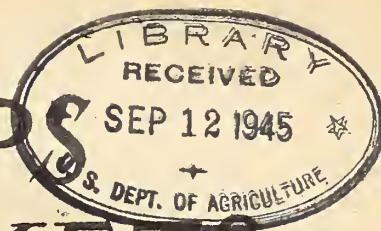


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FOREIGN CROPS and MARKETS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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LATE FOREIGN DEVELOPMENTS

CANADA: Crop conditions generally remain backward. Heavy rains have delayed field work, and low temperatures are retarding growth. In some sections of the East many farmers will not be able to finish their work in time for crops to ripen. Summer weather is coming slowly to the Prairie Provinces, and general complaint of lack of sunshine and warm weather continues. Some seeding of coarse grains remains to be done, but wheat is mostly in, and the bulk of it is showing above the ground. Height of grain indicates very backward growth. Heavy rains in Saskatchewan and parts of Alberta improved the moisture situation in these Provinces, but there is still a very dry area in southeastern Alberta. In Manitoba, on the other hand, too much rain has fallen in parts, and the Red River Valley is suffering from excessive moisture. Crops are all well rooted and with warmer weather and lots of sunshine would make rapid progress. Insect damage is light on the whole.

EUROPE: The weather has been reported as generally favorable, but complaints of insufficient supplies of fertilizer in some countries may be a factor in restricting yields, although unofficial advices indicate that the Continent as a whole may have the best wheat outturn since the start of the war.

TURKEY: Wheat is maturing favorably on increased acreage, and the production is expected to be much larger than in 1942 when it was estimated to be about 100,000,000 bushels.

* * * * *

G R A I N S

UNITED KINGDOM'S 1943 GRAIN.
CROP PROSPECTS FAVORABLE . . .

Another record or near-record grain crop is expected in the United Kingdom this season, assuming average yields on the acreage reported, according to information received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The situation, however, varies according to the individual grains. Considerable gains in wheat production are expected, while a reduced outturn of oats is indicated; the barley crop is estimated at about the same figure as last year's record crop, and rye, which constitutes an insignificant part of the total, is forecast at about 80 percent above the 1942 harvest. According to present estimates, based on 10-year average yields and the indicated seedings, it would appear that a gain of about 26 million bushels has been made in bread grains with a corresponding or slightly greater loss in feed grains.

Applying average yields to the sown acreage, the current wheat crop is estimated to be about 121,000,000 bushels, or 26 percent above that of 1942. At this level, the outturn would be about twice that of the average production in the 5-year period 1935-1939. The acreage, placed at 3,475,000 acres, is almost 90 percent above the average during that period, and compared with the 1942 acreage, shows a considerably larger gain than the 600,000-acre increase set as the goal. The increase was accomplished under severe handicaps, especially as regards shortages of farm labor and machinery.

UNITED KINGDOM: Grain area and production, 1935-1943

Year	Wheat		Barley		Oats	
	Acreage	Pro- duction	Acreage	Pro- duction	Acreage	Pro- duction
	1,000 acres	1,000 bushels	1,000 acres	1,000 bushels	1,000 acres	1,000 bushels
1935	1,882	65,445	871	34,300	2,518	145,530
1936	1,805	55,253	894	34,160	2,514	138,670
1937	1,836	56,336	906	30,707	2,298	129,290
1938	1,928	73,360	988	42,187	2,395	139,440
1939	1,766	61,413	1,012	41,627	2,426	140,210
Average	1,843	62,361	934	36,596	2,430	138,628
1940	1,809	61,264	1,339	51,520	3,399	202,440
1941	2,265	75,376	1,475	53,387	3,951	227,150
1942	2,516	95,872	1,528	67,433	4,133	248,360
1943 a/	3,475	121,000	1,740	69,000	3,711	215,000

Compiled from official and unofficial sources.

a/ Preliminary forecast.

Crop conditions were reported as generally favorable to crop development, and winter grains at the beginning of March were said to be well developed following the mild winter. Conditions continued favorable, and spring sowings were accomplished earlier than usual with arrears in winter seedings being made up in spring grains.

The oats crop as forecast at 215,000,000 bushels is about 33,000,000 bushels below last year's record production and is also below the 1941 harvest. The acreage was reported at 3,711,000 acres, or about 400,000 acres less than the record area of 1942. Acreage reduction was expected, since desired gains in wheat and barley called for some shift from oats.

