

PRODUCTION AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

1. AGRICULTURE AND LAND TENURE.*

Acreage disposed of during the year				Total acreage at end of year			
Granted without sale (on long lease)	Sold	Total	Amount realised	Alienated	In process of alienation	Un-alienated	Total area of Colony
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£ s. d.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Sq. miles
0,782	0,977	1,759 (a)	415. 19. 3	16,641,669(b)	—	— (c)	121,844

Remarks:—

* For the Financial year 1928-29.

(a) Sites granted on long lease for building purposes.

(b) Cultivated and let on long or short leases.

(c) Uncultivated lands. They consist mainly of rocky wastes, and are uncultivable. Exact figures cannot be given.

Size of Holdings, specifying the Number of Holdings

Under 10 acres	11 to 50 acres	51 to 100 acres	101 to 1,000 acres	Over 1,000 acres
236	10,864	Nil		

CROPS †

District and nature of crop	Number of acres under cultivation	Gross quantity of produce	PASTURE †
			Acres of pasture land
VALLETTA DISTRICT			6 acres
Wheat ...	172	Quarters 737	
Meslin (Mischiato) ...	—	—	
Barley ...	39	" 227	
Maize ‡ ...	41	" 39	
Beans and Peas ...	22	" 74	
Potatoes ...	112	Tons 525	
Onions ...	0	" 76	
Cumin seed ...	36	Cwts. 240	
Cotton ...	16	lbs. 3,510	
Vegetables ...	8	Cwts. 635	
Forages ...	256	Loads 16,745	
Citrus fruits ...	6	Dosen 4,330	
Vines and Other fruits ...	19	Cwts. 1,215	

† For Agricultural year June 1928—May 1929.

‡ Chiefly grown as second crop, after potatoes or green-forages.

CROPS†			PASTURE†	LIVESTOCK on 31st December, 1928.	
District and nature of crop	Number of acres under cultivation	Gross quantity of produce	Acres of pasture land	District and nature of livestock	Number
EAST DISTRICT			169 acres		
Wheat	1,628	Quarters 7,957		Horses	807
Meslin (Mischiato)	—	" "		Asses	997
Barley	1,677	" 9,499		Mules	704
Maize*	28	" 53		Horned cattle	650
Beans and Peas	327	" 1,436		Sheep	3,276
Potatoes	1,582	Tons 7,796		Goats	7,723
Onions	619	" 5,036		Pigs	434
Cumin seed	506	Cwts. 3,368			
Cotton	138	lbs. 30,940			
Vegetables	312	Cwts. 22,725			
Forages	3,071	Loads 201,752			
Citrus fruits	26	Dozen 21,060			
Vines and other fruits	356	Cwts. 27,728			
CENTRAL DISTRICT			97 acres		
Wheat	1,821	Quarters 7,577		Horses	1,319
Meslin (Mischiato)	—	" "		Asses	4,094
Barley	642	" 3,645		Mules	790
Maize*	41	" 160		Horned cattle	1,286
Beans and Peas	155	" 720		Sheep	2,887
Potatoes	1,279	Tons 5,995		Goats	5,611
Onions	151	" 1,258		Pigs	1,163
Cumin seed	516	Cwts. 3,395			
Cotton	200	lbs. 44,990			
Vegetables	230	Cwts. 17,295			
Forages	2,443	Loads 162,095			
Citrus fruits	89	Dozen 77,160			
Vines and other fruits	275	Cwts. 26,770			
WEST DISTRICT			298 acres		
Wheat	4,268	Quarters 17,444		Horses	788
Meslin (Mischiato)	40	" 220		Asses	1,047
Barley	625	" 3,642		Mules	902
Maize*	60	" 260		Horned cattle	1,413
Beans and Peas	424	" 2,070		Sheep	3,247
Potatoes	1,084	Tons 5,118		Goats	6,014
Onions	394	" 2,900		Pigs	1,705
Cumin seed	340	Cwts. 2,259			
Cotton	166	lbs. 37,640			
Vegetables	1,004	Cwts. 75,830			
Forages	4,154	Loads 262,438			
Citrus fruits	54	Dozen 40,400			
Vines and other fruits	970	Cwts. 81,175			
GOZ-DISTRICT			323 acres		
Wheat	685	Quarters 2,923		Horses	256
Meslin (Mischiato)	2,940	" 16,201		Asses	1,140
Barley	159	" 984		Mules	405
Maize*	407	" 1,568		Horned cattle	1,287
Beans and Peas	573	" 2,599		Sheep	7,442
Potatoes	149	Tons 683		Goats	5,915
Onions	25	" 209		Pigs	1,232
Cumin seed	277	Cwts. 1,835			
Cotton	375	lbs. 99,540			
Vegetables	204	Cwts. 15,150			
Forages	2,901	Loads 178,478			
Citrus fruits	14	Dozen 10,350			
Vines and other fruits	1,138	Cwts. 92,260			

† For Agricultural year June 1928—May 1929.

