

SECTION 22.

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	Unalienated	Total area of Colony
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£ s. d.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Sq. miles
Nil	1.95	1.95	1,775. 12. 8	16,649.0426	—	— (a)	121.844

Remarks :—

* For the Financial year 1931-32.

(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†

PASTURE†

District and nature of crop	Number of acres under cultivation	Grow quantity of produce	Acreage of pasture land
VALLETTA DISTRICT			6 acres
Wheat ...	224	Quarters 510	
Meslin (Mischiato) ...	—	—	
Barley ...	71	" 393	
Maize ‡ ...	6	" 22	
Beans and Peas ...	11	" 38	
Potatoes ...	100	Tons 353	
Onions ...	3	" 21	
Cumin seed ...	26	Cwts. 116	
Cotton ...	4	lbs. 1,008	
Vegetables ...	15	Cwts. 1,318	
Forages ...	214	Lods 13,798	
Citrus fruits ...	6	Dons 2,135	
Vines and Other fruits ...	19	Cwts. 1,242	

† For Agricultural year June 1931—May 1932.

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

CROPS†			PASTURE†	LIVESTOCK on 31st December, 1932.	
District and nature of crop	Number of acres under cultivation	Gross quantity of produce	Acreeage of pasture land	District and nature of livestock	Number
EAST DISTRICT			189 acres		
Wheat	2,048	Quarters 8,142		VALLETTA DISTRICT	
Meslin (Mischiato)	—		Horses	75
Barley	1,713 9,494		Asses	5
Maize*	22 82		Mules	15
Beans and Peas	433 1,611		Goats	5
Potatoes	1,719	Tons 5,962		Pigs	3
Onions	628 4,495		EAST DISTRICT	
Cumin seed	297	Cwts. 1,314		Horses	872
Cotton	20	lbs. 5,090		Asses	913
Vegetables	413	Cwts. 28,780		Mules	671
Forages	2,920	Loads 191,440		Horned cattle	445
Citrus fruits	25	Dozen 9,180		Sheep	5,439
Vines and other fruits	391	Cwts. 23,215		Goats	9,186
CENTRAL DISTRICT			96 acres	Pigs	767
Wheat	2,164	Quarters 8,555	CENTRAL DISTRICT		
Meslin (Mischiato)	—	Horses	1,094	
Barley	765 4,213	Asses	1,072	
Maize*	7 28	Mules	811	
Beans and Peas	165 622	Horned cattle	1,308	
Potatoes	1,404	Tons 4,813	Sheep	2,548	
Onions	140 1,085	Goats	5,517	
Cumin seed	329	Cwts. 1,495	Pigs	839	
Cotton	17	lbs. 4,339	WEST DISTRICT		
Vegetables	327	Cwts. 23,340	Horses	816	
Forages	2,138	Loads 140,990	Asses	991	
Citrus fruits	89	Dozen 33,579	Mules	994	
Vines and other fruits	278	Cwts. 17,459	Horned cattle	944	
WEST DISTRICT			298 acres	Sheep	3,386
Wheat	4,000	Quarters 15,816	Goats	6,729	
Meslin (Mischiato)	10 52	Pigs	2,013	
Barley	776 4,216	WEST DISTRICT		
Maize*	42 160	Horses	816	
Beans and Peas	459 1,799	Asses	991	
Potatoes	1,437	Tons 4,000	Mules	994	
Onions	393 2,792	Horned cattle	944	
Cumin seed	413	Cwts. 1,859	Sheep	3,386	
Cotton	19	lbs. 4,565	Goats	6,729	
Vegetables	1,184	Cwts. 84,575	Pigs	2,013	
Forages	4,137	Loads 264,680	Gozo DISTRICT		
Citrus fruits	54	Dozen 19,690	Horses	352	
Vines and other fruits	989	Cwts. 56,560	Asses	1,248	
Gozo DISTRICT			331 acres	Mules	553
Wheat	1,088	Quarters 4,299	Horned cattle	1,087	
Meslin (Mischiato)	2,608 12,975	Sheep	8,635	
Barley	180 992	Goats	7,419	
Maize*	393 1,204	Pigs	717	
Beans and Peas	507 1,857	Gozo DISTRICT		
Potatoes	170	Tons 599	Horses	352	
Onions	55 382	Asses	1,248	
Cumin seed	459	Cwts. 710	Mules	553	
Cotton	274	lbs. 65,786	Horned cattle	1,087	
Vegetables	289	Cwts. 20,095	Sheep	8,635	
Forages	2,937	Loads 189,358	Goats	7,419	
Citrus fruits	14	Dozen 5,190	Pigs	717	
Vines and other fruits	1,169	Cwts. 71,270			

† For Agricultural year June 1931—May 1932.

