



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

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2,655 SILVER FOX FARMS IN U. S., CENSUS SHOWS

There are 2,655 silver fox farms in 38 States, a joint statement by the Bureau of the Census and the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, revealed today. Figures are based on the 1940 census and represent the number of farms with silver fox females on hand on the date of enumeration.

The 2,655 silver fox farmers had 103,301 females over 3 months old in April 1940, while nearly 2,500 farms pelted 261,000 silver foxes that year. This is roughly three-fourths of all the silver fox pelts handled on the United States market, since the quota permits no more than 100,000 pelts a year to enter from foreign countries.

This is the first time that a census of the fur-farming industry has been taken, officials said. A cooperative effort between the two Federal agencies, the census of silver fox farms in the country will provide invaluable data to fur farmers, dealers, and retailers who heretofore have had to base their pre-season estimates of supply and demand on "guesses and hunches."

Leading all States was Wisconsin with 493 farms reporting females on hand and a total of 101,439 silver foxes pelted. Second was Michigan with 302 farms and a total of 34,332 pelts taken. Colorado and Minnesota ranked third and fourth, with 139 farms and 16,929 pelts taken in the former State and 189 farms and 14,655 pelts taken in Minnesota.

No silver fox farms were reported in Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas. Alabama, Tennessee, and Rhode Island have less than three silver fox farms each.

Below is a list of the States, the number of farms reporting females on hand, and the number of silver fox pelts taken in 1939. The States are ranked according to the number of pelts taken during the year.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>No. Farms Reporting Females on Hand</u>	<u>No. of Pelts Taken</u>
1.	Wisconsin	493	101,439
2.	Michigan	302	34,332
3.	Colorado	139	16,929
4.	Minnesota	189	14,655
5.	Utah	85	7,485
6.	Washington	154	7,163
7.	Oregon	143	6,890
8.	Idaho	141	6,824
9.	Iowa	89	6,351
10.	New York	120	5,478
11.	Pennsylvania	84	5,448
12.	Nebraska	33	5,182
13.	Wyoming	51	4,815
14.	California	77	4,566
15.	Illinois	28	4,525
16.	Montana	60	3,881
17.	Maine	62	3,587
18.	Indiana	36	3,247
19.	Ohio	46	3,055
20.	Massachusetts	57	2,827
21.	North Dakota	52	1,876
22.	Virginia	12	1,784
23.	South Dakota	31	1,663
24.	New Hampshire	40	1,292
25.	New Mexico	11	1,117
26.	Vermont	25	1,068
27.	Missouri	24	971
28.	Connecticut	11	603
29.	Arizona	4	495
30.	Kansas	17	393
31.	New Jersey	9	362
32.	Kentucky	3	346
33.	West Virginia	8	153
34.	Nevada	5	184
35.	North Carolina	4	79