Barley has proved more satisfactory than oats for admixture with wheat in the National bread, both from the standpoint of quality and output. Despite the small increase of about 200,000 acres in seedings, the current barley crop, estimated at 69,000,000 bushels, shows very little increase over the good returns of last year. The acreage increase was due to substantially increased spring barley acreage.

Now that barley is included in the National flour, the Government has fixed prices to be paid for barley of the 1943 crop purchased for milling. For grain meeting the requirements set for milling barley, a maximum of 27 shillings 6 pence per cwt. (\$2.38 per bushel) will be paid. This is the same as the maximum price set on malting barley of the 1943 crop. The minimum set on milling barley is 26 shillings 3 pence per cwt. (\$2.27 per bushel). A deduction of up to 2 shillings 6 pence per cwt. (22 cents per bushel) will be made on barley requiring conditioning before meeting milling requirements. The Government guarantees to buy at the minimum price all millable or potentially millable barley in excess of malting needs.

The distribution of unmixed flour was discontinued effective February 22, 1943. Beginning with that date, existing stocks were to be mixed with the National flour, the percentage of admixture to be governed by the white-flour stocks position. From that date, only National flour will be delivered in England and Wales. In Scotland, however, white flour will be delivered at the rate of 1 to 8.

Growers are required to sell their entire stocks of wheat, barley, and rye to the Ministry of Food. They will also be required next season to sell mixed crops consisting wholly of mixtures of bread grains to that agency. Inclusion of wheat in sowings of mixed grains is prohibited, and the use of mixed crops containing barley or rye is to be controlled.

The labor situation is expected to be an increasing problem at harvest time. The Minister of Agriculture has estimated that at least 500,000 seasonal workers will be needed to assist regular farm workers with the harvest. Plans were reported to call for 300,000 school children and 100,000 adult workers from rural areas and an additional 100,000

nonrural workers. Since transportation difficulties and shortage of living accommodations for seasonal workers complicate the labor problem, the nonrural workers were expected to be drawn from nearby small towns and villages.

MEXICAN CORN SUPPLIES ADEQUATE;
DISTRIBUTION HANDICAPPED . . .

Supplies of corn from Mexico's large crop of 92,760,000 bushels harvested last fall are reported to be ample for the country's domestic requirements in 1943. While shortages have been felt in parts of the country, particularly in Yucatan, Jalisco, and Chihuahua, these are only local situations resulting mainly from transportation difficulties.

Since the railroad systems throughout Mexico are reported to be overburdened and coast-wise shipping from Gulf ports is restricted, it has been difficult to get the available necessary foodstuffs distributed to all parts of the country. In addition to transportation problems, hoarding and profiteering are said to have contributed to distribution difficulties.

Wholesale prices of corn rose steadily from July 1942, beginning with 125 pesos per metric ton (about 65 cents per bushel) and rising to 150 pesos per ton (78 cents per bushel) at the time of the latest report in March. In order to stabilize prices and meet the problems of distribution, the Government in mid-May announced price control of corn, along with other important foodstuffs.

Among the considerations leading to the action, according to reports, was the wartime necessity to regulate the activity of individuals so that national needs should not be affected unfavorably. An earlier regulation had made exportation of basic foods dependent on export permits.

Prices are to be fixed to producers and to consumers at both the wholesale and retail levels. It is the announced aim to fix prices that allow a moderate margin of profit and are yet high enough to stimulate production.

Reports indicate that the Government expects plantings, which are now being made, for the late corn crop in 1943 to be about the same as those for the late 1942 harvest. Yields will, of course, be dependent on weather conditions. The early crop, which is now being harvested, in most years averages only from 5 to 10 percent of the total production.

* * * * *

V E G E T A B L E O I L S A N D O I L S E E D S

ARGENTINE FLAXSEED STOCKS
DIMINISHING . . .

Stocks of flaxseed in Argentina are expected to be nearly exhausted by the end of the year, according to a statement released by the Argentine Minister of Agriculture. The rapid disappearance of the large stocks on hand at the beginning of the year is attributed both to heavy export sales and to use of large quantities in Argentina for fuel. The carry-over at the beginning of the current season, December 1, 1942, was at a record level of 1,727,000 metric tons (68,000,000 bushels) and together with an average 1942 crop of 1,525,000 tons (60,000,000 bushels) made a record supply of about 3,252,000 tons (128,000,000 bushels) for the 1942-1943 season.

