Sugar Beets and Beetroot Sugar.-Sugar beets are grown in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, six beet-sugar factories being located in these Provinces. In Quebec, sugar beets have been grown only since 1942 and production centres around St. Hilaire, south of Montreal in the Eastern Townships. The area harvested in Quebec in 1946 was 2,413 acres although the plant at St. Hilaire has a capacity to handle production from 10,000 acres. In Ontario, sugar-beet factories are located at Wallaceburg and Chatham. The acreage in Ontario has declined steadily from 38,169 in 1940 to only 9,287 in 1943. Since that year, however, the acreage has again expanded and in 1946, 23,293 acres were cropped, though production still remained well below the capacity of the two plants and only the Chatham factory processed beets in 1946. Sugar-beet production in Manitoba also declined during 1941-44. In 1940, the area harvested was 15,682 acres while in 1946 the area amounted to only 11,599 acres. The sugar-beet plant in Manitoba is located at Fort Garry. Sugar-beet production in Alberta is carried on in the neighbourhood of Raymond and Picture Butte. This area has seen a steady increase during the past six years with the acreage in 1946 amounting to 29,564 acres.

33.—Acreages, Yields and Values of Sugar Beets, and Quantities and Values of Refined Beetroot Sugar Produced, 1939-46

Note.—Figures for the years 1911-20 will be found at p. 1057 of the 1932 Year Book; for 1921-30 at p. 257 of the 1933 edition; and for 1931-38 at p. 222 of the 1942 edition.

	Sugar Beets					Refined Beetroot Sugar Produced		
Year	Seeded Area	Yield per Acre	Total Yield	Average Price per Ton	Total Value	Quantity	Value	Price per Pound
	acres	tons	tons	\$	\$	lb.	\$	cts.
1939	59,603	9·84	586,444	7.53	4,417,372	169, 320, 343	8,063,332	4.8
1940	82,270	10.03	825, 344	7.30	6,022,670	213,602,511	10,853,665	5.1
1941	70, 803	10.01	708, 616	8.16	5,781,151	215, 879, 271	11,639,825	5.4
1942	64,768	10.84	701,884	9.17	6,434,517	189,066,870	11,349,746	6•0
1943	57, 483	8.25	474,378	9.68	4, 592, 240	129,268,010	8,728,995	6•8
1944	70, 446	8.02	564, 927	9.91	5, 598, 393	165, 318, 840	11,281,052	6.8
1945	63,134	10.44	618, 790	10.01	6, 192, 942	163,837,790	11, 198, 989	6•8
1946	71,939	10.23	735, 849	10.91	8,030,859	205, 779, 800	14, 022, 621	6.8

Flax.—There is an excellent market for dew-retted flax fibre in the United Kingdom. Canadian production, however, has to meet the competition of flax of equal quality from other countries where it can be produced more economically. British buyers in 1948 were paying 2 to 3 cents per lb. more than was offered during the 1946-47 season. The demand for Canadian flax in Canada has led to plans for an increase in acreage. The Canadian producer of fibre flax seed to-day is in a very favourable position.

631 - 25