

State Layers 'Shelling Out' At Record Clip

HARRISBURG — A record rate of lay in Pennsylvania poultry flocks during August helped swell egg production by four per cent above August 1957, a new record for the month, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Rate of lay continued its seasonal decline, but still was at a record high for August with a rate of 16.99 eggs per layer. This was the fourth consecutive month in which the rate of lay was record high for that month, the State Crop Reporting service says in a

survey of the state poultry industry.

The long time trend in yearly rate of lay per hen has been consistently upward from 135 eggs per hen in 1933 to 206 eggs in 1957. Percentage increase in yearly rate of lay per hen has been 12 per cent since 1950, 38 per cent since 1940 and 53 per cent since 1933.

Egg production for August 1958 totaled 288 million, four per cent above the 277 million of August 1957. For the first eight months this year egg production totals 2,395 million or approximately the same for the same period last year. The number of layers on Pennsylvania farms for the month of August increased to 16.9 million from the 16.4 million in July and compares with 16.5 million in

August of last year.

Egg prices increased three cents a dozen from July to August. The average increase during the past nine years has been 4.8 cents a dozen. Egg prices increased from 41 cents a dozen on July 15 to 44 cents on August 15, but dropped 1.2 cents from 1957 levels.



August Milk Production Tops Record

HARRISBURG — Lush August pastures, best for the month since 1934, helped set a new record for

milk production in the Commonwealth last month, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Handling Changes Given for Grains

The U. S. Department of Agriculture today announced that fees charged for appeal inspections of grain will be increased beginning Sept. 29, and charges will be made for overtime in connection with such work at all locations.

The fees are increased to \$8 per car from the present \$5 per car rate, and to \$2 per thousand bushels for cargo grain compared with the present fee of \$1.50 per thousand bushels.

A comparable increase is being made in the fee for appeals on trucklots and submitted samples.

Amended Section 6 of the United States Grain Standards Act authorizes charges for overtime work on appeals on all grain heretofore, this charge restricted to appeals on cargo grain was \$5 per manhour per employee. The overtime charge will now apply to appeals on all grain, and has been fixed at \$5.80 per manhour per employee.

The increased appeal fees are designed to absorb charges for travel and other out-of-pocket expense heretofore assessed in connection with each appeal. The overtime charge will enable USDA to give more adequate appeal service at interior markets as well as at ports.

The new fees and charges are contained in revised regulations under the United States Grain Standards Act, scheduled for publication in the Federal Register for Sept. 12, 1958.

There was some decline in cow numbers, about one per cent, but these animals produced 532 million pounds of milk during August. One per cent above production a year ago and two per cent above August 1956, a State Crop Reporting Service survey shows.

Production of milk from January through this year totals 4,611 million pounds, exceeding the 4,431 million pound output for the same months last year by four per cent. This virtually insures record high production for 1958.

Weather in August was more favorable for growth of vegetation than for harvesting of crops. There were areas of below normal rainfall in the southeastern and central sections but excessive amounts in western and northern counties delayed harvesting of grains and hay.

High yields of silage corn are in prospect. Roughage and concentrate feeds for the winter season should be plentiful, but quality of hay and oats is below average.

The Crop Reporting Service survey shows that there were 930,000 cows being milked in the Commonwealth during August. Average production per cow for the 30 days was 572 pounds, compared to the 558 pound average during August 1957.

The average price for dairy cows was pegged at \$265 each, a drop of \$5 a head from July, but \$50 a head higher than a year earlier. Hay prices remained steady at \$34 a ton for baled alfalfa and \$27 a ton for other baled hay.

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO HOUSE YOUR PULLETS!

Pullets moved from range to the laying house find themselves in an entirely new environment, "Strange Quarters", as far as they are concerned.

1. Supply extra fountains around the floor and on the roosts, also feeders.

Some of the birds which looked so nice when you brought them in will have difficulty finding feed and water at first and get uneven and lose some weight unless feed and water consumption is kept at a high level by extra waterers and feeders.

2. Feed #33 EARLY BIRD POULTRY FITTING RATION in hoppers first 2 weeks instead of scratch.

When birds are brought in off range lack of exercise may cause some constipation. Fitting ration helps keep comb color and vigor.

3. When changing to scratch don't have your litter too deep in the house at first.

Scratch in deep litter when pullets are housed is apt to cause a decrease in feed consumption the first few days. Put some scratch in the feeders as well as on the floor at the start.

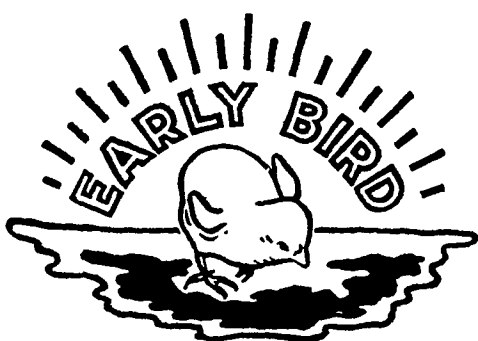
When chickens are used to their quarters after the first few weeks build up litter gradually to desired depth.

4. If your chickens start to lay on range DO NOT FORGET Oystershells or Calcite Grit.

Without these the bird will draw on her calcium reserve in the bone structure to make the shells. This will eventually result in some weak and poor birds and poor shell quality.

5. Early Bird All Mash Ration or Early Bird Egg Mash and Grain will help you, to efficient LOW COST production of quality eggs with just the right yolk color.

If we can be of help to you in any way in any poultry problem, please call your Miller & Bushong representative or dial Lancaster, EXpress, 2-2145 direct.

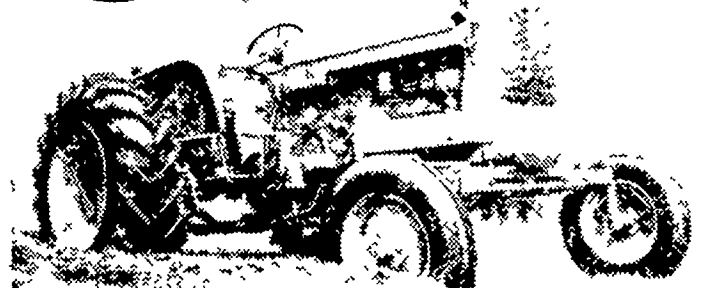


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