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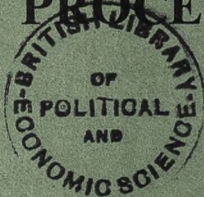
BOARD OF TRADE

THE REPORT
on the
CENSUS OF PRODUCTION
FOR 1951

Volume 6

Trade E

FLAX PROCESSING



*Presented by the Board of Trade to Parliament
in pursuance of the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947
(10 & 11 Geo. 6, Ch. 39, Sec. 7).*

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* Not applicable to this trade

FLAX PROCESSING TRADE

THIS REPORT on the Flax Processing Trade relates to establishments de-seeding, retting and scutching flax. All the establishments in Great Britain are Government owned and operated by the Home Flax Production Directorate, either directly or through agents. They reported for the year ended July 31st.

This trade, together with the Linen and Soft Hemp Trade, corresponds to minimum list heading 115 in the Standard Industrial Classification.

No particulars are available for 1946, 1937 or 1935.

IMPORTANT NOTES and definitions appear on the inside of the back cover of this report. In interpreting the data in the following tables, it is essential to bear these in mind.

TEXTILES
FLAX PROCESSING TRADE
Summary
Larger establishments (a)

TABLE 1

	United Kingdom			Great Britain	
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948
Gross output (production) (b)	£'000 1,182	£'000 1,050	£'000 1,178	£'000 1,009	£'000 843
Cost of materials and fuel used (c)	675	627	678	612	497
Payment for work done on materials given out	-	2	3	3	-
Transport payments (d)	13
Net output	495	422	496	395	346
Wages and salaries of persons employed	446	459	500	427	404
Average number of persons employed (e)	No. 1,387	No. 1,625	No. 2,023	No. 1,460	No. 1,541
Net output per person employed (e)	£ 357	£ 260	£ 245	£ 270	£ 224
Stocks at end of year	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Products on hand for sale and work in progress	197	145	161	145	106
Materials and fuel	115	102	119	94	76
Number of establishments	No. 14	No. 26	No. 37	No. 10	No. 11

The values of gross output and of materials and fuel used are derived in the following way:-

	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Output of firms in this trade (f)	1,143	1,076	1,160	987	857
Principal products (g)	-	-	-	-	-
Other output	+ 39	- 13	+ 36	+ 40	- 4
Changes in stocks and work in progress (h)	1,182	1,063	1,196	1,027	853
Less payment for transport outwards (d)	..	13	18	17	9
Gross output (production)	1,182	1,050	1,178	1,009	843
Materials and fuel used by firms in this trade	695	615	657	629	484
Purchases	- 20	+ 11	+ 22	- 18	+ 14
Changes in stocks (h)	675	627	678	612	497
Materials and fuel used	675	627	678	612	497

- (a) For small firms' summary see Table 2.
 (b) Gross output for 1951 includes payments to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations for transport services. For other years payments for transport services outwards on finished goods sold are excluded.
 (c) Amounts paid for delivery services are excluded for 1951 but included for other years.
 (d) Payments to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations. For 1951 they cover payments for transport of both goods sold and materials and fuel purchased. For other years payments cover only transport outwards of finished goods sold.
 (e) Excluding outworkers but including working proprietors. For an estimate of the total number of persons employed in this trade see Table 3.
 (f) Total value of sales.
 (g) For details for 1951 and 1948 see Table 8.
 (h) For details for 1951 see Table 21.

Summary
Small firms (a)

TABLE 2

	Great Britain		United Kingdom	Great Britain	
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948
Number of returns	-	-	199	-	-
Average number of persons employed (b)					
Males	-	-	1,151	-	-
Females	-	-	110	-	-
Total	-	-	1,261	-	-

(a) Small firms (employing on the average ten or fewer persons) that made satisfactory returns. No information about small firms was collected in Northern Ireland for 1951 or 1950.

(b) Including working proprietors.

Estimated average employment (a)

All firms

TABLE 3

	United Kingdom			Great Britain	
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948
As returned by firms					
Employing on the average more than ten persons (b)	1,387	1,625	2,023	1,460	1,541
Employing on the average ten or fewer persons (c)	- (d)	- (d)	1,261	-	-
Estimated average employment in firms not making satisfactory returns	1,387	1,625	3,284	1,460	1,541
Estimated average employment in all firms	1,387(d)	1,625(d)	3,284	1,460	1,541

(a) Including working proprietors.

(b) See Tables 13(iv) and 14.

(c) See Table 2.

