



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Publications
Press Service



Release - Immediate.

7/11/21

COUNTRY'S FUR INDUSTRY
ASSUMING LARGE PROPORTIONS

The United States leads the world in the production and use of furs. Great industries, which involve large amounts of capital and employ thousands of persons, have been built up and established in this country. In 1920 the sale of furs amounted to practically \$100,000,000, and, according to specialists of the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, the gross business in connection with the import, export, and handling of domestic furs in New York City alone during 1919 amounted to \$375,000,000.

During the time that these great industries were developing, the heavy market demand for furs and the high prices prevailing, stimulated activity on the part of trappers to such an extent that especially in the past decade there has been a marked decrease in the supply of wild fur-bearing animals. The recent depression in the fur market is thought to be a transient feature of readjustment attending a return of markets to normal conditions.

Several kinds of wild fur bearers have been successfully reared in captivity on fur farms. The largest investments at present are being made in connection with the rearing of silver-black foxes, and it is here that the greatest profits have been realized during recent years.