

dairy-type farm if 40% to 50% of total sales was obtained from dairy products, provided the sale of dairy products together with the sale of cattle and calves amounted to 51% or more of the total sales. Under these criteria, it was possible for a farm to qualify for more than one product type. To prevent this possibility, the ten product types were given a priority rating in the order listed in Table 11.31.

Size of census-farms. In 1971, 49% of the census-farms in Canada contained less than 240 acres compared with 53% in 1966 (Table 11.32). This decrease in the number of small holdings again indicates the trend toward consolidation of farms into larger holdings. However, the wide variation in the distribution of farms by size between provinces continues. In the Atlantic Provinces 71.8% of the census-farms were under 240 acres in size; in Quebec and Ontario 78.4% were under 240 acres; in the Prairie Provinces only 17.9% fell below 240 acres; and in British Columbia the percentage was 78.5 (Table 11.32).

Age of census-farm operators. The proportion of census-farm operators under 35 remained at approximately 15% of the total. Similarly, the number of operators in the middle age groups, 35-54, remained at 52% and those in the older age groups, 55 and over, remained at 33% (Table 11.33).

Farm machinery. Table 11.34 indicates that between 1966 and 1971 farm trucks increased by 7.3%, swathers 12.6%, pick-up hay balers 11.6% and forage crop harvesters 17.3%. Decreases were reported for automobiles, 8.9%, tractors, 0.3% and combines, 4.4%.

11.6 International crop statistics

Tables 11.35 and 11.36 are based on estimates published by the Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, and give the acreages and production of wheat and the production of oats and barley for the harvests of 1970 and 1971 with averages for the years 1965-69, in the leading countries of the world.

11.7 The marketing of agricultural products

11.7.1 The grain trade

Major changes were made in delivery quota policies for the 1970-71 crop year, reflecting recommendations of a special quota committee and bringing Wheat Board quota policies into line with provisions of the federal government's Wheat Inventory Reduction Program. A separate acreage basis was established for producer deliveries of wheat, and the acreage basis for other quota grains was revised. Producers were permitted to select alternate delivery points, thus improving their delivery opportunities. These modifications resulted in a system more responsive to market requirements by enabling the Board to call for delivery of specific kinds of grain to meet sales commitments, and contributed significantly to the export program. For additional details regarding delivery quota policies, see Statistics Canada publication *Grain trade of Canada* (Catalogue No. 22-201). Supply and disposition of Canadian grain for the crop years ended July 31, 1970 and 1971 are shown in Table 11.37.

11.7.1.1 The 1970-71 crop year

Estimated domestic supplies of wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed and rapeseed totalled 2,629 million bu in the crop year 1970-71, a decrease of 3% from the 1969-70 total of 2,710 million bu. Marketings of these grains in the Prairie Provinces amounted to 785.3 million bu, a 19% increase over the 1969-70 level of 660.7 million bu and a 23% increase over the ten-year (1959-60 - 1968-69) average of 637.9 million bu. Marketings of wheat during the 1970-71 crop year, at 384.3 million bu, were down 7% and accounted for 49% of total deliveries. Marketings of the other major grains (totals for 1969-70 and ten-year averages, respectively, in parentheses) in millions of bushels were: oats 58.3 (20.9, 43.2); barley, 235.9 (168.4, 86.6); rye, 11.6 (7.6, 7.2); flaxseed, 33.7 (22.1, 15.9); and rapeseed, 61.5 (28.5, 12.2).

Wheat. Domestic supplies of wheat in 1970-71 amounted to 1,340.2 million bu, 13% below the 1969-70 record total of 1,536.1 million bu. The 1970 production of wheat was 331.5 million bu in contrast to 684.3 million bu in 1969, a decrease largely due to acceptance of the LIFT program by growers in western Canada, and carryover stocks were 1,008.7 million bu compared with 851.8 million bu. Exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat during the 1970-71 crop year, at 435.2 million bu, were 26% above the 346.5 million bu exported in 1969-70, 37% more than the long-term average of 317.4 million bu and 7% more than the ten-year average of 405.6 million bu.