

million bu, were slightly below the 12.7 million bu of the previous year. Supplies of rye, at 34.7 million bu in 1971-72, were 5% above the 33.1 million bu in 1970-71. The out-turn of buckwheat declined by 15% from 2.8 million bu in 1970 to 2.4 million bu in 1971. The supply and disposition of the major Canadian grains are dealt with in Section 11.7.1.

Acreages, yields and prices of the principal field crops in the years 1968-71, with averages for 1963-67, are shown in Table 11.4; acreages, yields and values of field crops by province for 1970 and 1971, in Table 11.5; and acreages and production of grain in the Prairie Provinces for the years 1967-71 in Table 11.6. Table 11.7 shows the stocks of Canadian grain on hand in Canada and in the United States on July 31 for the years 1969-71, with averages for the ten-year period 1959-68.

11.4.3 Livestock and poultry

The 1971 Census of Agriculture reported 13.3 million head of cattle on farms in Canada, a 3% increase since the 1966 Census count of 12.9 million. Milk cows at 2.3 million (2 years and over) decreased by 16% over the same five-year period, continuing the trend toward reduced dairy numbers that began 20 years ago. Other cattle have shown an increase, however, reflecting the growing importance of beef production and, by 1971 Census count, these totalled 11 million head, up 8% since 1966 and 125% since the 1941 Census. Inspected slaughter of cattle in 1971, as reported by the Canada Department of Agriculture, amounted to 2.8 million, an increase of 3% from 1970, while 1971 calf slaughter at 464,240 decreased by 7% over the corresponding period, again underlining the increasing trend toward beef production as more calves are fed out and veal production consequently declines (Table 11.8).

Exports of cattle in 1971 were 245,221 head, down slightly from 247,029 in 1970. More than half of these animals (125,290) weighed less than 200 lb. and went to the United States. Imports at 90,707 head, (89,713 from the United States), were up by 74% and consisted largely of slaughter cattle going to eastern markets. Beef exports at 143 million lb. remained relatively constant but imports dropped 23% to 173 million lb. due to lower imports from Australia and New Zealand.

The Canada Department of Agriculture reported that the weighted average price of choice slaughter steers at Toronto for 1971 was \$34.30 compared to \$32.25 in 1970, and \$29.55 for the 1966-70 average.

The 1971 Census adjusted count for pigs at June 1, 1971 was 7.6 million, an increase of 41% over the 1966 count of 5.4 million and a record high. On the other hand, the number of farmers reporting pigs decreased 21%, from 154,328 in 1966 to 122,481 in 1971. Poor international grain markets coinciding with depressed prices for pigs resulted in farmers holding their pigs for finishing on their own grain stocks, mainly in the western provinces which were most affected by the poor grain market. Pigs slaughtered in federally inspected plants in 1971 numbered 9.7 million, as reported by the Canada Department of Agriculture, an increase of 18% over 1970 gradings. The increased gradings lowered prices and the weighted, average price at Toronto (\$ per 100 lb.) for index 100 pigs in 1971 was \$25.80 compared with \$32.20 in 1970 and \$35.70 in 1969.

The number of sheep and lambs on farms reported in the 1971 Census was 860,789, a decrease of 16% from the 1,019,997 reported in the 1966 Census, and the number of farmers reporting sheep was 14,090, down 34% from 21,453 over the same period. Inspected slaughter of sheep and lambs in 1971 was 205,082, up 13% from 1970. Imports of live animals also increased, from 28,121 in 1970 to 37,412 in 1971, with the increase due entirely to higher imports from the United States. Imports of mutton and lamb, on the other hand, decreased 25% to 52.8 million lb. in 1971.

Poultry on farms and their values in 1971-72 are given in Table 11.9; production and consumption of poultry meat are shown in Table 11.10.

11.4.4 Dairying

The number of dairy cattle on farms has been declining gradually for many years. Despite the over-all decrease in numbers, total milk production in Canada had remained fairly constant by an increase in output per cow until in 1971 when it declined 536 million lb. from the previous year (Table 11.11). Production is concentrated in central Canada, Quebec and Ontario accounting for about 73% of the total quantity.

Table 11.12 shows that the farm value of milk production in Canada for 1971 was \$768.5 million, an increase of approximately 3.5% over 1970. The value of milk used in factories in