

## THE SEASON'S LAMBING: NORTH ISLAND ESTIMATE.

FROM information furnished by the Inspectors of Stock in the various districts the average lambing for the current season in the North Island is estimated at 91.34 per cent. With 7,170,154 breeding-ewes in the North Island, as shown in the 1923 sheep returns, the number of lambs is estimated at 6,549,143. The corresponding figures for last year showed a lambing percentage of 90.36 and 6,118,530 breeding-ewes. South Island and Dominion estimates will appear in next month's issue.

## ESTIMATED AREAS UNDER WHEAT AND OATS.

THE following estimates of the areas under wheat and oats in the Dominion for the current season have been issued by the Government Statistician, under date 31st October, the figures being based on the usual card census: Wheat—North Island, 5,000 acres; South Island, 180,000 acres: total, 185,000 acres. Oats—North Island, 55,000 acres; South Island, 390,000 acres: total, 445,000 acres. The corresponding final totals for the previous season (1922-23) were 278,687 acres of wheat and 468,928 acres of oats. In the current season's wheat-sowings the areas under the different varieties are given as follows: Tuscan or long-berry, 124,727 acres; Hunters (various), 33,739 acres; Velvet or Pearl, 13,901 acres; balance unspecified.

## KILLINGS AT MEAT-WORKS, SEASON 1922-23.

FIGURES supplied by the Meat Control Board show the killings at all freezing-works in New Zealand for the season 1st November, 1922, to 31st October, 1923, as follows, the unit given being the 60 lb. freight carcase:—

Class.	North Island.	South Island.	Dominion.
Beef .. .. .	1,241,130	9,703	1,250,833
Wether mutton .. .. .	903,385	103,875	1,007,260
Ewe mutton .. .. .	328,438	137,806	466,244
Lamb .. .. .	1,148,081	1,592,482	2,740,563
Sundries .. .. .	260,531	40,277	300,808
Totals .. .. .	3,881,565	1,884,143	5,765,708
Totals, 1921-22 .. .. .	3,898,254	2,113,443	6,011,697

*Freight on Stud Pigs from Britain.*—Although the shipping companies have for some little time past been carrying stud sheep and cattle freight free from Britain to New Zealand, this concession does not apply to pigs. The freight rates for pigs are £7 17s. 6d. per head up to five, and £6 6s. per head for over five.

*Area under Potatoes.*—The Government Statistician estimates the area under potatoes this season (1923-24) as 5,500 acres in the North Island and 11,000 acres in the South Island, or a total of 16,500 acres. The corresponding final figures for the 1922-23 season were 5,370, 14,827, and 20,197 acres respectively. Only holdings of 1 acre and over outside borough boundaries are covered by these figures. A fair aggregate area of potatoes is grown on the smaller holdings and within boroughs.