

FACTS and FIGURES on

OREGON'S MISCELLANEOUS ANIMALS 1935-1953

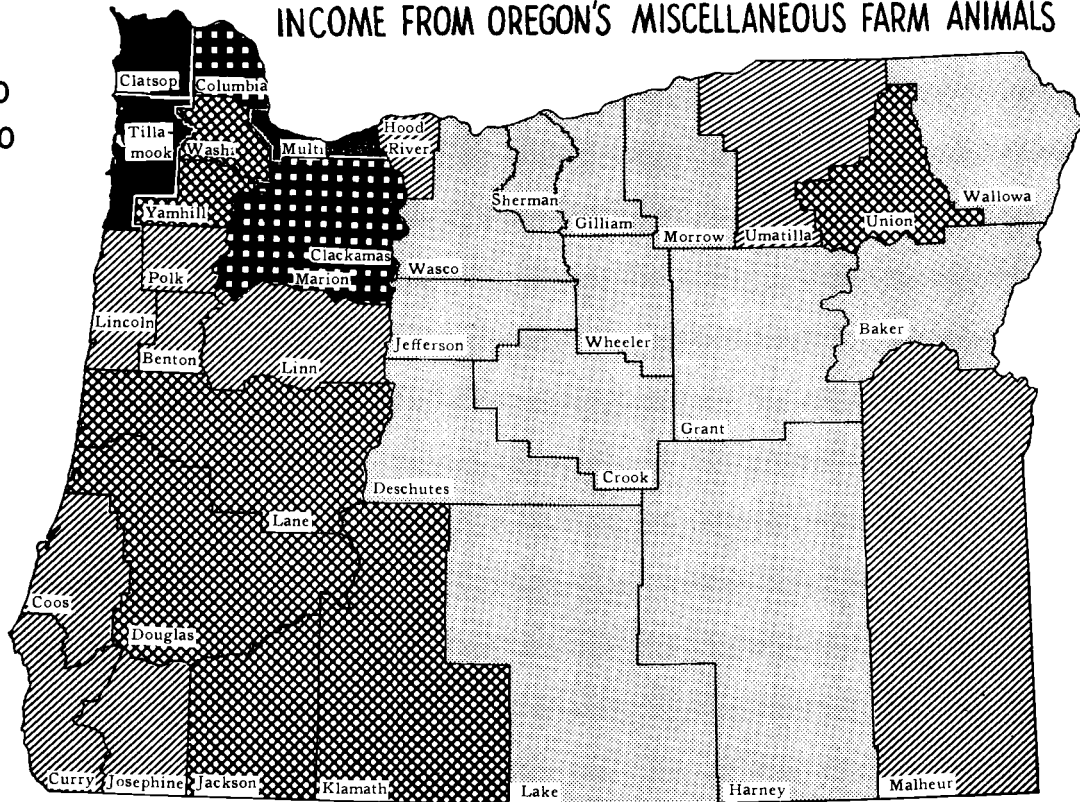
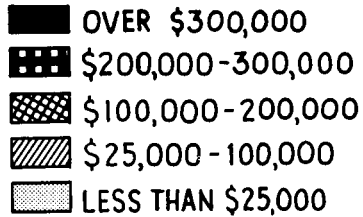


- **FUR FARMING**
- **APIARY PRODUCTS**
- **GOATS and MOHAIR**
- **RABBITS for MEAT**
- **HORSES and MULES**
- **FISH and SHELLFISH**

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INCOME FROM OREGON'S MISCELLANEOUS FARM ANIMALS



Specialized animal production is heavily concentrated in the northwest corner of Oregon. Clatsop, Tillamook, and Columbia counties lead in fur farming. Multnomah, Marion, and Clackamas counties are important in both fur farming and rabbits. These six counties have almost three-fifths of the state's income from this commodity group.

