31,797	198,587	179,616	5.84	5.65
Ermine (weasel).....	697,104	977,413	354,485	553,424	0.51	0.57
Fisher.....	3,399	2,886	166,656	152,166	49.03	52.73
Fitch.....	1,283	676	2,365	993	1.84	1.47
Fox, blue.....	1,260	1,442	32,743	20,594	25.99	14.28
Fox, cross.....	13,555	13,835	186,908	200,147	13.79	14.47
Fox, red.....	62,347	53,153	340,596	306,981	5.46	5.78
Fox, silver.....	319,693	248,229	5,660,722	4,385,997	17.71	15.43
Fox, white.....	56,396	32,535	677,531	281,694	12.01	8.66
Fox, other.....	194	193	833	864	4.55	4.48
Lynx.....	8,109	7,473	299,153	266,765	36.89	35.70
Marten.....	21,843	22,023	550,263	663,633	25.19	30.13
Mink.....	220,359	384,844	2,103,774	3,100,502	9.55	8.89
Muskrat.....	2,295,550	3,241,089	2,011,469	3,829,318	0.88	1.18
Nutria.....	2	19	10	93	5.00	5.16
Otter.....	11,125	10,917	168,021	159,786	15.10	14.64
Rabbit.....	192,488	232,814	23,093	27,938	0.12	0.12
Raccoon.....	18,658	19,576	38,241	54,028	2.05	2.76
Skunk.....	160,734	170,246	158,235	206,712	0.98	1.21
Squirrel.....	2,296,139	4,076,463	245,312	778,909	0.11	0.19
Wild cat.....	1,125	1,184	3,120	4,819	2.77	4.07
Wolf ¹	6,866	6,429	48,212	41,299	7.02	6.42
Wolverine.....	721	645	3,612	2,699	5.01	4.18
Totals.....	6,492,222	9,620,695	14,236,937	16,668,348	-	-

¹ Coyote or prairie wolf pelts for Manitoba are included with wolf pelts.

Since the First World War, Montreal has been recognized as an international fur market, holding the first Canadian fur auction sale in 1920. Through the medium of the Canadian fur auctions, grading and marketing of furs have been placed on a scientific footing, resulting in more or less stabilized conditional prices to the benefit equally of trapper, breeder, manufacturer, distributor and consumer. At the sales held at Montreal during the season 1939-40, the pelts sold numbered 1,088,377 while the value amounted to \$4,448,087. Fur-auction sales are held also at Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver.

During the past twenty years or so, immense improvements have been made in the dressing, dyeing and finishing of furs. In 1939, the 14 fur-dressing and -dyeing plants in Canada treated 6,237,505 fur skins, the chief kinds being muskrat (1,862,868) and rabbit (1,805,323). The number of plants engaged in the manufacture of fur goods—coats, capes, scarves, muffs, etc.—numbered 370 with a total output valued at \$18,279,866.