order of importance, were Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec. The following figures show the production of chinchilla pelts in Canada since 1956:—

Year	Pelt Production	Average Realization	Year	Pelt Production	Average Realization
	No.	$		No.	$
1956	2,705	9.65	1961	10,559	14.07
1957	4,701	13.84	1962	11,193	13.56
1958	8,336	13.43	1963	12,226	14.03
1959	8,558	13.17	1964	12,846	13.14
1960	9,067	13.06	1965	17,146	13.17

The fox farming industry showed a further decline in 1965 when 504 pelts were produced on 39 Canadian farms, compared with 780 pelts produced on 36 farms in 1964. Demand, principally from Japan, continued strong for this fur and the average price for the 1965 pelt crop was $53.21, which was nearly 23 p.c. above the 1964 average and the highest return since 1929. The decreased pelt production in 1965 was partly due to the fact that breeders, encouraged by the stronger prices, retained more breeding animals than in 1964 but was mainly a continuation of the downward trend in production which has prevailed since the peak year of 1939 when 240,827 pelts were marketed.

Fur Marketing.—The bulk of the Canadian fur crop is sold in one or other of the eight fur auction houses located in Montreal, North Bay, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton and Vancouver. The marketing season extends from December each year through to the following June, or until the crop has been sold.

For the marketing agencies, December and January are months of particular stress. Pelting on the mink farms starts around mid-November and by the end of that month large quantities of pelts begin arriving at the auctions, to be included in the December sales. By early January the bulk of the crop has been delivered and since most breeders wish to have their pelts offered for sale immediately, the auctions are hard pressed to classify and catalogue the large quantities involved. In the period Dec. 1, 1965 to Jan. 31, 1966, approximately 90 p.c. of the 1965 crop of 1,633,152 ranched mink pelts was offered for sale, in addition to wild furs which become available in quantity from January onward. Before the growth of the fur farming industry the marketing of furs was spread more evenly throughout the year. The slower process of passing furs from the trapper to the fur buyer and on to the auction house was an important factor in the orderly marketing of the catch.

During the 1965-66 marketing season there was a buoyant demand for all types of Canadian furs and record numbers of buyers from other countries competed with Canadian fur merchants for the auction offerings. Returns for ranched mink were the highest since 1959-60 and many of the important wild fur species realized prices considerably above levels prevailing in recent years. Although the United States and Britain remained the most important purchasers, Canadian furs went to most of the countries of Continental Europe, Australia, South Africa, Hong Kong, Japan and other areas.

Section 2.—Fur Statistics

Subsection 1.—Fur Production and Trade*

Total Fur Production.—Annual figures of raw fur production have been made available by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics since 1920. For a number of years the statistics were based on information supplied by the licensed fur trappers but they are now based on figures of royalties, export taxes, etc., provided by the game departments of all provinces except Prince Edward Island. Figures for Prince Edward Island are based on returns supplied to the DBS by fur dealers in that province.

* Prepared by the Agriculture Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.