Domestic consumption normally averages between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 bushels. Should the present war situation continue, it is estimated that 1,000,000 metric tons (39,368,000 bushels) of flaxseed from the 1943 crop may be required for the production of oil to be used as fuel; the remainder of the probable crop, roughly 500,000 tons, may be about equal to requirements for local consumption and exports. The Government has informed the producers of the situation and suggested that a 1943 flaxseed crop equal to that harvested late in 1942 could probably be disposed of at satisfactory prices without leaving an excessive carry-over. The crop to be harvested in December is being planted in June.

PERU REMOVES RESTRICTIONS
ON INTERSTATE MOVEMENT
OF COTTONSEED . . .

The Peruvian Government, by a decree of April 27, 1943, removed a regulation imposed on September 20, 1929, that prohibited the movement of cottonseed from the areas of production in northern Provinces (Piura, Lambayeque, and La Libertad) to other parts of the country.

The original decree was intended to protect the interests of the cottonseed crushers in those Provinces by requiring that the seed be crushed in the valley of production. The new decree permits unrestrained movement of cottonseed throughout the Republic.

Exports of cottonseed have been prohibited since January 1943 because of a threatened shortage for local oilmills. The shortage is attributed both to restricted cotton acreage and to increased domestic consumption of cottonseed oil in place of other edible oils formerly imported from Axis-dominated areas.

C O T T O N - O T H E R F I B E R S

PERU REDUCES COTTON AREA . . .

The Government of Peru announced early in January that the 1943-44 cotton area must be reduced 30 percent from a base of approximately 383,000 acres, which was the estimate at that time of the 1942-43 acreage. Encouragement is offered in the form of a premium of 1.5 percent added to the base price of cotton for each 1 percent decrease achieved in acreage. The land thus released will be used for food crops. The Department of Ica, which had a cotton area last year of more than 8 percent of the total and produced 11.5 percent of the total crop, was exempted from the acreage program this year. Drought conditions are believed to be the reason for the exemption.

Recent estimates of the 1942-43 crop are the equivalent of 318,200 bales of 478 pounds on 386,200 acres. This is about 3.3 percent less than the crop of the previous year and 17 percent less than the 1940-41 crop, which was exceptionally large. Drought has hurt the present crop. The district that is believed to have suffered most is Piura, which has a cotton acreage of nearly 13.5 percent of the total for the country, and is the principal district in which Pima cotton is grown. Tanguis is the most common variety grown in Peru.

Cotton has been grown on about one-third of the total cultivated area in Peru and was the leading export commodity until 1942, when it was exceeded by the petroleum industry. Nearly half of the exported cotton was shipped to Great Britain until war conditions in 1940 caused a sharp decrease in trade with England and other European countries. Exports to Japan increased temporarily until hostilities in the Pacific closed the markets there to American trade. Peru became allied with the United Nations in January 1942 and soon thereafter entered into an agreement with the Commodity Credit Corporation for the sale of cotton left as surplus after other sales were completed.

Sales of the 1942-43 crop prior to March 5, 1943, had reached the approximate equivalent of 293,000 bales, consisting of 237,500 bales of Tanguis, 50,100 of Pima, and 5,400 of other varieties. The British Ministry of Supply has been an important buyer of Tanguis cotton, but exportation has not yet taken place. At the present estimate, probably about 25,000 bales of the 1942 crop remained unsold early in March.

Local mills are operating at capacity to fill, as far as possible, the increased demand for manufactured goods, since shipping difficulties have cut importations. Mills, representing 5,500 looms and 130,000 spindles, consumed cotton equivalent to nearly 45,000 bales in 1941 and 53,000 bales in 1942. Greater consumption is expected this year.

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L I V E S T O C K A N D A N I M A L P R O D U C T S

NEW CANADIAN LIVESTOCK-CONTROL ORDERS
APPARENTLY EFFECTIVE . . .

Canadian livestock-control orders issued in March to supplement the order of January 1, 1943, which required slaughterers to obtain permits, have evidently been effective, judged by the increase in inspected slaughter in recent months above a year ago. The Food Distribution Orders Nos. 26, 27, and 28, issued March 5 by the Canadian Department of Agriculture, require that (1) livestock dealers obtain permits to buy and sell livestock and keep complete records of their operations, (2) slaughterers who deliver meat to others obtain slaughter permits and stamp the permit number upon each wholesale cut of meat delivered, and (3) slaughterers operating under Federal Inspection set aside designated percentages of meat for delivery to the Government Procurement Agency. All of these orders are designed to eliminate black-market operations and to bring more livestock into regular trade channels.

