

in inventories of livestock and stocks of field crops on farms between the beginning and end of the year. This estimate is used in calculating the contribution of agriculture to the "income" component of the system of national accounts and for making comparisons with net income of non-farm business enterprises (Table 11.3).

It is estimated that in Canada (excluding Newfoundland), realized net income of farm operators from farming operations amounted to \$3,471.4 million in 1974, a 28.3% increase over the revised 1973 amount of \$2,706.4 million.

Contributing to this increase in realized net income was an estimated 24.4% expansion in realized gross income to \$9,300.4 million in 1974 from the 1973 figure of \$7,478.2 million. All components of gross income contributed to the increase with the largest, cash receipts from the sale of agricultural products, rising by 26.7% in 1974.

Farm operators incurred operating expenses and depreciation charges totalling an estimated \$5,829.0 million, 22.2% above the 1973 value of \$4,771.8 million. Although expenditures on most farm input items were substantially above the 1973 levels, the leading contributors to the increase in expenses were feed, fertilizer and other crop expenses.

Total farm net income from farming operations (realized net income adjusted for inventory changes) is estimated at \$3,399.6 million for 1974. In 1974 a \$71.8 million reduction in inventories was recorded, in contrast to a positive change in 1973 of \$637.6 million. This contraction in inventories was due partly to a decrease in farm-held stocks of grains in the Prairie region.

11.4.2 Field crops

Canada's 1974 wheat crop, estimated at 522.5 million bu, was 13.6% below the 1973 crop of 604.7 million bu and 2.0% below the 1972 crop of 533.3 million bu. The average yield per acre at 22.3 bu was 10.1% less than the 1973 yield of 24.8 bu and 10.8% less than the 1972 yield of 25.0 bu. The average protein content of the 1974 crop of hard spring wheat was 13.5%, higher than the 1973 level of 13.3% and the 1972 level of 13.0%.

Acres, yields and prices of the principal field crops for the years 1970-74, with averages for 1965-69 are shown in Table 11.4; acres and production of field crops by province for 1973 and 1974 in Table 11.5 and acres and production of grain in the Prairie provinces for the years 1970-74 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 1971-73 with averages for the 10-year period 1961-70.

11.4.3 Livestock and poultry

The total number of cattle and calves in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, at June 1, 1974 was estimated at 15.0 million head, compared to 14.1 million head at June 1, 1973, a record for this time of year. (The 1971 Census counted 7,138 cattle in Newfoundland.) Milk cows (two years and over) were estimated at 2.1 million head, down from 2.2 million head at June 1, 1973, continuing the trend toward reduced dairy herds that began about 20 years ago. Total numbers of cattle in Canada have been increasing since 1958, reflecting the growing importance of beef production. Cattle slaughtered in federally inspected packing plants in 1974 amounted to 3.0 million head, up from 1973. Calf slaughter, at 392,811, was up from 291,524 for 1973 (Table 11.8).

Exports of cattle and calves in 1973 were 426,350, up from 299,625 in 1972. Imports, at 229,505 head (228,221 from the United States), were up by 213%. Beef exports (cold dressed carcass weight equivalent) increased slightly from 164 million lb. in 1972 to 167 million lb. in 1973. Beef imports, however, decreased from 215 million lb. in 1972 to 208 million lb. in 1973.

The Canada Department of Agriculture reported that the weighted average price of A1 and A2 steers at Toronto for 1974 was \$49.37 compared to \$46.56 in 1973 and \$36.28 for the 1969-73 average.

The June 1, 1974 estimate for the total number of pigs in Canada was just over 6.5 million, a slight decrease from the previous year. (The 1971 Census estimates the number of pigs in Newfoundland at 14,639.) Pigs slaughtered in federally inspected and approved plants in 1974 numbered 9.3 million compared to 9.0 million in 1973 as reported by the Canada Department of Agriculture. The weighted average price at Toronto (dollars per cwt for index 100 pigs, dressed) in 1974 was \$50.29 compared to \$54.66 in 1973 and \$37.15 for the 1969-73 average.