

TABLE 1—PIG-MEAT PRODUCTION IN THE LAST 24 YEARS

the continued development of the dairy industry in this country.

It will be interesting, therefore, to examine what might be regarded as the potential production of pig meat on our existing type of feed supply.

There is, in practice, a very wide range of levels of efficiency in feed conversion from farm to farm. Tables 3 (a) and (b), based on information collected in the pig census carried out before the war, indicate the range that occurs according to efficiency of management generally and different levels of supplementing the basic food supply. Table 3 (c) gives the average efficiency of these farms, together with the proportions of the various types of feed contributing to the total feed supply. On this basis, 8lb. of food was used for each 1lb. of pig meat produced. Though not a high standard, this is better than the average for the country as a whole, as is evidenced by the fact that had this standard been attained generally the level of production would have been higher than it actually was in each of the seasons under consideration (see Table 5).

With the combination of efficient stock, housing, management, and correct and careful feeding it is possible to achieve a standard of 1lb. of meat for only 5lb. of feed used, assuming that production is on the basis of two porkers (average 86lb. carcass) to one baconer (148lb. carcass). The details of feed consumption at various stages under such ideal conditions are set out in Table 4. The important point is that although the standards here are well above average they are not impossible of achievement, as many strains of pigs, under careful tests, have performed as well as, or even better than, this.

National Position

Table 5 sets out for the same seasons covered in Table 2 the quantities of dairy by-products available for pigs each year and estimates of the amounts of concentrates and other crops and grass which were actually available for pig feeding. Estimates have had to be made in all cases, as obviously only portion of the crops grown, meals produced, etc., is used for pig feeding. In all cases of the bulk farm-grown foods much greater quantities were actually available and could have been used for pigs if desired. However, to give some indication of the method of estimating the amounts actually used the consumption of grass, which is, under New Zealand conditions, the predominant farm-grown item of the food supply, may be considered. This has been based on the following estimate:—

	Food units
74,000 Dry period ..	240
sows Suckling ..	60
	300
	Total
	(thousand food units)
	44,000
That is, 600 food units per year ..	
300,000 winter stores 300 food units per pig, assuming that all roots and half season's supply of meal is used over this period (based on 1950-51 figures) ..	33,600
440,000 growing pigs during dairy season at 50 food units per pig ..	22,000
	100,000

Year	As at 31 January			For year ending 30 September				
	Sows over 1 year old	Dairy cows in milk	Ratio of sows to cows in milk	Pigs slaughtered	Pig meat produced (tons)	Meat produced per sow (cwt.)	Food units per lb. of meat (dairy by-products only)	Meat per 100lb. of butter-fat (lb.)
1928	82,404	1,242,729	1:15	476,828	23,835	5.8	7.4	23
1929	74,692	1,291,204	1:17	518,025	25,560	6.8	7.6	23
1930	61,706	1,388,872	1:23	515,428	25,700	8.3	8.5	20
1931	64,981	1,499,532	1:23	525,286	24,830	7.7	9.0	19
1932	75,409	1,582,664	1:21	474,094	22,850	6.1	10.3	17
1933	87,686	1,733,913	1:20	635,282	29,640	6.8	9.4	19
1934	98,299	1,816,402	1:18	772,369	35,500	7.2	8.6	21
1935	111,793	1,827,962	1:16	919,929	40,868	7.3	7.2	25
1936	116,058	1,823,358	1:16	1,038,236	46,864	8.1	6.6	27
1937	112,921	1,805,405	1:16	1,060,057	47,557	8.4	6.8	26
1938	104,803	1,763,775	1:17	1,090,524	47,896	9.1	6.3	28
1939	96,754	1,744,478	1:18	962,257	42,582	8.8	6.4	28
1940	92,759	1,739,874	1:19	873,304	49,437	10.6	5.9	30
1941	100,378	1,779,603	1:18	1,006,686	52,623	10.5	6.0	29
1942	91,338	1,777,239	1:19	925,982	47,978	10.5	5.7	28
*1943	82,023	1,714,959	1:21	772,744	44,320	10.8	6.1	29
1944	77,281	1,647,920	1:21	740,913	43,251	11.2	5.9	30
1945	77,202	1,678,943	1:22	681,230	42,378	11.0	6.8	26
1946	72,573	1,661,944	1:23	664,275	38,437	10.6	6.3	28
1947	67,938	1,657,690	1:24	645,728	39,491	11.6	6.9	26
1948	68,354	1,713,532	1:25	650,466	40,384	11.8	6.9	26
1949	68,305	1,746,753	1:26	686,237	42,618	12.5	7.1	25
1950	74,112	1,845,510	1:25	689,805	42,100	11.4	7.4	21
†1951				719,586	41,614		7.5	24

* From 1943 onward estimates of stock in boroughs have been excluded.

Tonnage figures up to 1934 are round-figure estimates. Since 1935 the estimates have been based on calculated average weights of porkers and baconers slaughtered.

† Before adjustment to new basis.

Figures in bold type represent low and high points over this period.

TABLE 2—NEW ZEALAND DAIRY BY-PRODUCTS AND THEIR DISPOSAL

	5 years 1933-34 to 1937-38	1943-44	1944-45	1950-51
	(millions of lb.)			
SKIMMED MILK				
From butter	6,472	5,307	5,826	6,704
From cream for human consumption ..	50	64	65	102
From cream used in ice cream	3	7	6	8
	6,525	5,378	5,897	6,814
Usage				
Skimmed milk powder	120	183	221	587
Calves, skimmed milk	300	306	352	391
Casein	300	80	108	564
Fowls, sundry (estimate)	10	12	12	12
	730	581	693	1,554
Left for pigs	5,795	4,797	5,204	5,260
WHEY				
From cheese	1,673	1,676	1,840	1,932
From casein	302	76	103	536
	1,975	1,752	1,943	2,468
Usage				
Whey for sugar of milk	—	81	86	221
Whey for calves	79	71	81	81
	79	152	167	302
Left for pigs	1,896	1,600	1,776	2,166
BUTTERMILK				
From butter	425	350	393	459
From whey butter	6	7	8	9
	431	357	401	468
Usage				
Buttermilk powder	—	4	6	164
Left for pigs	431	353	395	304
CONCENTRATED VILAC (mother liquor)				
From sugar of milk	—	4	5	12
Usage				
For other stock	—	1	2	8
Left for pigs	—	3	3	4