

FARM MACHINERY

Even though mechanization in farming is widely practised in New Zealand, little research has been done in the past to evaluate trends as the result of such use, nor has any real attempt been made to determine the suitability of the various types for different classes of farming. Work in this direction has been suspended temporarily owing to the entry into the Armed Forces of the officer being trained to specialize in farm machinery.

FARM BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

This Section will undertake the work of planning all types of farm buildings and other improvements, such as water-supply and fencing, &c. Working in conjunction with Ministry of Works, it should be possible to prepare complete information for farmers contemplating the erection of buildings or other improvements. No officer has been appointed for this work.

LAND UTILIZATION

The Division will work closely with the Land Utilization Officer of the Fields Division in collecting data on land utilization and land development.

STATISTICAL SECTION

This Section will be augmented, when necessary, to cope with the compilation and tabulation of data arising from the Division's activities. A Research Statistician has been appointed and will take up duty at an early date. The current work dealt with by the Section included—

- Preparation of special reports on all phases of production.
- Compilation of quarterly statistical statements of primary production.
- Forecasts of live-stock numbers and production.
- Compilation of fertilizer statistics.
- Butterfat production devoted to butter and cheese manufacture.
- Wool-pull returns.
- Live-stock slaughterings.
- Costs of production.

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