Still later developments designed to control the distribution of meat supplies are the rationing program, which went into effect May 27, and the reorganization of the Canadian Bacon Board into the Meat Board, which was announced June 3 by the Minister of Agriculture. The New Meat Board will have the responsibility of carrying out all contracts or agreements with respect to the export of meat entered into by the Government of Canada and any external government or agencies of such governments. All licenses and orders that were issued by the Bacon Board remain in effect under the Meat Board.

March and April inspected slaughterings of beef cattle exceeded the same months of 1942 by 2 percent and 25 percent, respectively, and the same tendency was noted through May 27. As the number slaughtered in January and February, however, was much below 1942, the total for the first 4 months of the year was smaller by 8 percent than in the corresponding period of 1942. By May 27 the decrease as compared with a year earlier was only 2 percent. Despite a higher average dressed weight this year through March, which was about 30 pounds above a year earlier, beef production was probably somewhat smaller. Exact comparisons of meat production cannot be made for the 4-month period, as average dressed weights for April are not yet available.

The slaughter of calves in the first 4 months of 1943 showed a reduction of 18 percent from the 1942 total for the same months, and the reduction was only slightly less through May 27. As in the case of beef cattle, the average dressed weight of calves was materially above 1942, or 122 pounds compared with 100 pounds in the same period of 1942.

The number of hogs slaughtered under inspection in April reached 572,000 head, an increase of 6 percent above April 1942. Hog slaughter for

the 4-month period of this year was very little under last year, amounting to 1,156,000 head against 1,176,000. This decrease was entirely wiped out in May, slaughter for 22 weeks through May 27 showing an increase of 1 percent. As the weight of the dressed carcass (January-March) averaged 160 pounds compared with 157 pounds in the same months of 1942, the output of pork and lard evidently has been several million pounds larger.

The slaughter of sheep and lambs was also larger in March and April than in 1942; while the total for the 4 months was 19 percent larger in 1943 than in 1942, the increase through May 27 was 15 percent. There has been a considerable expansion of sheep numbers in Canada as a result of the increased demand for wool as well as for mutton and lamb.

CANADA: Inspected slaughter of livestock, first 4 months of
1942 and 1943

Year and Month	Cattle			Hogs	Sheep
	Beef cattle:	Calves	Total		
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
<u>1942</u>					
January.....	92,885	32,085	124,970	587,509	51,018
February.....	71,803	31,398	103,201	493,908	39,041
March.....	75,825	65,495	141,320	549,310	41,081
April.....	65,748	86,422	152,170	545,195	37,141
Total	306,261	215,400	521,661	2,175,922	162,281
<u>1943</u>					
January.....	52,992	19,300	72,292	515,319	44,575
February.....	69,732	25,542	95,274	514,906	44,209
March.....	76,993	55,759	132,752	544,461	49,862
April.....	82,348	75,469	157,817	571,562	42,934
Total	282,065	176,070	458,135	2,156,248	181,580

Compiled from official sources.

HOG INDUSTRY IN WEST AFRICA
STIMULATED BY WAR . . .

Wartime necessity has stimulated the hog industry in the Gold Coast. Since the fall of France the Gold Coast Government has decided that it is a good thing for an agricultural country to provide its own meat supply. Both the Army and the Department of Agriculture have embarked on large-scale hog enterprises, the former to provide its own bacon and the latter pork and bacon for the civil population.

Many private individuals are beginning to raise hogs with a view to producing purebred stock in contrast to the previous attitude of the African farmer whose demand was largely for purebred boars to cross with

native sows. As a result, the demand for gilts exceeds the supply and the demand for boars has declined so that there is a large surplus of males, which are being sold as fat hogs at about 120 pounds to the United African Company, the mines, the local public, and the Army.

Hog numbers in the Gold Coast are relatively small. The number in 1938 was 71,500 head, which figure compared favorably with other countries of West Africa, being exceeded only in Nigeria and French Cameroon.

The Large Black is considered the best type of hog for West Africa. These hogs were imported for the first time in 1938. Before that Berkshires and Middle Whites were imported, but the former died of heat stroke. The latter did well and continued to be the stock improvement hog until 1929. Then Large Whites were imported and these did even better than the Middles, whose cross with the native African pig was stated by hog producers to be too fat.

