

Eight hundred and forty thousand head of sheep and lambs for slaughter were produced in 1943; the objective for 1944 is 829,000 head.

Objectives for the marketing of sheep and lambs off Canadian farms and ranches in 1944 as determined at the December conference call for a 5% increase as compared with 1943. In response to the wartime program calling for more wool, mutton and lamb, sheep numbers have considerably increased, and therefore increased marketings in 1944 are considered probable and desirable. It has also been suggested that producers might well consider feeding lambs to an average of up to five pounds greater weight before marketing. The 1944 objective for production of shorn wool calls for 14,000,000 pounds (greasy basis) which is a small increase over the 1943 output of 13,900,000 pounds. With military requirements for wool tapering off, and an improved shipping position in the Pacific, less concern is now felt with respect to reserve stocks of wool.

Cold storage stocks of lamb and mutton at December 1, 1943, totalled more than 8,000,000 pounds. This was 3,500,000 pounds greater than the previous month, and 2,500,000 pounds greater than the same month the year before.

#### DAIRY PRODUCTS

Production of dairy products for 1943 and objectives for 1944:

	Unit	Production 1943	Objective 1944	Per cent of 1943
Milk (total)	lb.	17,517,000,000	17.5 million	100
Butter (creamery)	"	312,309,928	303,874,000	97
Cheese (factory)	"	158,672,000	151,916,000	94
Evaporated whole milk	"	178,000,000	178,000,000	100
Condensed whole milk	"	26,900,000	24,000,000	100
Powdered whole milk	"	16,600,000	16,800,000	100
Powdered skim milk	"	23,200,000	24,000,000	100

Production of milk in Canada in 1943 totalled 17,517,000,000 pounds, according to estimates of the agricultural branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This is a slight increase over the 17,488,000,000 pounds produced in 1942.

Canada in 1943 was the only allied nation, with the possible exception of the United Kingdom where milk production was maintained at 1942 levels.

Dairy production to date in 1944 indicates a swing away from creamery butter production, while sales of fluid milk are still increasing. Cheese production in January was 33.5% higher than a year before, but was still well below January production in 1942.

Dr. G.S.H. Barton, deputy minister of agriculture, speaking at the annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies in Toronto recently, mentioned the present position of dairy products in Canada and stated:

"If we are to meet greater demands for the urgent needs of the armed forces and suffering people, Canada's civilian population will have to face greater denials than they have yet experienced."