OREGON'S MISCELLANEOUS ANIMALS 1935-1953

F. H. DAHL
*Extension Agricultural Economist
Oregon State College*

Oregon's diversified economy includes many specialized farm animal enterprises and the commercial fisheries. Income from miscellaneous farm animals in Oregon in 1952 exceeded \$3,800,000; four times as great as the 1935-1939 average. These specialized industries contribute a little less than one per cent of the state's agricultural income.

Fur farms, rabbits, and honey have been primarily responsible for the increased income. Goats, horses, and mules are of less economic importance than before the war. Western Oregon counties account for almost nine-tenths of the income from this group. Clatsop, Tillamook, and Multnomah, in that order, are the leading counties.

Data on Oregon's fisheries industry are included in this bulletin for reference. Only the commercial industry is covered. Game fish and fish from farm ponds are not included.

Table 1. Estimated Value of Miscellaneous Farm Animal Products Sold

(Oregon, 1935 - 1953)					
Period	Fur farms	Honey and beeswax	Mohair	Other miscellaneous animal products	Total
Average					
1935-1939	\$ 510,000	\$ 56,000	\$ 164,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 950,000
1940-1944	1,037,000	224,000	194,000	480,000	1,935,000
1945-1949	1,136,000	402,000	72,000	920,000	2,530,000
Annual					
1950	1,350,000	311,000	83,000	1,070,000	2,814,000
1951	1,650,000	346,000	160,000	1,230,000	3,386,000
1952	2,120,000	291,000	91,000	1,300,000	3,802,000

Fur Farming

MINK Mink were the only commercially important animals raised primarily for pelts in Oregon in 1952. During that year Oregon mink farmers had on hand more than twice as many breeders as the wartime low in 1945. Number of pelts sold also more than doubled, but income increased by only 80 per cent. Prices dipped immediately after the war, and have remained well below the average price received in 1945.

The mink industry has undergone a great change in the past decade. Prior to 1944, only natural, or dark, mink were raised. Since that time, hybrids have become increasingly important. Probably more than three-fourths of the breeding stock now kept by Oregon producers are hybrids.

More than half of Oregon's mink production is concentrated in Clatsop, Tillamook, and Columbia counties.

Note: This circular supersedes Extension Bulletin 679. Data were gathered from state and federal agencies, trade associations, farmers, county agents, and other informed persons.

OTHER FUR BEARING ANIMALS Chinchillas have shown a steady increase in Oregon while other fur bearers have declined sharply. Chinchillas still are being raised primarily for breeding stock, rather than for pelts. About 3,500 adult chinchillas were kept in 1952.

Silver fox and muskrat have almost disappeared as commercial enterprises in Oregon. There were less than 100 adult silver foxes on ranches in 1952, and no commercial muskrats.

A few karakul sheep were being grown for the lamb skins, but the industry is not significant.

Apiary Products

Oregon beekeepers had about six stands in 1952 for every five they had in 1940. One of the main reasons for this growth is the use of bees for pollination in the production of legume seed. Rentals for this purpose may sometimes equal income from honey. Rental charges in recent years have ranged from \$3 to \$7 per colony. Some rentals also have been made on a fixed fee, plus a seed production bonus. Estimates of income from this source are not available. Package bees and queen bees are an additional source of income to some beekeepers. An estimated 5 to 10 per cent of the honey produced is used in the homes of beekeepers.

About half the colonies in Oregon are in the Willamette Valley. Other important areas are Jackson, Malheur, Baker, and Umatilla counties.

Miscellaneous Animals on Farms

GOATS Goat numbers in Oregon have been declining for nearly 15 years. There were only an estimated 50,000 goats of all kinds in 1953, compared to 150,000 in 1939. The decrease has been almost entirely in mohair types. Milk goat numbers have remained fairly constant.

The number of goats clipped fluctuates widely from year to year, mainly due to mohair price changes. Many mohair goats run in brush pasture, and are not clipped unless mohair prices are favorable. During times of very high prices, two clippings a year may be made.

RABBITS The increase in Oregon's rabbit production that started during World War II has continued up to the present time. Rabbit numbers have nearly doubled during the past 10 years. No income data are available.