(d) Excluding small firms in Northern Ireland.

Analysis by size, 1951

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 4

Average number employed	Establishments	Gross Output	Net output	Persons employed	Remuneration			Net output per person employed
					Operatives	Other employees (a)	Total	
11 - 99	No. 6	£'000 232	£'000 94	No. 271	£'000 63	£'000 10	£'000 74	£ 347
100 - 199	8	950	401	1,116	309	63	373	359
Total	14	1,182	495	1,387	372	74	446	357

(a) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

Analysis by standard region, 1951
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 5

Region	Estab-lish-ments	Gross output	Net output		Persons employed	Remuneration			Net output per person employed
			Value	Percent- age of total		Operatives	Other employees (a)	Total	
	No.	£'000	£'000		No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
England									
East and West Ridings	1	116	49	9.8	117	33	6	40	415
North Midland Eastern	3	383	155	31.3	458	130	24	153	338
London and South Eastern	2	228	108	21.9	303	83	19	101	357
South Western	2	165	79	16.0	206	53	15	67	385
South Western	2	210	76	15.4	193	52	10	63	395
Total England	10	1,102	467	94.5	1,277	350	73	424	366
Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Britain	10	1,102	467	94.5	1,277	350	73	424	366
Northern Ireland	4	80	27	5.5	110	22	-	22	248
United Kingdom	14	1,182	495	100.0	1,387	372	74	446	357

(a) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

TABLE 6 - Analysis according to specialisation within the trade, 1951

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom
No specialisation within this trade was distinguished.

TABLE 7 - Total make of intermediate products: Larger establishments

This table is not applicable to the trade.

Sales of the principal products of the trade, including sales of these products by establishments classified to other trades

Larger establishments

TABLE 8

	United Kingdom 1951			Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
Flax seed, cleaned and dried	Th.cwts. 61.2	£'000 221	No. 10	Th.cwts. 61.1	£'000 196
Flax, scutched, not further dressed	38.9	612	11	38.9	470
By-products					
Rug	73.2	54	8	135.3	84
Tow					
Pluckings and broken flax (a)	1.4	14	9	22.4	52
Other	52.6	191	11		
Other by-products and waste	92.0	34	13	140.9	55
..		5			
Wark done for the trade or on commission (b)		13	..		-
Total		1,143	13		857
Sales in other trades		-	-		-
Principal products of this trade sold by establishments in the trade		1,143	13		857

(a) Not separately distinguished in Northern Ireland.

(b) Amount charged.

TABLE 9 - Sales of principal products of the trade by establishments classified to other trades: Larger establishments

No sales of principal products of this trade were recorded in other trades.

TABLE 10 - Sales in the trade of other than principal products
Larger establishments

No sales other than of principal products were recorded.

Production, exports and imports of certain principal products (a)

TABLE 11

		Production (b)	Exports	Retained imports
		Th.cwts.	Th.cwts.	Th.cwts.
Flax not further dressed after scutching or decorticating	1951	38.9	3.3 (c)	535.0
	1948	38.9	18.1	503.1

(a) Figures of production (sales) refer only to larger establishments in the United Kingdom (1951) and Great Britain (1948). All recorded exports from and imports into the United Kingdom are given in the Table. The figures, therefore, are not strictly comparable.

(b) Sales.

(c) All flax.

TABLE 12 - Usage of certain specified purchased materials, 1951
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

No information on usage of materials was required from this trade.

Employment in September
Larger establishments (a)

TABLE 13

	(i) Operatives					Number
	United Kingdom			Great Britain		
	1951 (b)	1950 (b)	1949 (b)	1949 (b)	1948 (c)	
Males						
Under 18	27	40	84	30	57	
All ages	931	1,087	1,367	877	895	
Females						
Under 18	19	23	36	28	52	
All ages	263	280	351	298	441	
Total						
Under 18	46	63	120	58	109	
All ages	1,194	1,367	1,718	1,175	1,336	

	(ii) Administrative, technical and clerical employees (d)					Number
	United Kingdom			Great Britain		
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948	
Males						
Under 18	-	2	4	3	4	
All ages	144	127	142	131	148	
Females						
Under 18	3	3	3	2	7	
All ages	35	54	64	57	57	
Total						
Under 18	3	5	7	5	11	
All ages (e)	179	181	206	188	205	

	(iii) Total employees					Number
	United Kingdom			Great Britain		
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948	
Males						
Under 18	27	42	88	33	61	
All ages	1,075	1,214	1,509	1,008	1,043	
Females						
Under 18	22	26	39	30	59	
All ages	298	334	415	355	498	
Total						
Under 18	49	68	127	63	120	
All ages (e)	1,373	1,548	1,924	1,363	1,541	

(a) Excluded employees. The following persons were employed at the larger establishments in this trade in 1951 but are not included in the above tables or in any other Census of Production report. (Employees in Great Britain engaged, for example, in merchanting and in Northern Ireland canteen and welfare workers):-

Canteen workers - Males 31 Females
Other workers - Males - Females

(b) In week ended September 22, 1951, September 30, 1950, and September 24, 1949.

