

Average prices for pelts were generally lower in 1956-57 than in 1955-56. Of the nine kinds having the highest value of production, mink pelts including standard and mutation dropped from \$20.19 to \$14.78, beaver from \$12.10 to \$11.64, muskrat from \$0.95 to \$0.89, squirrel from \$0.46 to \$0.45, ermine from \$1.35 to \$1.17, otter from \$26.71 to \$26.54, fisher from \$22.04 to \$19.20 and marten from \$7.87 to \$6.05. White fox pelts increased from \$13.14 to \$16.28.

3.—Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Taken, by Kind, Years Ended June 30, 1956 and 1957

Kind	1956			1957		
	Pelts	Total Value	Average Value	Pelts	Total Value	Average Value
	No.	\$	\$	No.	\$	\$
Badger.....	271	95	0.35	395	118	0.30
Bear, white.....	454	11,490	25.31	445	11,260	25.30
Bear, unspecified.....	319	739	2.32	578	1,550	2.68
Beaver.....	282,036	3,412,108	12.10	280,671	3,267,234	11.64
Coyote or prairie wolf.....	4,534	11,072	2.44	3,211	6,614	2.06
Ermine (weasel).....	379,597	512,163	1.35	317,380	372,801	1.17
Fisher.....	6,324	139,390	22.04	5,076	97,440	19.20
Fox, blue.....	331	2,180	6.59	230 ¹	847 ¹	3.68
Fox, cross.....	966	1,104	1.14	615	722	1.17
Fox, new-type.....	1,762	12,577	7.14	²	²	...
Fox, red.....	22,458	12,351	0.55	7,412	5,565	0.75
Fox, silver.....	4,683	31,184	6.66	4,036	27,696	6.86
Fox, white.....	31,728	417,027	13.14	28,338	461,271	16.28
Fox, not specified.....	74	490	...	19	56	...
Lynx.....	9,988	52,652	5.27	8,748	75,200	8.60
Marten.....	16,641	130,933	7.87	13,381	80,968	6.05
Mink, standard.....	515,548	9,895,874	19.19	648,901	8,420,889	12.98
Mink, mutation.....	363,282	7,851,762	21.61	491,620	8,438,905	17.17
Muskrat.....	4,518,731	4,313,453	0.95	3,566,253	3,177,707	0.89
Otter.....	14,492	387,143	26.71	13,505	358,472	26.54
Rabbit.....	117,709	66,815	0.57	92,118	64,707	0.70
Raccoon.....	36,807	81,743	2.22	32,168	54,368	1.69
Skunk.....	2,932	2,199	0.75	2,630	1,876	0.71
Squirrel.....	1,391,089	640,235	0.46	1,397,499	623,051	0.45
Wildcat.....	1,404	1,176	0.84	512	497	0.97
Wolf.....	558	2,510	4.50	515	3,274	6.36
Wolverine.....	599	10,546	17.61	527	9,787	18.57
Other.....	1,947	50,735	...	2,941	29,255	...
Totals.....	7,727,264	28,051,746	...	6,919,724	25,592,130	...

¹ Ranch-raised blue included with silver fox.

² Included with silver fox.

Fur Farm Statistics.—There were 2,829 fur farms operating in Canada in 1956 in comparison with 2,706 in the previous year. The increase was accounted for by the operation of a larger number of chinchilla farms.

The number of mink on farms increased from 402,453 valued at \$11,880,147 in 1955 to 416,098 valued at \$10,000,621 in 1956. Fox pelt production decreased from 7,238 valued at \$66,070 in 1955 to 4,059 valued at \$29,636 in 1956. Mink pelts produced numbered 786,760 valued at \$15,787,520 compared with 1,002,188 valued at \$15,413,231 in 1956.