

AGRICULTURE

Agricultural production is depicted in the atlas by a set of maps each of which shows the value of sales from the farm of a product or group of products. The method of depiction is by percentage dots each of which represents .01% of the national value of sales from the farm for the period June 1, 1960 to May 31, 1961. The presentation indicates the areas of origin of the products and, since the dots have the same value from map to map, makes possible a simple visual assessment of the relative importance of each product. In some instances the values of several products were combined in the available data. In such cases the areas of origin of the individual products cannot be differentiated on the maps showing value of sales. To compensate for this, distribution of seeded acreage is shown on separate maps. On one map the values of sales for all products are accumulated, thereby depicting the total output of the industry and the areal variation of production. In addition to the information conveyed by dots, area-colours are used to show occurrences less than dot-value, to show agricultural areas in which no occurrence of a product is reported, and to show non-agricultural areas.

From a study of the dot maps it is possible to determine the product-combinations, quantitatively expressed in terms of sales, in any part of the agricultural area of the country. The nature of agriculture in an area can be usefully described in terms of its product-combinations, that is, particular combinations can be considered as types. The area of each type can be considered an agricultural region within which the characteristics of agriculture are approximately uniform. In most agricultural areas of Canada there is a wide range of products, and complete product-combinations are therefore complex, but in terms of value many of the products are relatively insignificant. For the *Types of Farming* map product-combinations are used to define types, but the products included are only those of greatest local economic significance. The method by which the types were determined is described in the notes included on the map.

The calculations for *Types of Farming*, in identifying the statistically significant products, provided data for *Diversity of Agriculture*. Diversity is expressed as the number of statistically significant products for each census division.

The detailed information on which the agricultural maps are based is available from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics only for one year in ten, that is, for decennial census years. In order to set the agriculture of the year June 1, 1960 to May 31, 1961 into a context of other years, a page of graphs is included showing the trends over a period of time for a variety of agricultural data. For a similar reason two climatic maps are included which indicate the deviation from average precipitation for the period April to September, in 1960.

AGRICULTURE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND THE YUKON TERRITORY

The small amount of agricultural production in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon did not warrant the large page formats that would be required to cover the area, for this atlas. The 1961 census recorded 26 farms in the two Territories, of which only 3 were classified as commercial. Of 8,590 acres reported as farm land, 1,088 were classified as improved land. Crops occupied 526 acres. In order of size of acreage these were: Other fodder crops (194); Tame hay (136); Oats for grain (85); Wheat (47); Potatoes (35); Vegetables for sale (12); Barley (11); Turnips, Swedes and Mangels (6). A total of 412 cattle were reported of which 16 (two years and over) were being milked or to be milked. The remaining livestock reported was composed of 233 horses and 1320 hens and chickens. The value of sales of agricultural products produced in the Territories for the year covered by the census is estimated at about \$20,000.

Although there are considerable friable soils along valleys in the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and in the non-agricultural areas of northern Alberta and British Columbia, climate and drainage limit the agricultural potential. The areas having the best potential, as indicated by surveys by the federal Department of Agriculture, are shown on page 141. These areas are along the lower Peace and the Slave River, the upper Mackenzie, the Liard River and its tributary the Fort Nelson, the Teslin River and Lake Teslin, and along the Takhini - Dezadeash valleys between Whitehorse and Haines Junction. In most of the northern settlements there are kitchen gardens.