(c) Average for the year.

(d) In week ended September 22, 1951, September 30, 1950, September 24, 1949, and September 25, 1948.

(e) Working proprietors. In addition to the working proprietors shown in Table 13 (iv) below were engaged in this trade in larger establishments.

	(iv) Working proprietors					Number
	United Kingdom			Great Britain		
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948	
Males	6	17	29	-	-	
Females	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	6	17	29	-	-	

Average employment
Larger establishments (a)

TABLE 14

	United Kingdom			Great Britain		Number
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948	
Operatives	1,201	1,425	1,793	1,277	1,336	
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	180	183	201	183	205 (b)	
Total	1,381	1,608	1,994	1,460	1,541	

(a) For employment in small firms (employing on the average ten or fewer persons) that made satisfactory returns see Table 2.

(b) Employed in week ended September 25, 1948.

Outworkers. In 1949, one outworker was employed in this trade in addition to the employees shown above. Outworkers were not employed in other years.

Shift working, 1951 (a)

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 15

	Total number of man-shifts worked in the week	Total number of shift-hours worked in the week	Number of returns showing the systems stated
Continuous 3 shift system per 24 hours averaging 8 hours per shift	240	1,920	1
Continuous 4 shift systems per 24 hours averaging 6 hours per shift	-	-	-
All 2 shift systems	478	4,227	5
Other shift systems	-	-	-
Total	718	6,147	(b)

(a) Shift working during week ended September 22, 1951.

(b) The number and percentage of returns showing shift working and of operatives on shift-work were as follows:-

	Returns		Operatives		
	Total in trade	Showing shift work	Total in trade	Total on returns showing shift work	Number employed on shift work
Number	9	6	1,071	775	121
Percentage of total in trade	100.0	66.7	100.0	72.4	11.3
Percentage of total on returns showing shift work				100.0	15.6

Wages and salaries and employers' National Insurance
contributions paid during the year

Larger establishments

£'000

TABLE 16

	United Kingdom			Great Britain	
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948
Wages and salaries (a) of					
Operatives	372	380	424	357	334
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	74	79	76	70	70
Total	446	459	500	427	404
Employers' contributions to all National Insurance Schemes	13	15	19	14	10

(a) Including bonus and commission payments, but excluding, in 1949, a small payment to one outworker. Outworkers were not employed in other years in this trade.

Plant, machinery and vehicles - acquisitions and disposals,
and capital expenditure on new building work

Larger establishments

£'000

TABLE 17

	United Kingdom		Great Britain	
	1951	1949	1949	1948
Plant, machinery and vehicles				
Acquisitions				
Plant and machinery				
New	13	33	32	22
Second-hand	-	3	2	3
Vehicles				
New	6	1	1	24
Second-hand	-	-	-	1
Total acquisitions	20	37	35	50
Disposals				
Plant and machinery	1	1	1	8
Vehicles	2	4	3	-
Total disposals	2	5	4	8
New building work				
Capital expenditure on new building and other constructional work of a capital nature (excluding site values and development charges)	2	9	9	33

1951

Summary

Larger establishments

TABLE 18

	England	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Gross output (production)	£'000 1,102	£'000 -	£'000 -	£'000 1,102	£'000 80	£'000 1,182
Cost of materials and fuel used	622	-	-	622	53	675
Payment for work done on materials given out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transport payments	12	-	-	12	-	13
Net output	467	-	-	467	27	495
Wages and salaries of persons employed	424	-	-	424	22	446
Average number of persons employed (a)	No. 1,277	No. -	No. -	No. 1,277	No. 110	No. 1,387
Net output per person employed (a)	£ 366	£ -	£ -	£ 366	£ 248	£ 357
Stocks at end of year	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Products on hand for sale and work in progress	176	-	-	176	21	197
Materials and fuel	114	-	-	114	1	115
Number of establishments	No. 10	No. -	No. -	No. 10	No. 4	No. 14

The values of gross output and of materials and fuel used are derived in the following way:-

	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Output of firms in this trade						
Total value of sales	1,069	-	-	1,069	74	1,143
Changes in stocks and work in progress (see Table 21)	+ 33	-	-	+ 33	+ 6	+ 39
Gross output (production)	1,102	-	-	1,102	80	1,182
Materials and fuel used by firms in this trade						
Purchases	641	-	-	641	53	695
Changes in stocks (see Table 21)	- 19	-	-	- 19	-	- 20
Materials and fuel used	622	-	-	622	53	675

(a) Excluding outworkers but including working proprietors.