HORSES and MULES Oregon farmers are keeping fewer horses and mules each year. Saddle horses probably make up the bulk of the animals now kept on farms. Considerable buying and selling is done, but income data are not available.

Table 2. Mink: Number on Ranches, Pelt Production, and Value of Sales

(Oregon, 1946 - 1952)

Year	Number on ranches	Pelts taken	Value of sales
1946	20,300	49,000	\$ 980,000
1947	25,300	58,000	1,100,000
1948	26,300	57,200	855,000
1949	26,000	60,000	1,260,000
1950	26,800	64,100	1,350,000
1951	34,300	82,400	1,650,000
1952	38,600	95,000	2,120,000

Source: Mink numbers and pelt production since 1948 rounded from data supplied by National Board of Fur Farm Organizations. Value of sales estimates by Oregon State College Extension Service.

Table 3. Apiary Products: Colonies of Bees, Honey and Beeswax Production, and Value of Sales

(Oregon, 1946 - 1953)

Year	Colonies of bees	Honey	Beeswax	Value of sales
		<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	
1946	68,000	1,904,000	44,000	\$ 526,000
1947	69,000	2,277,000	57,000	561,000
1948	64,000	2,048,000	45,000	328,000
1949	56,000	2,576,000	46,000	348,000
1950	61,000	2,135,000	47,000	311,000
1951	65,000	2,275,000	50,000	346,000
1952	60,000	1,860,000	39,000	291,000
1953	57,000	2,052,000	31,000	313,000

Source: U. S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. Value of sales estimates by Oregon State College Extension Service.

Table 4. Goats: Number Clipped, Mohair Production, and Value of Sales

(Oregon, 1946 - 1953)

Year	Goats clipped	Mohair	Value of sales
		<u>Pounds</u>	
1946	54,000	189,000	\$ 83,000
1947	50,000	190,000	80,000
1948	36,000	148,000	43,000
1949	35,000	136,000	42,000
1950	45,000	162,000	83,000
1951	41,000	152,000	160,000
1952	35,000	130,000	91,000
1953	40,000	152,000	105,000

Source: U. S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 5. Number of Miscellaneous Animals on January 1

(Oregon, 1940 - 1953)

Period	Horses and mules	All goats	Milk goats	All rabbits
<u>Average</u>				
1940-1944	135,000	134,000	15,300	73,700
1945-1949	96,400	71,500	13,700	102,000
<u>Annual</u>				
1946	103,000	79,000	13,500	92,000
1947	95,000	69,000	14,000	96,000
1948	87,000	63,000	14,000	104,500
1949	82,000	64,000	13,200	114,000
1950	75,000	53,700	12,400	119,000
1951	66,000	53,000	12,800	134,000
1952	60,000	52,700	13,500	138,000
1953	57,000	50,000	13,275	141,000

Source: Estimates of horses and mules from U. S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. Other estimates by Oregon State College Extension Service.

Table 6. Number of Miscellaneous Animals on January 1 and Value of Miscellaneous Animal Products Sold

(Oregon, 1952)