* Chiefly grown as second crop, after potatoes or green forages.

YIELD OF ANIMAL PRODUCE DURING THE YEAR.

No returns available.

2. FORESTRY.

There are no forests in Malta.

3. FISHERIES.

Catch of Fish			Number of boats engaged in fishing	Number of persons engaged in fishing
Kind of Fish	Quantity	Landed Value		
	(Crs.)	£		
Dog fish (var. sp.)	751	2,500	Malta 475	British 73,500
Hammerhead	1	10	Gozo 209	Foreigners
Angel fish	150	500		
Rays (var. sp.)	417	1,223	Total 684	3,500
Eel	7	80		
Conger	70	180		
Murrey	67	335		
Power	18	135		
Brill	18	180		
Forkbeards (var. sp.)	30	270		
Allis shad	163	1,230		
Pilchard	30	125		
Gartfish	10	160		
(Saurus griseus)	15	50		
Grey mullet	62	510		
Sea pike	8	60		
Wrasse (var. sp.)	53	130		
Rainbow wrasse	10	40		
Rain fish	4	45		
(Saurus cretensis)	20	100		
Striped snare	744	2,485		
Snare	47	140		
(Dentex)	55	650		
Oldside	34	215		
Galthead	11	120		
Brace	32	345		
Pandora	18	350		
Axillary Bream	2	12		
(Sparus sp.)	23	155		
(Sargus vulgaris)	51	385		
Egyptian sargo	82	615		
Bogue	980	3,270		
(Box salpa)	105	700		
Black tail	165	1,375		
Striped mullet	6	45		
Red mullet	121	1,010		
Piper, gurnard, etc.	56	735		
Scorpena	48	440		
Porcine scorpena	61	355		
Baso	14	170		
Stone baso (var. sp.)	28	190		
Comber	96	480		
Letticed perch	28	750		
Dusky perch	162	1,215		
(Umbra cirrosa)	34	225		
Sword fish	38	315		
Spanish mackerell	187	1,500		
Tunny	22	195		
Long finned tunny	1	5		
(Thynnus tunnia)	57	430		
Belted bonito	44	440		
Plain bonito	176	1,625		
Pilot fish	257	2,140		
(Seriola dumerilli)	57	500		
Hotte mackerell	144	725		
Cosephene	1,119	8,390		
Greater weaver	23	135		
Lesser weaver	26	150		
Sturgeon	12	70		
	7,685	39,427		

General information regarding the industry and the possibilities of its development.

The industry is practically wholly dependent on inshore fishing. Owing to unprovident methods of fishing, the industry has suffered considerably during recent years. Fishing Regulations were issued mainly for the purpose of protecting fish in their young stages; these regulations, however, have proved inadequate to check the indiscriminate use of harmful implements, especially small meshed drag nets, consequently the destruction of immature fish is still carried on to no little extent. It is intended to enforce more stringent protective regulations and also provide better supervision for their due observance. It is anticipated that when these matters will be adopted, the industry will eventually be restored to its normal conditions. The adoption of motor power and larger craft for the exploitation of distant fishing grounds has been, though on a very limited scale, already initiated.

The number of persons who live exclusively by means of fishing is in the last census given at 1435.