The center of the hog-improvement work is the Pong Tamale farm in the Northern Territories. Although conditions there are not so favorable as in the forest and coastal belt because the long, very hot dry season does not suit hogs so well, a very hardy pig has been produced, which thrives when transported to the more favorable southern climate. The demand for improved pigs is mainly from Ashanti and the Colony as the Northern Territory people are not hog raisers, being mostly Mohammedans.

Free instructions are given young men at Pong Tamale and when they become proficient they are given, for a nominal charge, breeding hogs suited to the district where they live. Pig pens must be built according to plans. A poor Konkomba, however, is not expected to build as fine a pig pen as a literate man of means in the colony but on the other hand he is not provided with such a high class hog. Pong Tamale breeding stock has been supplied to the Governments of Sierre Leone, Nigeria, Liberia, the Ivory Coast, and French Togo.

DENMARK RESTRICTS DELIVERIES OF LIVESTOCK FOR
DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION TO 20 PERCENT OF 1941 . . .

Denmark has been obliged to restrict slaughter of cattle and calves for domestic consumption to 20 percent of 1941 receipts, according to an order which became effective May 3, details of which are not available. This reduction in deliveries for domestic consumption has become necessary in order that German demands for meat may be met. Germany still requires the delivery of 220 million pounds (100,000 metric tons) during the year beginning October 1, 1942, according to latest advices. This represents an increase of approximately 3 percent above 1941-42 exports to Germany.

Complete control of the meat industry from the slaughterer down through the wholesaler to retailer is now a fact in Denmark, and the sale of pork, beef, and veal to the Wehrmacht now requires a special purchase card. The Danish Ministry of Agriculture published regulations for the protection of meat supplies (beef and veal), both for the domestic market and for export, effective January 4, 1943, whereby maximum prices for cattle sold on the domestic market were reduced 2.8 to 3.8 cents per pound, and prices for cattle slaughtered for export were increased. The regulations require that licenses be issued to butchers slaughtering at public slaughter houses. Sales of cattle and calves for the domestic market and for export can take place only at market places authorized by the Ministry. The 1941 figures formed the basis for allotments to the domestic market.

Later an order was issued to be effective May 10, requiring consumers to register with one particular butcher in order to obtain any meat at all. This was to prevent well-to-do consumers from "shopping around" and making purchases at several different stores. Recently the Ministry of Agriculture has issued two announcements concerning meat distribution, which in brief mean that the Bacon Committee controls the distribution of pork and the Meat Supply Committee the distribution of beef and veal.

Commercial production of beef and veal in Denmark totaled only 48 million pounds in the first quarter of 1943, a reduction of almost 40 percent below the same period of 1942 and 30 percent below 1941. Pork production for the same 3 months of 1943 totaled 70 million pounds, a reduction of 12 percent below the corresponding period of 1942 and 29 percent below the same period of 1941. The heavy reduction in beef and veal production, especially during the first quarter of 1943, apparently caused the German authorities to fear that the 88 million pounds of beef and veal required by them in 1942-43 would not be forthcoming, and thus the reduction in slaughter of cattle and calves for Danish consumption was instigated.

Beef production from animals slaughtered in Denmark in 1942 totaled approximately 326 million pounds, a reduction of 11 percent compared with 1941 but 3 percent above the average for the 5 pre-war years, 1934-1938. Present indications point to a further decrease in beef production in 1943. Special efforts have been made to maintain cattle herds in Denmark, and numbers in March 1943, estimated at 2,824,000 head, were only 5 percent smaller than in 1941. Cattle numbers averaged 3,102,000 for the 5 years 1934-1938, according to July estimates, which are normally higher than March estimates.

Pork production from hogs slaughtered in Denmark has decreased much more than beef. In 1942 reported production totaled only 192 million pounds, a reduction of 54 percent compared with 1941, and over 70 percent below the average for the 5 years 1934-1938. A substantial increase in production is estimated for 1943. The number of hogs on hand in March showed an increase of 48 percent above March a year ago but were still 39 percent below 1940, when they had reached the highest level since 1936.

DENMARK: Meat production from animals slaughtered in Denmark, average 1934-1938, annual 1939-1942

Year	Beef and veal	Pork
	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average 1934-1938.....	316	674
1939.....	331	645
1940 a/.....	445	612
1941 a/.....	336	419
1942 a/.....	328	192

Compiled from official sources. a/ Preliminary. b/ May have been larger.