County and district	Horses and mules	All goats	Milk goats	All rabbits	Value of sales
District 1					
Benton	700	2,000	1,000	5,500	\$ 70,000
Clackamas	2,400	3,600	1,650	20,500	235,000
Lane	2,500	7,000	1,200	11,500	185,000
Linn	1,500	5,000	500	2,700	90,000
Marion	2,000	4,000	500	6,500	295,000
Multnomah	1,000	500	400	16,000	390,000
Polk	800	2,200	200	3,000	48,000
Washington	1,300	1,000	700	2,500	140,000
Yamhill	800	3,000	350	8,000	135,000
Total District 1	13,000	28,300	6,500	76,200	\$ 1,588,000
District 2					
Clatsop	300	300	100	3,500	\$ 620,000
Columbia	800	700	600	2,000	240,000
Coos	900	3,000	170	4,400	80,000
Curry	400	2,500	200	250	30,000
Lincoln	400	3,000	500	3,000	50,000
Tillamook	300	200	100	250	410,000
Total District 2	3,100	9,700	1,670	13,400	\$ 1,430,000
District 3					
Douglas	1,600	9,000	1,700	10,000	\$ 100,000
Jackson	2,100	2,500	1,200	6,300	120,000
Josephine	800	1,700	1,300	1,400	37,000
Total District 3	4,500	13,200	4,200	17,700	\$ 257,000
District 4					
Gilliam	900	10	10	800	\$ 5,000
Hood River	400	100	100	4,000	38,000
Morrow	1,000	20	10	500	10,000
Sherman	500	--	--	50	1,000
Umatilla	3,500	200	150	3,300	48,000
Wasco	1,600	50	25	1,000	9,000
Wheeler	1,000	5	5	500	2,000
Total District 4	8,900	385	300	10,150	\$ 113,000
District 5					
Baker	3,300	60	60	1,500	\$ 22,000
Malheur	6,000	250	200	1,000	26,000
Union	2,000	55	50	1,000	175,000
Wallowa	3,500	10	10	1,000	14,000
Total District 5	14,800	375	320	4,500	\$ 237,000
District 6					
Crook	2,000	50	40	2,800	\$ 20,000
Deschutes	1,100	150	100	1,600	17,000
Grant	2,200	100	100	1,600	5,000
Harney	3,500	40	40	250	5,000
Jefferson	900	10	10	300	110,000
Klamath	3,000	340	200	9,000	110,000
Lake	3,000	50	20	700	8,000
Total District 6	15,700	740	510	16,250	\$ 175,000
STATE TOTAL	60,000	52,700	13,500	138,200	\$ 3,800,000

Fish and Shellfish

Commercial fishing is one of Oregon's major sources of income. Total poundage has decreased since 1948, but income still is about three times higher than the 1935-1939 average. During the 10-year period 1942-1951, fishermen received an average of more than 8 million dollars a year. The poorest year was slightly over 7 million dollars.

Chinook salmon is the most important single species to the Oregon fisherman. Sole and flounder are becoming increasingly important, as are rockfish. The catch of albacore tuna has fallen off steadily since its peak in 1944. Both crabs and oysters are considerably above the pre-war catch, but crab has declined from the wartime high in 1943.

Table 7. All commercial Fish and Shellfish, Quantity and Value of Catch
(Oregon, 1888 - 1951)

Year	Quantity	Value of sales
	Pounds	
1888	26,048,000	\$ 734,000
1899	22,752,000	856,000
1908	28,221,000	1,356,000
1915	34,693,000	1,479,000
1925	40,008,000	3,442,000
1930	26,459,000	2,256,000
1935	85,392,000	2,077,000
1936	57,741,000	1,995,000
1937	68,945,000	2,609,000
1938	71,728,000	2,400,000
1939	83,513,000	2,459,000
1940	54,203,000	2,742,000
1941	91,725,000	5,350,000
1942	65,326,000	7,191,000
1943	70,289,000	7,781,000
1944	71,026,000	7,936,000
1945	72,774,000	7,507,000
1946	74,298,000	7,701,000
1947	78,680,000	9,767,000
1948	87,962,000	11,462,000
1949	61,096,000	7,066,000
1950	58,256,000	7,151,000
1951	53,046,000	7,184,000

Source: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Table 8. Commercial Catch of Fish and Shellfish, by Kinds
(Oregon, 1935 - 1952)