4. MINERALS.

Quantity and value of each class of Mineral mined or quarried during the year 1929, in Malta and Gozo				Mining Concessions and Prospecting Licences granted during the year		Oil Concessions and Prospecting Licences granted during the year	
Mineral	Quantity	Value	Metallic content (in case of metallic ores)	No. of Concessions	No. of Prospecting Licences	No. of Concessions	No. of Prospecting Licences
(i) Mined:— No mines		£					
(ii) Quarried:— Globigerina Limestone ...	c. ft. 11,662,000	194,380	No metallic ores	— Nil —		— Nil —	
Caroline do, ...							
(a) in blocks ...	c. ft. 56,000	2,330					
(b) in spalls ...	c. yds. 95,000	10,500					
(iii) Produced:— Lime ...	salms* 62,000	7,500					
Common salt (sodium chloride):— (a) Total production ...	salms* 2,300	—					
(b) sold of above ...	salms* 1,500	630					
Total ...		215,650					

The geographical survey of Malta is complete. About 102 square miles, including a portion of Gozo, have been surveyed also geologically. No important mineral deposits are known which are not worked.

* One salm=8 Imperial Bushels.

5. WATER POWER.

No water power available in the Colony.

6. INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND MANUFACTORIES

from 1st January to 31st December, 1929.

(so far as not included under sub-sections 1-5 above).

Industry	Number of Establishments or Manufactories	Number of persons employed	Cost of Raw Material used	Output during the year	
				Quantity	Net selling value at factory or works
Natural Wine ...	Malta... ..	130		litre, 528,537	
	Gozo	193		" 572,998	
Artificial Wine ...	Malta... ..	5		—	
	Gozo	—		—	
Distilling Alcohol ...	Malta... ..	—		—	
	Gozo	—		—	
Distilling Orange flower water ...	Malta... ..	37		" 2,684	
	Gozo	23		" 6,266	
Cigarettes ...	Malta... ..	10			
Cigars ...	Do.	2			
Caps ...	Do.	2			
Shoddy ...	Do.	1			
Cottons ...	Do.	8			
Furniture and Cabinet making ...	Do.	6			
Candles ...	Do.	1			
Flour milling ...	Do.	5			
Beer ...	Do.	4			

7. SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

1. The first autumnal rains fell in both Islands on the 4th and 5th September, so that the rainy season commenced much earlier than usual, and the germination of forages and winter potatoes was anticipated, but as showery weather continued at intervals there was no subsequent draught to cause injury to growing crops. On the 7th November there was a heavy rainfall averaging 2 inches all over both Islands, but the downpour was much heavier at Bahra, Wied Ghazmana and neighbourhood, where 6½ inches of rain fell in the short space of about 1½ hours, causing much damage to arable land, with the removal and washing off of much soil. The weather continued fairly wet until the middle of March, when the total rainfall amounted to over 21 inch. There were further good showers in April, and by the end of that month the total rainfall amounted to 22.96 inches in Malta, and 25.66 inches in Gozo.

2. There was slight reduction in the acreage under wheat, but the yield showed a very good average of 33 bushels per acre. There was also a slight decrease in the area under barley and meslin, due solely, as in the case of wheat, to fluctuations owing to rotations of crops. The favourable rains in the early spring is due the increase of the area under dry-farmed crops, such as maize and cotton, as well as dry-farmed tomatoes and vegetables. There was a slight increase in the acreage of spring and summer potatoes, and on the whole the crop was a good one. There was also an increase of acreage of canna and forages, and excellent crops were obtained. There was a slight decrease in the area under onions, but the yield was also good, although the prices were poor. From the purely agricultural point of view this year has been almost entirely a great success, but from the financial standpoint the farmers have far less reason to be satisfied, owing to the low market prices at which the produce was sold.

3. The crop of Citrus fruit was on the whole better than that of last year. There was a considerable increase in the production of grapes, the vineyards having suffered very little from cryptogamic diseases. The total available grapes for the press being estimated at 147,800 cwt. with an estimated yield of 1,123,375 Imperial gallons. Other fruits were also fairly abundant.

4. The following statement shows the grants made by Government for the development of the natural resources of the Colony in 1928-29:—

1.	Subsidy to the Società Economico-Agraria, Malta,	towards the improvement of agriculture	...	...	...	£	50
2.	Do. do. do. do.	towards the upkeep of the Society's experimental farm	...	...	...		20
3.	Do. do. do. do.	towards the holding of agricultural competitions	...	...	...		77
4.	Do. do. do. do.	towards encouraging the growing of vines and fruit trees	...	...	...		11
5.	Do. do. do. do.	for prizes to Exhibitors of the best Malta mule-breeding donkeys	...	...	...		10
6.	Subsidy to the "Board of Agriculture", Gozo	...	...	...	...		200
7.	Subsidy to the Horticultural Society	...	...	...	...		60
Total							...	£ 460