Denmark's exports of bacon were so much stressed before the war that it was probably not realized by many that exports of live cattle as well as live hogs were fairly substantial. Cattle exports averaged 128,000 head annually for the 5 years 1934-1938, increasing to 163,000 in 1939 and to 373,000 in 1940. More recent figures are not available. In addition to the live cattle exports, pre-war (1934-1938) exports of beef averaged around 30 million pounds. Most of the live cattle went to Germany prior to the war. Germany's requirements of beef from Denmark in 1942-43 are placed at 88 million pounds, which, while about three times as large as the average for the years 1934-1938, are slightly smaller than total exports to Germany of live cattle and beef on a dressed-weight basis. Exports on this basis are estimated at the large figure of 225 million pounds in 1939-40, most of the total being exported as live animals. Exports have fallen off since that year to 130 million pounds in 1940-41 and 127 million in 1941-42 (October-September).

DENMARK: Exports of live cattle and beef, including live animals on a dressed-weight basis, average 1934-1938, annual 1939-1943

Year	Live Cattle a/		Beef		Total exports of beef (dressed-weight basis)b/			
	To Germany	Total	To United Kingdom	Total	To United Kingdom	To Germany	Total	
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1934-1938...	108	128	c/ 8	28	c/ 99	99	99	99
1939.....	150	163	c/ 21	44	c/ 137	137	137	137
1940.....d/	373	373	- d/ 29	29	- d/ 225	225	225	225
1941.....	200	200	- d/ 33	33	- d/ 130	130	130	130
1942.....	-	-	-	-	- e/ 127	127	e/ 127	127
1943.....	-	-	-	-	- f/ 88	88	f/ 88	88

Compiled from official sources.

a/ No live cattle exported to United Kingdom. b/ Estimated. c/ Less than 500,000 pounds. d/ Destination not reported, but it is assumed that the bulk of the shipments were to Germany. e/ German requirements October 1941-September 1942. f/ German requirements October 1942-September 1943.

Prior to the war (1934-1938) Denmark exported an average of 436 million pounds of pork annually, 97 percent of which went to the United Kingdom in the form of Wiltshire sides. In addition, exports of live hogs averaged 115,000 head, most of which went to Germany. Since the war began, Denmark has greatly increased exports of live hogs. In 1940 they reached the unprecedented figure of 754,000 head, falling to about 460,000 in 1941. Estimates for later years are not available. Germany's requirements from Denmark in 1942-43 amount to 132 million pounds of pork or 564,000 hogs of 154 pounds each. This is an increase of 52 percent above reported requirements for 1941-42. The increase this year is attributed to the expectation of larger pork production. Exports of hogs and pork in the years 1941 and 1942 were much smaller than in 1939 or 1940, when the total, including live animals converted to a dressed-weight basis, exceeded 400 million pounds each year and were about on a level with average pre-war exports.

DENMARK: Exports of live hogs and pork, including live animals on a dressed-weight basis, average 1934-1938, annual 1939-1943

Year	Live hogs a/		Pork		Total exports of pork b/ (dressed-weight basis)			
	To Germany	Total	To United Kingdom	To Germany	Total	To United Kingdom	To Germany	Total
Average	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1934-1938	102	115	421	5	436	421	20	441
1939	136	137	407	18	425	407	40	447
1940	c/ 754	754	-	c/ 328	328	-	432	432
1941	c/ 460	d/ 460	-	c/e/ 196	e/ 196	-	c/e/ 196	e/ 196
1942	-	-	-	f/ 87	f/ 87	-	f/ 87	f/ 87
1943	-	-	-	g/ 132	g/ 132	-	g/ 132	g/ 132

Compiled from official sources. a/ No live hogs exported to United Kingdom. b/ Estimated. c/ Destination not reported but assumed that bulk of shipments were to Germany. d/ Probable number. e/ Includes equivalent of live animals exported. f/ German requirements October 1941 to September 1942. g/ German requirements October 1942 to September 1943.

DENMARK: Slaughter of cattle, calves, and hogs in export slaughterhouses, average 1934-1938, annual 1939-1942

Year	Cattle				Hogs
	Fat Calves	Suckling Calves	Adult Calves	Total	
Average	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1934-1938	215.0	338.5	279.5	833.0	4,354.8
1939	252.3	278.2	331.6	862.1	4,072.9
1940	249.4	308.1	301.7	859.2	3,353.0
1941	233.1	284.8	290.2	808.1	2,203.4
1942	274.6	310.8	429.7	1,015.1	1,307.1

Compiled from official sources.

