

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
00.36	1.93	1.9336	583. 15. 2	16,648.0926	—	— (a)	121.844

Remarks:—

* For the Financial year 1930-31.

(a) 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†
				Acreage of pasture land
VALLETTA DISTRICT				6 acres
Wheat ...	198	Quarters	692	
Meslin (Mischiato) ...	—		—	
Barley ...	43	"	230	
Maize ‡	9	"	34	
Beans and Peas ...	11	"	44	
Potatoes ...	97	Tons	485	
Onions ...	6	"	45	
Cumin seed ...	60	Cwts.	275	
Cotton ...	12	lbs.	2,805	
Vegetables ...	13	Cwts.	975	
Forages ...	23†	Loads	15,000	
Citrus fruits ...	6	Dozen	5,600	
Vines and Other fruits ...	19	Cwts.	4,370	

† For Agricultural year June 1930—May 1931.

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

CROPS†				PASTURE‡	LIVESTOCK on 31st December, 1930.	
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				189 acres		
Wheat	1,994	Quarters	6,973	VALLETTA DISTRICT		
Meslin (Mischiato)	—	"	—			
Barley	1,785	"	8,925			
Maize *	24	"	91			
Beans and Peas	355	"	1,420			
Potatoes	1,522	Tons	7,610			
Onions	559	"	4,310			
Cumin seed	655	Cwts.	3,007			
Cotton	68	lbs.	15,760			
Vegetables	346	Cwts.	26,155			
Forages	2,857	Loads	183,353			
Citrus fruits	25	Dozen	23,800			
Vines and other fruits	391	Cwts.	25,500			
CENTRAL DISTRICT				96 acres		
Wheat	2,056	Quarters	7,193	EAST DISTRICT		
Meslin (Mischiato)	—	"	—			
Barley	752	"	3,895			
Maize *	24	"	95			
Beans and Peas	145	"	531			
Potatoes	1,239	Tons	6,345			
Onions	141	"	1,020			
Cumin seed	644	Cwts.	3,030			
Cotton	81	lbs.	18,900			
Vegetables	255	Cwts.	19,085			
Forages	2,148	Loads	141,595			
Citrus fruits	89	Dozen	86,695			
Vines and other fruits	278	Cwts.	18,613			
WEST DISTRICT				298 acres		
Wheat	4,252	Quarters	15,521	CENTRAL DISTRICT		
Meslin (Mischiato)	—	"	—			
Barley	1,053	"	5,730			
Maize *	39	"	166			
Beans and Peas	281	"	1,108			
Potatoes	955	Tons	4,374			
Onions	340	"	2,300			
Cumin seed	574	Cwts.	3,155			
Cotton	67	lbs.	15,605			
Vegetables	1,077	Cwts.	73,360			
Forages	3,919	Loads	254,985			
Citrus fruits	54	Dozen	51,388			
Vines and other fruits	989	Cwts.	53,738			
GOZO DISTRICT				323 acres		
Wheat	1,102	Quarters	4,262	WEST DISTRICT		
Meslin (Mischiato)	3,064	"	15,115			
Barley	65	"	353			
Maize *	166	"	694			
Beans and Peas	401	"	1,658			
Potatoes	121	Tons	721			
Onions	25	"	155			
Cumin seed	314	Cwts.	1,407			
Cotton	271	lbs.	66,180			
Vegetables	199	Cwts.	13,681			
Forages	2,711	Loads	175,904			
Citrus fruits	14	Dozen	12,238			
Vines and other fruits	1,453	Cwts.	63,768			
VALLETTA DISTRICT						
					Horses	88
					Asses	5
					Mules	32
					Goats	3
					Pigs	3
EAST DISTRICT						
					Horses	862
					Asses	1,030
					Mules	670
					Horned cattle	703
					Sheep	5,236
					Goats	9,363
					Pigs	797
CENTRAL DISTRICT						
					Horses	1,114
					Asses	1,000
					Mules	680
					Horned cattle	1,346
					Sheep	2,296
					Goats	5,259
					Pigs	1,061
WEST DISTRICT						
					Horses	708
					Asses	364
					Mules	855
					Horned cattle	1,095
					Sheep	2,936
					Goats	5,513
					Pigs	2,040
GOZO DISTRICT						
					GOZO DISTRICT	
					Horses	282
					Asses	1,711
					Mules	483
					Horned cattle	1,217
					Sheep	6,536
					Goats	8,774
					Pigs	2,655

† For Agricultural year June 1930—May 1931.

