



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FRESH-WATER MUSSEL SHELL PRODUCTION DECLINES IN 1940

Value of domestic production of fresh-water mussel-shell products amounted to \$2,489,000 in 1940 as compared with the revised figure of \$2,492,000 for 1939, according to a preliminary statement released today by the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

When ranked according to individual manufactured items, pearl buttons were first in value, totaling \$2,434,000. Other products were poultry feed, from crushed shell, valued at \$31,000; lime, approximately \$2,000; and miscellaneous products--such as ornamental chips and pearl novelties--\$22,000.

Mussel-shell products were manufactured during 1940 in 14 plants in Iowa, 2 in New York, and 1 each in Illinois, Missouri, Massachusetts, and Wisconsin.

Shell purchases made in 18 States by manufacturing establishments aggregated \$176,000, for 8,000 tons of shell, in 1940, compared with \$284,000, for 13,000 tons, in 1939.

Classified by States, Kentucky led in the production of fresh-water mussel-shell; with Arkansas second; Indiana, third; and Tennessee, fourth.

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