TABLE 19 - Summary: Small firms in Great Britain

There were no establishments employing not more than ten persons on the average.

TABLE 20 - Sales in the trade: Larger establishments

Owing to risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate country particulars cannot be given.

Stocks of products on hand for sale and work in progress,
and stocks of materials and fuel

Larger establishments

£'000

		England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Products on hand for sale	{at beginning of year	41	-	41	15	57
	{at end of year	80	-	80	21	102
Work in progress	{at beginning of year	101	-	101	-	101
	{at end of year	95	-	95	-	95
Total products on hand for sale and work in progress	{at beginning of year	143	-	143	15	158
	{at end of year	176	-	176	21	197
Materials and fuel	{at beginning of year	94	-	94	-	95
	{at end of year	114	-	114	1	115

Employment in September
Larger establishments (a) (b)

TABLE 22

(i) Operatives

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Males					
Under 18	15	-	15	12	27
All ages	835	-	835	96	931
Females					
Under 18	17	-	17	2	19
All ages	236	-	236	27	263
Total					
Under 18	32	-	32	14	46
All ages	1,071	-	1,071	123	1,194

(ii) Administrative, technical and clerical employees

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Males					
Under 18	-	-	-	-	-
All ages	144	-	144	-	144
Females					
Under 18	3	-	3	-	3
All ages	34	-	34	1	35
Total					
Under 18	3	-	3	-	3
All ages	178	-	178	1 (c)	179 (c)

(iii) Total employees

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Males					
Under 18	15	-	15	12	27
All ages	979	-	979	96	1,075
Females					
Under 18	20	-	20	2	22
All ages	270	-	270	28	298
Total					
Under 18	35	-	35	14	49
All ages	1,249	-	1,249	124 (c)	1,373 (c)

(a) Excluded employees. The number of persons employed at the larger establishments in this trade but not included in the above tables or in any other Census of Production report (employees in Great Britain engaged, for example, in merchandising, and in Northern Ireland canteen and welfare workers) are shown in Table 22(v) below.

(b) Number employed in the week ended September 22, 1951.

(c) Working proprietors. In addition working proprietors, shown in Table 22(iv) below, were engaged in this trade in larger establishments.

TABLE 22 (contd.)

(iv) Working proprietors

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Males	-	-	-	6	6
Females	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	6	6

(v) Excluded employees

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Canteen workers					
Males	-	-	-	-	-
Females	31	-	31	-	31
Total	31	-	31	-	31
Other workers					
Males	-	-	-	-	-
Females	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-
Total excluded employees	31	-	31	-	31

Average employment

Larger establishments

TABLE 23

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Operatives	1,099	-	1,099	102	1,201
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	178	-	178	2	180
Total	1,277	-	1,277	104	1,381

No outworkers were employed in this trade.

Wages and salaries and employers' National Insurance contributions paid during the year

Larger establishments

TABLE 24

£'000

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Wages and salaries (a) of Operatives	350	-	350	22	372
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	73	-	73	-	74
Total	424	-	424	22	446
Employers' contributions to all National Insurance Schemes	12	-	12	1	13

(a) Including bonus and commission payments.

GENERAL NOTES

The following brief notes refer to Great Britain and, unless otherwise stated, to the census of production for 1951. Reference should be made to the separate booklet in this series entitled 'The Report on the Census of Production for 1951: Introductory Notes' (price 1s.6d. net) for particulars of the minor differences in the Northern Ireland censuses and other details about the census of production.

Trade classification: Establishments are classified to trades according to the nature of their output. Certain products, called principal products, are identified as characteristic of the production of individual trades, the principal products for a given trade being of a similar nature or commonly associated in production. An establishment is classified to a trade if its output of principal products of that trade accounted for a greater proportion of the value of its output than did its output of principal products of any other trade.