* 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		
	(Crs.)	£	
Dog fish (var. sp.)	545	2,211	Malta 573
Hammerhead	12	50	Gozo 208
Angelfish	112	492	Total 781
Rays (var. sp.)	368	1,176	British 3,590
Eel	15	160	Foreigners
Conger	80	465	
Murrey	51	340	
Power	43	320	
Brill	14	168	
Forkbeards (var. sp.)	29	195	
Albis shad	142	532	
Pilchard	25	105	
Garfish	71	655	
(Saurus griseus)	16	60	
Grey mullet	91	685	
Sea pike	12	104	
Wrasse (var. sp.)	54	313	
Rainbow wrasse	11	47	
River fish	7	80	
(Saurus cretensis)	77	450	
Striped snare	531	2,016	
Snare	19	78	
(Dentes)	62	572	
Oldwife	32	215	
Gilthead	41	310	
Beard	14	146	
Fundan	39	276	
Axillary Bream	4	30	
(Sparus sp.)	32	320	
(Sargus vulgaris)	57	430	
Egyptian sargo	86	650	
Rogue	1094	3,954	
(Box salpa)	118	780	
Black tail	161	1,342	
Striped mullet	14	83	
Red mullet	145	980	
Piper, gurgard, etc.	43	162	
Scorpena	41	275	
Porcine scorpena	64	266	
Basse	13	375	
Stone basse	49	276	
Comber	49	285	
Lettered perch	48	322	
Dusky perch	94	709	
(Umbrina cirrhosa)	33	155	
Sword fish	13	115	
Spanish mackerell	73	667	
Mackerell	26	255	
Tunny	42	353	
Long finned tunny	2	25	
(Thynnus tunnina)	52	395	
Belted bonito	30	461	
Plain bonito	69	460	
Blot fish	380	1,445	
(Seriola dumerili)	75	621	
Horse mackerell	285	1,650	
Corephene	620	4,165	
Greater weaver	27	186	
Lesser weaver	26	150	
Star gazer	10	48	
	6,385	34,285	

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

The industry is practically wholly dependent on inshore fishing. Owing to unprofitable 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 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.

4. MINERALS.

Quantity and value of each class of Minerals mined or quarried during the year 1932, 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:— Ghobierins Limestone ...	c. ft. 12,250,000	203,334	No metallic ores	—Nil—		—Nil—	
Caroline do.							
(a) in blocks ...	c. ft. 171,000	7,125					
(b) in spalls ...	c. yds. 92,000	15,333					
(iii) Produced:— Lime ...	salms* 68,000	8,500					
Common salt (sodium chloride):— (a) Total production ...	salms* 4,200	—					
(b) sold of stove ...	salms* 3,150	1,260					
Total ...		235,552					

The geographical survey of Malta is complete; that of Gozo was started in 1931. About 100 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, 1932.

(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... 125 Gozo... 218	—		barrels 26,678 .. 27,812	
Artificial Wine ...	Malta... 3	—		—	
Breweries ...	Do... 3	211		—	
Distilling (orange flower water) ...	Malta... 33 Gozo... 26	—		Litres 2,516 .. 2,595	
Cigarettes ...	Malta... 79 Gozo... 1	465			
Cigars ...	Malta... 6	29			
Caps ...	Do... 15	54			
Shoddy ...	Do... 2	11			
Furniture and Cabinet making ...	Do... 142	541			
Candles ...	Do... 4	7			
Flour milling ...	Malta... 9 Gozo... 6	127 12			
Cement-tile Manufacture ...	Malta... 20 Gozo... 4	93 34			
Mineral Water Manufacture ...	Malta... 24 Gozo... 3	165 4			
Paste Factories ...	Malta... 17 Gozo... 5	71 9			
Engineering Works ...	Malta... 9	94			
Oil storage and distribution plants	Do... 5	246			
Coopers ...	Do... 10	17			
Beer bottling ...	Do... 5	66			
Boat-builders (including lighters)	Do... 16	114			
Ice Manufacture ...	Do... 5	23			
Gas Works ...	Do... 1	93			
Fireworks ...	Do... 1	4			
Printing ...	Do... 30	204			
Marble Works ...	Do... 5	10			
Gold & Silver Smith ...	Do... 47	83			
Tomato Factories ...	Do... 2	14			
Laundries and dry cleaning establishments ...	Do... 26	155			
Confectioneries ...	Do... 46	217			

7. SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Slight showers of rain fell during the first two weeks of September, but the first useful rains fell on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd October, on which days the rainfall amounted to about five inches, so that the cycle of vegetation was started quite normally at the proper period. Rain fell again at the close of October and the weather continued more or less wet up to the end of the year. There was stormy weather of unusual intensity between the 2nd and 5th December, immediately followed by a widespread outbreak of potato-blight, which killed off the winter potatoes, but the tubers had already reached practically full development. A long spell of long and showery weather followed in January, with more settled weather in the first three weeks of February. Heavy stormy weather set in on the 20th February and continued up to the 7th March, the total rainfall up to that date amounting to 23 inches. There was a sharp attack of frost on the 25th March, which caused some damage to the growing plants of spring potatoes, after which date there were only insignificant showers, bringing up the total rainfall to an average of 24 inches. There was therefore, a scarcity of rain in spring, that is when it was most required for the ripening crops. On the whole, the results of the agricultural year, though better than those of the preceding year, cannot be described as satisfactory. Wheat, meslin and barley were fairly good, and but for the scarcity of rain in April, would have been considerably better. The winter crop of potatoes was abundant, but many tubers were found infected with blight. The spring crop was fairly good and free from all disease, but the dry weather prevented the full development of the tubers. Beans and forages were fairly good, but also suffered from the shortage of rain in spring. Cauliflowers and cabbages were less abundant than in the preceding year, but fetched better prices. The same improvement in prices may be reported in the case of winter and spring potatoes. Fruits, especially oranges were rather scarce, and fetched good prices, but the prices of all other agricultural produce including cumins, remained very low and unremunerative. The quantity of grapes available for the press was estimated at 95,000 cwts. with an estimated production of 722,000 Imperial gallons of wine.

2. The slight decrease in the acreage under wheat was fully compensated by an increase of yield; the average yield being 31.59 bushels, against last year's 29.27 bushels. There was an increase in the area under onions, with a corresponding increase of production; but owing to the low prices the cultivation of cumins fell to 1224 acres, as against last year's 2247 acres.