

Pennsylvania Regains First Place In Farm Cash from Chickens

HARRISBURG, May 9 — Pennsylvania has regained its first place among all the states in farm cash income from chickens other than broilers, the State Department of Agriculture announced today.

Records compiled by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service for the year 1956 show that the Keystone State Poultry industry retained its second place nationally in gross income from eggs alone and second place in the farm value of all poultry and eggs combined. The State has held these rankings for a number of years but in 1955 was second in income from chickens, except broilers.

The total 1956 farm cash in-

come from Pennsylvania's poultry industry came to \$184,524,000 compared with \$192,091,000 in 1955 due to lower prices received by farmers. The 1956 total represents 25 per cent of all Pennsylvania farm cash income compared with 30 per cent for the dairy industry. When combined, livestock and poultry gross receipts represent 76 per cent of all Pennsylvania farm cash income.

During observance of Pennsylvania Broiler Week, May 4-11, State Agriculture Secretary William L. Henning says poultrymen can take pride in the high national standing of their industry which includes:

Fourth in number but second in value of chickens inventories on Pennsylvania farms on January 1, 1957, fourth in number of chickens raised, fourth in number of layers, fourth in number of eggs produced, seventh in number and value of turkeys on farms January 1, 1957, ninth in income from turkeys, ninth in value of sales of farm chickens and broilers and 13th in the number and value of broiler-fryer chickens.

Nine of the 100 leading poultry counties in the United States are in Pennsylvania: Lancaster, York, Berks, Bucks, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Northumberland, Adams and Chester, in that order.

SUBSCRIBER SAYS:

Mrs. S. D. Edwards, 210 W. Franklin St., Ephrata Lancaster Farming I enjoy your paper very much. The first thing I look for is the recipes. I will send some in later.

Farm Bureau Reports \$91,000 Dividends Back

Keystone State farmers saved more than \$450,000 by making greater use of their Farm Bureau regional services in 1956, it was shown in a report to the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative Association's board of directors.

Of this amount, about \$91,000 was returned directly to farmers as dividends on their investments in the organization, according to Controller L. A. Thomas Jr. The balance, which was returned to the Regional's Member Associations in stock, boosts the equity of farmers in Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperation Assn. to \$1,937,000. This is in addition to their equity in their local associations.

Executive Vice President George G. Connor said the regional association's dollar volume for purchasing and marketing in 1956 amounted to \$23,938,000, a gain of three-quarters of a million dollars over the previous year, despite lower costs for feed and some other services.

"Although this is not the highest volume of business in our history," Connor stated, "it is among the highest. This is an achievement in itself, considering the economic squeeze in which farmers are operating. However, we are more pleased that farmers are making greater use of the facilities they own"

Connor continued:

"This is evidenced in the fact that we distributed more feed and gasoline last year than we did in 1956. While our fertilizer tonnage did not quite equal, in tonnage, the year previous, it was greater in plant food units. The regional Farm Bureau distributed more than 84,000 tons of mixed feeds, more than 53 million gallons of liquid fuels, over 2,800,000 pullorem clean chicks, and more than 57,000 tons of fertilizer.

"Our seed volume for the year was up 300,000 pounds, or more than 12 per cent and ingredients showed a gain of 31 per cent to more than a million dollars"

Attaches Meet In Rio de Janeiro; Benson to Speak

A conference of U. S. Agricultural Attaches will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil the week of May 20, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced today.

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, the Department's agricultural attaches for Latin American countries, representatives of United State farm organizations and trade associations, and others will participate. The Secretary will address the conference the morning of May 24.

The meeting will end May 25.

Conference sessions will be devoted largely to planning more extensive coordinated effort by USDA and private trade to promote greater exports of United States agricultural products to meet increasing Latin American demands for more and better food as a result of economic growth.

Gwynn Garnett, administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service, will be the principal speaker at the opening session on May 20. He will outline conference objectives, and report on agricultural developments in the United States.

Eastern Sheepmen's Sale To Be Held June 15

The Fourth Annual Eastern Pennsylvania Sheepmen's Assn. sale will be held at the Reading Fairgrounds, June 15.

Robert M. Harbster, show manager, said today that 60 purebred sheep will be sold. Harbster also stated this is one of the best consignment of sheep ever offered at the Reading sale.

The sale is sponsored by the Eastern Pennsylvania Sheepmen's Assn. a non-profit organization, whose 350 members are promoting the sale in the interest of the small and part-time farmer.

The show will start at 10 a. m. the sale will start at 1 p. m.

More Than 2,800 Day-Old Chicks Transferred to Fruitville Farm

HARRISBURG — More than 2,800 day-old chicks were transferred Saturday from the Pennsylvania State University to the Fruitville Poultry Farm near Lancaster, for rearing in the State's first random sample egg laying test.

John L. Rainey, director of the Bureau of Markets, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, said the birds will be kept under careful observation until September 1958 to test and grade their laying ability.

The program is designed to provide a basis for commercial poultrymen to evaluate entries with respect to egg production and other economic factors Rainey said.

Each of 48 poultry breeders from nine states several weeks ago sent 210 eggs to be hatched under uniform conditions at the Penn State College of Agriculture. More than 50 pullet chicks from each entry will be placed in the first stage of the test on the Lancaster County poultry farm.

The random sample test next September will replace the 25-year-old Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test in which egg produc-

tion is measured under different standards. Cooperating with the Department in the new type of test are the University and the State Poultry Federation.

After being reared in Lancaster County under typical commercial farm conditions for 150 days, the test birds will be transported to laying houses near the Pennsylvania Farm Show Building, Harrisburg.

Each breeder will have two pens of 25 birds each. The number and weight of eggs produced by each bird and pen will be recorded along with health and other factors by specialists of the poultry and egg division of the State Bureau of Markets.

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