Kind	1935-1939	1940-1944	1945-1949	Year	Year	Year
	average	average	average	1950	1951	1952
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Chinook salmon	12,942,000	13,061,000	12,626,000	8,576,000	9,426,000	7,896,000
Silver salmon	7,987,000	3,943,000	3,700,000	2,722,000	3,862,000	4,318,000
Steelhead	1,753,000	1,860,000	1,376,000	915,000	995,000	1,380,000
Other salmon ^{1/}	1,776,000	2,835,000	1,197,000	691,000	734,000	845,000
Tuna	3,173,000	12,152,000	8,030,000	5,386,000	2,917,000	2,586,000
Cod	331,000	1,507,000	1,475,000	1,070,000	1,510,000	906,000
Sole and Flounder	727,000	5,446,000	8,700,000	13,213,000	13,351,000	11,838,000
Halibut	380,000	867,000	5,917,000	534,000	365,000	298,000
Rockfish	113,000	4,422,000	8,904,000	5,174,000	6,642,000	7,119,000
Sturgeon	76,000	112,000	294,000	183,000	148,000	182,000
Shad	663,000	861,000	153,000	1,306,000	1,152,000	774,000
Smelt	322,000	589,000	917,000	665,000	466,000	232,000
Crabs	4,393,000	8,348,000	8,082,000	6,945,000	6,420,000	5,995,000
Clams	532,000	336,000	360,000	495,000	444,000	468,000
Oysters	115,000	450,000	269,000	976,000	805,000	2/
Nonfood fish	38,607,000	12,819,000	2,908,000	306,000	618,000	892,000
Livers	--	426,000	547,000	88,000	33,000	17,000

Source: Compiled from data supplied by Oregon State Fish Commission.

^{1/} Blueback and Chum

^{2/} Not available

Table 9. Commercial Ocean and Bay Fish Catch Delivered to Oregon Ports, by Kind

(Oregon, 1945 - 1952)				
Fish	1945-1949 average	1950	1951	1952
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Chinook salmon	2,009,000	1,052,000	2,665,000	3,016,000
Silver salmon	1,429,000	1,253,000	2,273,000	2,774,000
Sturgeon	12,000	4,000	2,000	5,000
Tuna	8,030,000	5,386,000	2,917,000	2,586,000
Cod	1,475,000	1,070,000	1,510,000	906,000
Rockfish	8,904,000	5,174,000	6,642,000	7,119,000
Sole and flounder	9,292,000	13,213,000	13,351,000	11,838,000
Halibut	592,000	534,000	365,000	298,000
Shark	232,000	160,000	309,000	493,000
Other nonfood fish	1,454,000	153,000	309,000	446,000
Livers	548,000	88,000	34,000	17,000

Source: Compiled from data supplied by Oregon State Fish Commission.

Table 10. Commercial Food Fish Catch in Rivers, by Kind

(Oregon, 1945 - 1952)				
Fish	1945-1949 average	1950	1951	1952
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Chinook salmon	10,532,000	7,524,000	6,761,000	4,880,000
Silver salmon	2,270,000	1,470,000	1,589,000	1,544,000
Chum salmon	1,045,000	566,000	615,000	372,000
Blueback salmon	146,000	125,000	118,000	473,000
Steelhead	1,363,000	915,000	995,000	1,380,000
Sturgeon	275,000	179,000	146,000	177,000
Smelt	438,000	665,000	466,000	232,000
Shad	1,537,000	1,306,000	1,152,000	774,000
Striped bass	131,000	37,000	28,000	18,000

Source: Compiled from data supplied by Oregon State Fish Commission.

Table 11. Commercial Food Fish Catch, by River

(Oregon, 1945 - 1952)				
River	1945-1949 average	1950	1951	1952
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Alsea Bay and River	221,000	142,000	162,000	176,000
Columbia River	14,109,000	10,486,000	9,354,000	7,890,000
Coos Bay and tributaries	413,000	277,000	258,000	180,000
Coquille River	156,000	127,000	132,000	136,000
Nehalem River	463,000	260,000	344,000	263,000
Siletz River	75,000	49,000	67,000	68,000
Siuslaw River	220,000	195,000	187,000	89,000
Tillamook Bay and tributaries	1,087,000	492,000	595,000	573,000
Umpqua River	837,000	636,000	648,000	416,000
Yaquina Bay and tributaries	154,000	123,000	123,000	60,000

Source: Compiled from data supplied by Oregon State Fish Commission.