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS

WEATHER CONDITIONS IN LATIN AMERICA
THROUGH MAY 1943 1 . . .

Large parts of South America suffered from a severe drought that began in the latter part of 1942 and extended into January and February of 1943. It was not until March that general and comparatively heavy rainfall brought relief to the drought-stricken areas. In Argentina the drought lasted from 4 to 6 months and extended over a large part of northern and central Argentina and much of Uruguay. Lack of moisture did some damage to crops in northeastern Brazil, but the drought was especially severe in the south in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

Argentina

The hot, dry weather, which had begun in the latter part of 1942, was prolonged into March and caused one of the severest droughts ever experienced in Argentina. The dry weather was not broken until the first week in March, when heavy rains fell and were general throughout the whole country. In early April there was a short period of cooler weather, and frosts were reported in the southern part of the Province of Buenos Aires and in isolated districts of the Pampa. Rains were scattered and intermittent throughout April and May, taking care of immediate needs, but were not sufficient to replenish the sub-soil moisture, which had been greatly depleted by the drought. Corn and livestock areas suffered the most. The rains came too late to benefit the corn crop, which had been greatly damaged by the dry weather and high temperatures. May weather favored plowing and seeding, and timely rains provided good early wheat growth. Pastures were improved but by the end of the month were again needing moisture, and it was reported that field work would be interrupted unless rains came soon.

Brazil

Brazil experienced much dry weather in the first few months of 1943, which caused some damage to crops in the interior regions of the northeastern States of Ceara, Parahyba, and Pernambuco, but the drought was not so widespread and the effect not so serious as it was at first believed to be. Some rain fell over this area the latter part of December, which is generally considered the beginning of the rainy season. These rains, however, were inadequate and below normal. In February the rains were still scattered and it was not until March and April that heavy precipitation brought relief to northeastern Brazil and assured fairly good grain and cotton crops. Rains normally cease during the latter part of March, and after mid-April very little rain falls. In the south, the Province of Rio Grande do Sul suffered severely from the drought, which lasted for several months in some districts and was not

1 This period covers most of the summer and autumn months in the Southern Hemisphere and corresponds to our winter and spring months.

broken until March when there was heavy rainfall over most of the region. The greatest amount of rain fell in the Uruguay Valley, where the intensity of the drought was greatest and where the greatest losses were suffered. These regions are predominantly range and cattle-producing areas.

Uruguay

The same kind of dry weather that had prevailed over a large part of Argentina extended into Uruguay and seriously affected the crop and livestock prospects. Showers in January brought some local relief, but by the middle of March the weather was still hot and the prolonged drought became acute, especially in the northern zones. Rains fell the latter part of March and in early April, and with warmer weather pastures were noticeably improved.

Paraguay

Unusually dry weather prevailed during January and February, but in March about average precipitation fell throughout the country, improving the agricultural picture considerably. The drought had been particularly severe in the northern part of the country.

Ecuador, Peru, and Chile

In Ecuador, rainfall during February and early March was particularly heavy and did much to improve the agricultural outlook. Very little rain fell during late March and the month of April. In the first part of the year the cotton crop in Peru was somewhat retarded by unseasonably cool weather and lack of rain. Heavy rains fell during February and March, causing floods and washing out roads in the vicinity of Yanacac. By mid-April weather conditions were generally good and water abundant in the cotton districts. Dry weather prevailed in much of Chile. In general the cereal harvests have been good considering the lack of rain in all of the southern part of the country.

Mexico

In the northern States of Sonora and Chihuahua, crops and livestock suffered from lack of rain during the first quarter of 1943. In February there was some rainfall in most of northern Mexico and in a few districts the rainfall was heavy. Most of the country had dry weather during the month of March. The drought was more severe in the regions near Monterrey, Matamoros, Tampico, Laredo, and Reynosa, all in the northeastern part of the country. Even in the more normally humid areas of the Gulf Coast, rainfall was less than usual but without serious effect. Although there was a lack of rain in the Jalisco area and in Sinaloa, the dryness was not serious. There were a few unusual rains in the Valley of Mexico. The dry weather continued into April, causing damage to crops and livestock.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE . . .

