

Although the fox was the first fur-bearing animal to be raised in captivity, many other kinds are now being bred—mink, raccoon, skunk, marten, fisher and chinchilla. Mink are the most numerous and the most valuable of such farm-raised animals. From 1920 to 1939 there was a rapid expansion of fur farming in Canada and during that period there was a marked change in the type of furs that were most acceptable to the market. Black fox was popular 25 years ago. A few years later the highest prices were being paid for quarter and half silvers and during recent years the full silver and new types have been setting the upper price limit. The development of new colour phases in foxes and mink proved an incentive to the fur-farming industry. New-type fox such as platinum, platinum-silver, pearl-platinum and white-marked have met a ready market as have mutation mink including silver-sable, platinum, silverblu, pastel and a number of other colour phases. For 1949, however, new type fox has lost place relative to mutation mink. In recent years chinchilla farming has been increasing and an association, the National Chinchilla Breeders of Canada, has been formed. Chinchillas are now registrable under Live Stock Registrations of the Federal Department of Agriculture.

### Section 3.—Statistics of Fur Production\*

**Total Fur Production Statistics.**—Early records of raw-fur production are confined to the decennial censuses, when account was taken of the numbers and values of pelts obtained by trappers. In 1920 the Dominion Bureau of Statistics commenced an annual survey of raw-fur production, basing its statistics on information supplied by the licensed fur traders. This survey was continued for some years. More recently, annual statements, based on royalties, export tax, etc., have been made available by the provincial game departments (except Prince Edward Island), and these statements are now used in the preparation of the statistics issued annually by the Bureau. In Prince Edward Island, the statistics are based on returns supplied to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics by traders in furs from that Province.

#### 1.—Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Produced, with Percentages Sold from Fur Farms, Years Ended June 30, 1930-49

Year	Pelts		Percentage of Value Sold from Fur Farms <sup>1</sup>	Year	Pelts		Percentage of Value Sold from Fur Farms <sup>1</sup>
	Number	Value			Number	Value	
		\$				\$	
1930.....	3,798,444	12,158,376	19	1940.....	9,620,695	16,668,348	31
1931.....	4,060,356	11,803,217	26	1941.....	7,257,337	21,123,161	26
1932.....	4,449,289	10,189,481	30	1942.....	19,561,024	24,859,869	19
1933.....	4,503,558	10,305,154	30	1943.....	7,418,971	28,505,033	24
1934.....	6,076,197	12,349,328	30	1944.....	6,324,240	33,147,392	28
1935.....	4,926,413	12,843,341	31	1945.....	6,994,686	31,001,456	31
1936.....	4,596,713	15,464,883	40	1946.....	7,593,416	43,870,541	30
1937.....	6,237,640	17,526,365	40	1947.....	7,486,914	26,349,997	37
1938.....	4,745,927	13,196,354	43	1948.....	7,952,146	32,232,992	37
1939.....	6,492,222	14,286,937	40	1949 <sup>2</sup> .....	9,902,790	22,899,882	33

<sup>1</sup> Approximate.    <sup>2</sup> Exclusive of Newfoundland.

Ontario leads the provinces in value of fur production, accounting for 25 p.c. of the total in the 1948-49 season. The number of pelts taken in either Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba was higher than in Ontario, but in these provinces muskrat and squirrel, which are lower-priced furs, made up the major portion of the total. In Ontario the more valuable mink, beaver and fox pelts brought the total value to a much higher level.

\* Revised in the Agriculture Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.