

The reduction in the number of horses has been going on steadily for a number of years with the trend towards greater mechanization in agricultural production. The total number of horses on farms in Canada was under 2,000,000 in 1948, the lowest number since 1906. The number of cattle decreased by 3 p.c. from the 1947 total but there was practically no change in the number of milk cows, the increases in Quebec, Ontario and Alberta offsetting the decreases in the other provinces. Substantial decreases took place in numbers of swine and sheep. The peak number for swine was reached in 1943 and except for a moderate recovery in 1947 the decrease has been continuous. Favourable marketing conditions during the first six months of 1948 led to a considerable liquidation of swine and the estimated numbers on farms at June 1, 1948 was 19 p.c. below the 1947 figure. The number of sheep has declined steadily since 1944 despite relatively favourable prices for both lamb and wool.

### 18.—Numbers of Farm Live Stock, by Provinces, June 1, 1944-48

NOTE.—Figures for years prior to 1944 will be found in the corresponding tables in previous editions of the Year Book.

Province and Item	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	Province and Item	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>Totals—</b>						<b>Ontario—</b>					
Horses.....	2,735	2,585	2,200	2,032	1,905	Horses.....	507	492	467	451	424
Milk cows.....	3,930	3,998	3,711	3,697	3,701	Milk cows.....	1,188	1,253	1,250	1,253	1,261
Other cattle.....	6,416	6,760	5,954	6,021	5,769	Other cattle.....	1,557	1,655	1,618	1,622	1,603
Sheep.....	3,726	3,622	2,942	2,707	2,251	Sheep.....	737	724	701	667	575
Swine.....	7,741	6,026	4,910	5,473	4,463	Swine.....	1,900	1,979	2,013	2,245	1,769
<b>P. E. Island—</b>						<b>Manitoba—</b>					
Horses.....	27	27	25	24	23	Horses.....	290	264	215	195	179
Milk cows.....	46	47	46	43	42	Milk cows.....	387	366	277	267	262
Other cattle.....	59	59	56	52	52	Other cattle.....	606	658	523	512	462
Sheep.....	58	60	55	49	43	Sheep.....	319	288	206	181	141
Swine.....	66	60	64	69	62	Swine.....	624	457	308	347	257
<b>Nova Scotia—</b>						<b>Saskatchewan—</b>					
Horses.....	36	35	34	33	32	Horses.....	819	783	570	505	463
Milk cows.....	109	109	103	98	95	Milk cows.....	529	525	399	393	387
Other cattle.....	123	117	115	105	97	Other cattle.....	1,356	1,454	1,100	1,118	1,050
Sheep.....	161	160	154	138	131	Sheep.....	531	513	335	285	253
Swine.....	69	59	49	60	48	Swine.....	1,600	1,007	523	558	396
<b>New Brunswick—</b>						<b>Alberta—</b>					
Horses.....	47	46	45	43	42	Horses.....	603	564	469	411	377
Milk cows.....	118	119	116	111	103	Milk cows.....	386	376	326	316	327
Other cattle.....	114	107	102	98	94	Other cattle.....	1,357	1,484	1,272	1,338	1,257
Sheep.....	111	114	104	95	79	Sheep.....	1,023	975	667	614	449
Swine.....	104	82	78	92	63	Swine.....	2,279	1,469	940	964	834
<b>Quebec—</b>						<b>British Columbia</b>					
Horses.....	344	314	318	317	314	Horses.....	62	60	57	53	51
Milk cows.....	1,071	1,104	1,098	1,121	1,130	Milk cows.....	96	99	96	95	94
Other cattle.....	959	908	874	913	886	Other cattle.....	285	318	294	263	268
Sheep.....	638	649	595	572	475	Sheep.....	148	139	125	106	105
Swine.....	1,001	844	868	1,061	975	Swine.....	98	69	67	77	59