

Hamburger Purchase, 9.9 Million Pounds, Aids Cattle Producer

WASHINGTON — (USDA) — The U S Department of Agriculture in the week of Nov 1 purchased 9,906,000 lbs of frozen hamburger under a program to assist cattle producers, particularly during the period of heavy grass cattle marketings. Purchases since buying began in late September now total 46,778,000 lbs.

Price ranges per pound for purchases the week beginning Oct 29 by geographical regions and number of carlots (average of 21,000 lbs) for each region follow Northeast 34.47 to 35.00 cents for 40 carlots Southeast 34.00 cents for eight carlots

Midwest 34.64 to 35.00 cents for 244 carlots; Southwest 34.75 to 35.00 cents for 86 carlots; and Western 33.48 to 34.49 cents except for 34.90 to 34.98 cents in Utah for 92 carlots All prices are on a per pound fob plant basis and the overall range was from 33.48 to 35.00 cents per pound. In making awards, consideration was given to area price variations in relation to transportation costs for distribution In total, bids were received from 47 bidders who offered a total of 14,622,000 lbs.

Approximately \$35 million of Section 32 funds will be expended for purchases that week, with overall expenditure to date amounting to approximately \$163 million

Haste and Rush Often Cause of Holiday Mishaps

Harrisburg — Motorists today were cautioned "not to shop for holiday accidents."

The advice came from Col. E. J. Henry, Pennsylvania State Police Commissioner

"While no driver is likely to go out looking for an accident to spoil his holiday season, our records show this is a time of year when accidents occur pretty easily," he declared.

"Many families visit neighboring communities on shopping nights, in search for gifts that may not be found in the home town," the state official pointed out. Folks from suburbs and small communities will be driving to the nearest city to see gaily decorated windows and join the holiday throngs for an exciting evening

Such a trip can be a wonderful experience, Col. Henry observed. But for some, he warned, such a trip in previous years has ended in tragedy because of someone's thoughtlessness or forgetfulness.

"Be content to take it easy—driving to your destination, walking about in the shopping district, and returning home at a reasonable time without going too fast," Col. Henry said

"And don't load the back window ledge with packages that obstruct your view through the rear window

"Don't indulge in the use of intoxicants during your trip. Liquor never yet has helped make any person a better driver. Persons who enjoy taking a nip should wait until the end of their trip."

Motorists also were cautioned, "Don't double-park, because one illegally parked vehicle can tie up traffic for blocks, causing tempers to flare and possibly leading to a traffic summons for the guilty driver."

As a precaution against cold weather, drivers were reminded to winterize their vehicles. "Before taking the family on a trip, or even before driving any distance alone, make sure your battery has been checked, your brakes safe, your tires are good, your tire chains are in the car ready for use if necessary, your lights are functioning properly, your windshield wiper blades and defrosters are dependable, and your turn signal indicators are in working order."

"Our holiday will be as safe as we make it," Col. Henry concluded.

Red Meat Output To New High in 1957

Harrisburg — Production of red meats by commercial slaughter plants in Pennsylvania was the highest of record for the first nine months of this year, the State Department of Agriculture said recently following Federal-State surveys.

The total of 660 million pounds of dressed weight of beef cattle, calves, hogs, sheep and lambs was three per cent above production for the same period last year, the Department said

Red meat production in Pennsylvania for the month of September was 73.8 million pounds, slightly below August output and five per cent under September 1955.

September slaughterings in the State included 74,000 head of beef cattle, 73,000 calves, 220,000 hogs and 27,000 sheep and lambs

Chick Output Down 10 P.C.

HARRISBURG, Nov — A decline of 10 per cent in production of a baby chicks at commercial hatcheries in Pennsylvania is reported for the month of October compared with the same month last year

Federal-State surveys announced by the State Department of Agriculture showed an October output of 3,614,000 chicks of which 2.9 million were of the broiler-fryer type, down nine per cent. There was a sharp decline in all chicks from the 4.2 million produced in September.

During the first 10 months of this year Pennsylvania chick production totaled 78 millions compared with 67 million for the same period last year.



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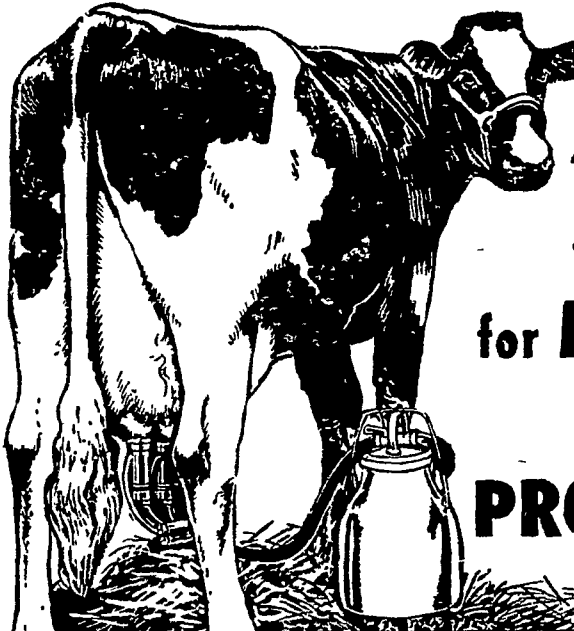
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Lima Bean Acreage Lowest in 12 Years Over Pennsylvania

Harrisburg — The Pennsylvania acreage of lima beans for canning and freezing this past season was the smallest in 12 years, but yield per acre at 1,500 pounds of shelled beans was 300 pounds higher than last year and 240 pounds above average.

Federal-State surveys as of November 1, announced by the State Department of Agriculture, showed state production of 2,320 tons, compared with 2,400 tons in 1955 and the 10-year 1945-54 average of 2,690 tons. The acreage picked was 3,100 compared with 4,000 acres last year.

Adverse weather early in the season retarded early fall cabbage intended for fresh market but an excellent October was beneficial. Production is estimated at 15,200 tons compared with 12,800 tons last year.

Cutting of broccoli for fresh marketing will continue in small volume until about December 1. Production is estimated at 132,000 crates, 2,000 above last year. The carrot crop of 340,000 bushels is the same as last year. Early fall spinach output at 465,000 bushels is 11,000 bushels less than in 1955.

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