

The ten principal kinds of pelts taken according to their total value in 1961-62 were: ranch mink, 1,269,050 pelts valued at \$18,405,102; beaver, 386,823 pelts at \$4,249,632; wild mink, 147,011 pelts at \$1,992,629; muskrat, 1,524, 363 pelts at \$1,334,229; squirrel, 1,869,940 pelts at \$681,969 (excluding Ontario); white fox, 45,358 pelts at \$534,907; lynx, 47,625 pelts at \$448,052; otter, 17,202 pelts at \$387,371; marten, 36,102 pelts at \$201,809; and ermine, 148,714 pelts at \$135,288. These accounted for 98.1 p.c. of the total value of pelts produced.

3.—Pelts of Fur Bearing Animals Taken, by Kind, Years Ended June 30, 1961 and 1962

Kind	1961			1962		
	Pelts	Total Value	Average Value	Pelts	Total Value	Average Value
	No.	\$	\$	No.	\$	\$
Badger.....	827	2,709	3.28	658	1,909	2.90
Bear, white.....	575	34,500	60.00	497	27,102	54.53
Bear, other.....	404	3,297	8.16	2,256	23,499	10.42
Beaver.....	399,459	4,725,877	11.83	386,823	4,249,632	10.99
Coyote or prairie wolf.....	6,156	25,487	4.14	6,789	29,726	4.38
Ermine (weasel).....	197,948	176,285	0.89	148,714	135,288	0.91
Fisher.....	6,206	68,586	11.05	5,863	72,670	12.39
Fox, blue.....	370	2,813	7.60	411	3,044	7.41
Fox, cross and red.....	17,885	50,953	2.85	15,300	51,483	3.36
Fox, silver.....	349	1,756	5.03	351	1,774	5.05
Fox, white.....	51,995	1,013,413	19.49	45,358	534,907	11.79
Fox, not specified.....	18	53	2.94	13	38	2.92
Lynx.....	42,016	449,900	10.71	47,625	448,052	9.41
Marten.....	39,009	205,607	5.27	36,102	201,809	5.59
Mink, wild.....	178,784	2,331,241	13.04	147,011	1,992,629	13.55
Mink, ranch.....	1,203,853	16,888,286	14.03	1,269,050	18,405,102	14.50
Muskrat.....	1,745,576	1,179,642	0.68	1,524,363	1,334,229	0.88
Otter.....	17,408	410,799	23.60	17,202	387,371	22.52
Rabbit.....	186,318	122,381	0.66	192,991	121,459	0.63
Raccoon.....	25,266	44,685	1.77	23,534	47,363	2.01
Skunk.....	1,111	736	0.66	954	560	0.59
Squirrel.....	2,099,046	834,126	0.40	1,869,940	681,969	0.36
Wildcat.....	1,326	2,143	1.60	855	1,728	2.02
Wolf.....	773	10,254	13.27	416	4,110	9.88
Wolverine.....	435	6,554	15.07	387	5,990	15.48
Other.....	14,247	145,004	...	16,356	174,917	...
Totals.....	6,237,360	28,737,087	...	5,759,819	28,938,360	...

Fur Farm Production.—Fur bearing animals were first raised in Canada on farms in Prince Edward Island about 1887 and in Quebec in 1898; today fur farming is carried on in all the provinces. There was a slow but steady increase in the number of farms until 1920 when 587 were reported, followed by a period of more rapid growth to 1938 when the number reached 10,454 with a production value of \$6,500,000. During the war years many fur farms went out of business and although prices rose considerably after the War, operating costs increased and the number of fur farms, particularly those conducted in conjunction with other farming operations, continued to decrease. By 1961 only 2,173 farms reported but the value of their production continued to increase, reaching \$18,580,000. Although there were 158 fewer farms in 1961 than in 1960, the number of animals on such farms at Dec. 31 was nearly 12,000 higher than at the same date of the previous year and the number of fur farm pelts taken during the year increased from 1,218,100 to 1,285,406. Mink accounted for 99.1 p.c. of the value of fur farm production and fur farm production accounted for 64.2 p.c. of total production.