

## Subsection 2.—Livestock Marketings\*

The livestock industry was quite prosperous in 1966. Although the volume of commercial marketings was down for all classes of livestock, the value, as reported by the Canada Department of Agriculture, was the highest ever reached in Canada. The over-all average price for cattle and calves was substantially higher for all months of 1966 than for the corresponding months of 1965, resulting in an increase in the value of commercial marketings of \$165,000,000 over the previous year. The situation was about the same for the hog industry. Marketings were down but the increase in the average price of Grade B hogs at all stockyards by \$3.05 per cwt. to \$34.05 effectively raised the value of commercial marketings from \$343,000,000 to \$373,000,000. The average price of sheep and lambs was also higher than in the previous year but not enough to offset the decline in marketings. The result was a \$600,000 decrease in the value of commercial marketings.

In addition to cattle sold through public stockyards and directly to packing plants, there were 51,317 cattle reported shipped from country points in one province to country points in another, and 148,753 shipped direct on export, totalling 3,518,179. Alberta, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland were the only provinces showing gains in marketings over 1965 but these gains were relatively small compared with the increases realized in 1965. Calf marketings like other types of livestock were down in 1966, the main feature being a 21.7-p.c. increase in the number returned to country feedlots. The average dressed weight per carcass of cattle slaughtered in inspected packing plants during the year was 545.5 lb., an increase of almost 12 lb. over the previous year and of 3.5 lb. over 1964. Choice and good beef accounted for 51.6 p.c. of total cattle gradings in 1966.

Hogs graded at inspected and approved packing plants in 1966 plus those exported direct from country points totalled 6,870,017, 3.0 p.c. below the previous year. Although increases were noted in seven provinces, reductions in marketings in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario more than offset them. Hogs dressed 2 lb. heavier in 1966 and the proportion of total gradings, excluding sows and stags, classed as Grade A increased from 41.0 p.c. in 1965 to 41.9 p.c. in 1966.

\* More detailed information is available from DBS annual report *Livestock and Animal Products Statistics* (Catalogue No. 23-203), and the Canada Department of Agriculture publication *Livestock Market Review*. Statistics of livestock and poultry production and disappearance are given on pp. 503-507.

## 24.—Livestock Marketed at Stockyards and Packing Plants, by Grade, 1962-66

Livestock	1962	1963	1964	1965 <sup>1</sup>	1966
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
<b>Cattle</b> .....	<b>2,493,814</b>	<b>2,567,475</b>	<b>2,869,834</b>	<b>3,412,043</b>	<b>3,318,109</b>
Steers— <sup>2</sup>					
Choice.....	518,104	649,731	720,513	716,082	760,416
Good.....	272,379	273,428	313,813	292,940	308,920
Medium.....	160,971	155,543	172,691	208,793	173,325
Common.....	56,404	51,916	74,095	93,732	54,720
Heifers— <sup>2</sup>					
Choice.....	101,667	113,706	137,161	167,166	195,352
Good.....	105,913	103,383	131,006	169,994	183,809
Medium.....	112,796	107,274	115,452	160,974	141,458
Common.....	56,673	50,095	59,495	90,286	62,514
Cows.....	642,781	590,797	629,904	845,352	823,093
Bulls.....	69,515	60,754	65,486	78,977	67,808
Feeder steers.....	307,883	323,417	355,879	435,847	393,315
Stock and feeder cows and heifers.....	88,728	87,431	94,339	151,900	153,379
<b>Calves</b> .....	<b>984,237</b>	<b>916,068</b>	<b>983,616</b>	<b>1,182,623</b>	<b>1,106,616</b>
Choice and good—					
Veal.....	211,444	202,602	223,489	208,543	232,991
Butcher <sup>3</sup> .....	..	..	..	53,466	40,870

For footnotes, see end of table.