

CRAYFISH EXPORTS

The table hereunder shows a continued increased in the overall weight of crayfish exported from Western Australia in the last three years. While the actual weight of frozen crayfish tails was slightly less in 1960 than in 1959, the increased weight of cooked whole crayfish was sufficient to offset the decrease in tails. It is realised that the final column, "Total Weight", is liable to error but it has some value in indicating the trend of overall exports. While it might be considered that 40% of the weight of whole crayfish is a high proportion with which to estimate the tail-weight, it should be remembered that there has already been a loss in tail-weight in cooking which is not experienced when the crayfish is de-tailed. Actually, the recovery of tails varies between approximately 32% and 42% of weight of whole crayfish.

YEAR (a)	FROZEN TAILS		COOKED WHOLE		TOTAL WEIGHT* (f)
	Cases (b)	Net Weight (c)	Cases (d)	Net Weight (e)	
		lb.		lb.	lb.
1958	217,826	4,565,735	11,852	453,368	4,747,082
1959	291,881	6,311,017	2,681	105,522	6,353,226
1960	261,015	6,263,191	20,537	846,190	6,601,667

\* "Total Weight" includes 40% of column (e)

IMPORT OF FOREIGN BIRDS DISCOURAGED.

Acting on the advice of a joint co-ordinating committee set up by the Agriculture Protection Board and the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, the Department has accepted a recommendation that excepting under special circumstances no further authorities be granted for the importation into Western Australia of exotic birds - and then only for certain species. In future, authorities to import will be limited to pheasants, peacocks, parrots and canaries. This decision has been brought about by general concern at the possibility of the introduction of further unwanted species. Recent papers published on the acclimatisation and spread of undesirable birds such as Java sparrows and spice finches have highlighted the need for the prohibition. It is considered that almost any acclimatisation would be detrimental to the native fauna, and in many cases would be disadvantageous to agriculture.