EXCHANGE RATES: Average value in New York of Chinese, Japanese, and some European currencies during last full months for which rates were available, and current official rates

Country	Unit	Month	New York rates <u>a/</u> Cents	Current official rates Cents
Belgium	Belga	April 1940	16.89	<u>b/</u> 16.00
Denmark	Krone	March 1940	19.31	20.88
France	Franc	May 1940	1.85	<u>c/</u> 2.00
Germany	Reichsmark	May 1941	<u>d/</u> 39.97	40.00
Greece	Drachma	September 1940	<u>d/</u> 0.66	0.67
Italy	Lira	May 1941	<u>d/</u> 5.09	5.26
Netherlands	Guilder	April 1940	53.08	53.08
Norway	Krone	March 1940	22.71	22.86
Portugal	Escudo	May 1941	4.00	<u>e/</u> 6.67
Spain	Peseta	May 1941	<u>d/</u> 9.13	9.13
Sweden	Krona	May 1941	23.84	23.81
Switzerland	Franc	May 1941	23.20	23.20
China	Yuan (Shanghai)	June 1941	<u>d/</u> 5.34	<u>f/</u> 5.31
Japan	Yen	June 1941	23.44	23.44

a/ Noon buying rates for cable transfers as reported by Federal Reserve Board. Last daily rate reported on April 8, 1940, for the Danish and Norwegian kroner; on May 9, 1940, for the belga and guilder; on June 15, 1940, for the French franc; on October 25, 1940, for the drachma; on June 14, 1941, for the other above-mentioned European currencies; and on July 25, 1941, for the yen and yuan (Shanghai).

b/ Based on German official rate for United States dollar.

c/ Based on German official rate for United States dollar in occupied area; in unoccupied area, official rate is 2.28 cents.

d/ Quotations nominal.

e/ Rate for currency; for checks, 4.09 cents to the escudo.

f/ Rate set August 18, 1941, by Chinese Stabilization Board.

EXCHANGE RATES: Average value in New York of specified currencies, week ended June 12, 1943, with comparisons a/

Country	Monetary unit	Year 1942	Month					Week ended		
			1941	1942	1943		1943			
			May	May	April	May	May 29	June 5	June 12	
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	
Argentina b/	Paper peso	29.77	29.77	29.77	29.77	29.77	29.77	29.77	29.77	
Australia c/	Pound	321.50	320.19	321.50	322.80	322.80	322.80	322.80	322.80	
Brazil d/	Cruzeiro	5.14	5.06	5.14	5.13	5.13	5.13	5.13	5.13	
British India	Rupee	30.12	30.13	30.12	30.12	30.12	30.12	30.12	30.12	
Canada e/	Dollar	88.38	87.42	88.56	90.20	90.14	90.09	90.06	90.04	
Mexico f/	Peso	20.57	20.54	20.57	20.57	20.58	20.58	20.58	20.58	
New Zealand South	Pound	322.78	322.45	322.78	324.42	324.42	324.42	324.42	324.42	
Africa	Pound	398.00	398.00	398.00	398.00	398.00	398.00	398.00	398.00	
Uruguay g/	Peso	52.72	41.16	52.74	52.75	52.71	52.71	52.71	52.80	
United Kingdom	Pound	403.50	403.10	403.50	403.50	403.50	403.50	403.50	403.50	

Federal Reserve Board.

- a/ Noon buying rates for cable transfers.
- b/ Official, regular exports. The special export rate of 23.70 cents, reported beginning March 27, 1941, applies to exchange derived from certain minor exports (e.g. dairy products) to certain countries (e.g. United States), such exchange formerly having been sold in the free market. Quotations nominal.
- c/ Free prior to February 2, 1943. Quotation of free rate discontinued after February 1, 1943, when regulations were issued by the British Treasury transforming all free sterling balances into registered sterling, convertible into dollars at the official rate.
- d/ Free. Under law of October 6, 1942, the cruzeiro became the unit of currency, replacing the milreis. The cruzeiro has the same value as the milreis. Since April 10, 1939, 30 percent of the exchange derived from exports must be turned over at the official buying rate of 6.06 cents, the weighted average value of the milreis being 5.42 cents in 1942, the value of the cruzeiro 5.41 cents in May 1943, and 5.41 cents in the week ended May 12, 1943. Quotations nominal.
- e/ Free. Most transactions between Canada and the United States take place at the official buying and selling rates.
- f/ Prior to October 22, 1941, quotations nominal.
- g/ Noncontrolled. Quotations nominal.

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