The establishment: The basic unit for the collection of information is generally the establishment which in most cases comprises the whole of the premises under the same ownership or management at a particular address (e.g., a factory). Offices, warehouses and other ancillary places of business situated apart from the producing works are included in the return for the works.

Larger establishments and small firms: Larger establishments are those which employed more than 10 persons on the average during the year; small firms are those employing on the average 10 or fewer persons.

Working proprietors are proprietors of businesses other than limited companies, and include members of their families who work in the business without receiving fixed wages or salaries. Any persons working less than half the normal hours are excluded.

Persons employed: Administrative employees include directors other than those paid by fee only, managers, superintendents and works foremen; research, experimental, development, technical and design employees (other than operatives); draughtsmen and tracers; and travellers and office (including works office) employees. **Operatives** include all other classes of employees, that is, broadly speaking, all manual workers.

All these figures exclude canteen employees and persons engaged in merchandising or any other activity not covered by a firm's return who are shown separately as excluded employees.

Figures for employees include only persons on the pay-roll (that is whose National Insurance cards were held by the firm), whether full-time or part-time employees.

Outworkers, who are shown separately, are persons employed by the firm who work on materials supplied by the firm, but do not work on the premises; operatives directly employed who work out of doors (e.g., maintenance workers) and sub-contractors are not included as outworkers.

Wages and salaries include all overtime payments, bonuses, and commissions, without any deduction for income tax, insurance, contributory pensions, etc. They exclude payments to working proprietors.

Capital expenditure: Expenditure on plant, machinery and vehicles relates to expenditure charged to capital account during the year of return, including transport and installation costs involved. Expenditure on new building work is similarly that charged to capital account during the year.

Materials and fuel: The cost of materials and fuel purchased includes all purchases during the year of materials for use in production and of fuel (including oil, gas, and electricity for all purposes, including heating and lighting); all packing materials, including the full cost of returnable containers when first purchased; workshop materials; office materials; water charges; materials for repairs to firms' own buildings, plant and vehicles when carried out by

their own work people included in the return; and consumable tools and parts for machinery purchased as replacement. Materials, components, etc. which were purchased and re-sold in the same state (that is, merchanted or factored goods) were excluded. For 1951 firms in many trades were required to state the quantities of certain purchased materials used.

Stocks and work in progress: Firms were instructed to give these at income tax value.

Output: Sales means sales during the year of goods made in the establishment covered by the return or made on commission for it, whether produced in the year or not. For all post-war censuses the value of sales was the net selling value, that is, the amount charged to customers, whether on an ex-works or delivered basis, and net of any trade discounts, agents' commissions, allowances for returnable cases, purchase tax, etc. For goods charged on a delivered basis to customers overseas, firms were required to give the f.o.b. value.

Gross output of a trade is the total value of goods made and other work done during the year; this means the value of sales and work done during the year adjusted for changes in the values of stocks.

Net output is the amount left after deducting from the value of gross output the aggregate of the cost of materials and fuel used and the amount paid for work given out and, for 1951, any transport payments included in firms' returns. This represents the value added to materials by the process of production, and constitutes the fund from which wages, salaries, rents, rates and taxes, advertising and other selling expenses and all other similar charges have to be met as well as depreciation and profits.

Customs and Excise Duty paid on materials purchased is included in the cost of materials, but where it is especially important separate figures are shown.

Later reports: Reports will be published later summarising the main census results and giving information about power equipment and fuel consumption.

Disclosure of information: The report has been prepared in conformity with the disclosure provisions of the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947. Figures have been combined with others of a similar nature in certain cases where publication of separate details might disclose the operations of an individual firm.

Symbols used: '..' for 'Not available', '-' for 'Nil or negligible (less than half the final digit shown)'

The figures in the tables have been rounded off to the nearest final digit, and there may be an apparent slight discrepancy between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Tables 1 to 17 show figures for the United Kingdom (or Great Britain).

Tables 18 to 26 are country tables and give, where practicable, separate details for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Table 6: Specialist producers refer to those establishments 50 per cent. or more of whose total output by value is accounted for by the groups of products specified.

Table 8 (or 8(i)) shows the total sales of principal products of the trade, and includes therefore the sales of these products returned by establishments whether classified to the trade or to other trades. Those produced by establishments in other trades are shown in Table 9.

Table 10 shows the sales by establishments in the trade of products other than those regarded as principal products of the trade.

Table 20 (or 20(i)) shows sales by establishments in the trade of products, whether principal products or not, and broadly the aggregates here are equal to the corresponding figures in Table 8 (or 8(i)) less those in Table 9, plus those in Table 10.

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