* 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.)	633	2,369	Malta 541	British *3,500	
Hammerhead	6	39	Gozo 207	Foreigners	
Angel fish	85	318	Total 748	3,500	
Rays (var. sp.)	398	1,159			
Eel	11	134			
Coager	76	412			
Marrey	64	370			
Power	18	146			
Brill	11	96			
Foribeads (var. sp.)	29	243			
Allic shad	293	1,100			
Pilchard	26	110			
Garfish	53	398			
(Sax. us griseus)	17	70			
Grey mullet	68	508			
Sea pike	9	69			
Wrasse (var. sp.)	45	207			
Rainbow wrasse	13	67			
Razor fish	5	59			
(Scarus cretensis)	8	48			
Streaked snout	717	2,389			
Snare	115	284			
(Dentex)	57	616			
Oldwife	24	132			
Gilthead	11	115			
Boize	29	314			
Pindora	26	156			
Axillary Beam	1	5			
(Sparus sp.)	20	199			
(Sargus vulgaris)	54	542			
Egyptian sargo	80	803			
Bogue	884	2,945			
(Box salpa)	122	612			
Black tail	172	1,720			
Striped mullet	5	27			
Red mullet	57	651			
Piper, gurnard, etc.	64	267			
Scorpaena	40	235			
Porcine scorpaena	39	395			
Basse	12	133			
Stone basse (var. sp.)	34	256			
Comber	68	340			
Leathered perch	48	235			
Dusky perch	138	1,031			
(Umbra citrosa)	34	172			
Sword fish	10	94			
Spanish mackerell	65	382			
Mackerell	29	184			
Tunny	14	152			
Long finned tunny					
(Thynnus thynnus)	27	201			
Bellied bonito	34	307			
Plain bonito	84	493			
Pilot fish	172	1,147			
(Scombrus dumetii)	71	830			
Horse mackerell	168	977			
Corephene	948	7,168			
Greiner weaver	17	100			
Lesser weaver	24	138			
Stargazer	12	58			
	6,438	35,040			

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 observance. It is anticipated that when these measures 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 given in the last census at 1435.

4. MINERALS.

Quantity and value of each class of Mineral mined or quarried during the year 1931, 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. 11,500,000	191,670	No metallic ores	— Nil. —		— Nil. —	
Coralline do. ...							
(a) in blocks ...	c. ft. 166,000	6,920					
(b) in spalls ...	c. yds. 80,000	15,350					
(iii) Produced:— Lime ...	salms* 65,000	8,125					
Common salt (sodium chloride):— (a) Total production ...	salms* 4,100	—					
(b) sold of above ...	salms* 1,100	385					
Total ...		202,150					

The geographical survey of Malta is complete; that of Gozo was started last year. About 108 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, 1931.

(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... 116	—		litres 559,817	
Artificial Wine ...	Gozo... 195	—		" 799,371	
Breweries ...	Malta... 3	—			
	Do... 3	225			
Distilling Orange flower water ...	Malta... 31	—		" 2,645	
	Gozo... 22	—		" 4,678	
Cigarettes ...	Malta... 55	420			
Cigars ...	Gozo... 1	—			
Cups ...	Malta... 5	46			
Shoey ...	Do... 13	50			
Furniture and Cabinet making ...	Do... 2	18			
Candles ...	Do... 88	569			
Flour milling ...	Do... 4	24			
	Malta... 9	126			
	Gozo... 5	12			
Cement-tile Manufacture ...	Malta... 11	95			
	Gozo... 3	26			
Mineral Water Manufacture ...	Malta... 22	168			
	Gozo... 3	6			
Paste Factories ...	Malta... 16	108			
	Gozo... 2	5			
Engineering Works ...	Malta... 9	132			
Oil storage and distribution plants	Do... 4	91			
Coopers ...	Do... 10	31			
Beer bottling ...	Do... 5	88			
Boat-builders (including lighters)	Do... 15	119			
Ice Manufacture ...	Do... 5	26			
Gas Works ...	Do... 1	69			
Fireworks ...	Do... 1	4			
Printing ...	Do... 25	210			
Marble Works ...	Do... 5	16			
Gold & Silver Smith ...	Do... 47	83			
Tomato Factories ...	Do... 1	8			
Laundries and dry cleaning establishments ...	Do... 21	159			
Confectioneries ...	Do... 46	217			

7. SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

1. The first useful rains of nearly three inches fell on the 14th September, 1930, so that the rainy season commenced about two weeks earlier than usual, and the germination of forages and winter potatoes was therefore in advance. The weather became again warm and dry, following the usual course for one month. Abundant showers fell on the 15th to the 20th October amounting to over three inches. Stormy weather followed on the 13th to the 15th November, succeeded by a prolonged spell of fine weather. Showery weather continued from the 8th December 1930 to the third week of February 1931, the soil continuing in a wet condition for over 24 months, causing much delay in most agricultural operations. There was a fierce westerly gale of extraordinary violence on the 21st to the 23rd February, which was repeated on a minor scale on the 1st and 2nd March, causing considerable damage to growing crops, particularly to early spring potatoes, and also to fruit trees. The average total rainfall for both Islands amounted to 27.72 inches, and notwithstanding the heavy gale above mentioned; the weather was mild, but on the whole the results of the agricultural year may be described as comparatively poor, and would have been disastrous but for a rather belated, but very beneficial rain in May. However with the exception of sails and forages generally no crop was wholly satisfactory. The price of vegetables and practically of all farm produce was excessively low, which further accentuated the crisis already existing in our agricultural industries. There was an increase in acreage under wheat, but last year's average yield of 33 bushels per acre was reduced to 294 bushels. There was also a slight increase in the acreage under barley and meslin, but on the other hand there was also a slight decrease of production.

2. There was a decrease in acreage under winter potatoes, but with only a slight decrease of production; on the other hand the decrease in the area under spring and summer potatoes was more than compensated by a larger yield. There was a slight reduction in the acreage under onions, largely due to dying off of seedlings brought about by wet weather, with a corresponding reduction in the total yield. There was a notable increase in the area under cummin, but without a corresponding higher yield, a shortage due to the dry weather in spring.

3. The crop of Citrus fruits was fairly good, but there was a reduction in the production of grapes due to an outbreak of downy-mildew and to the heat of summer. The total quantity of grapes available for the press was estimated at 90,000 cwt. with an estimated yield of 684,000 Imp. gallons of wine.