

Light Markets Hold Firm

Due to the Holiday closing of USDA Agricultural Market News Services offices for Thursday and Friday of this week, the Delmarva - Georgia market report will cover the period, Monday through Wednesday.

Monday's Delmarva market opened steady, with offerings considerably reduced from comparable days in recent weeks. Buyers were very selective for quality and size desired. Tuesday's trading was very light and the market quiet. The Wednesday market was firm, offerings continued lighter than for past weeks. Demand was improved but buyers were very selective for size and quality desired and processors were beginning to charge back

condemned loss. The short week's volume: Monday—545,700 at 13 20-16.60; Tuesday—204,900 at 15½ - 16; Wednesday—504,700 at 11 40 - 17.70, mostly 15 and up.

Georgia's broiler market opened with demand irregular, only fair at some points, and quiet at others as several plants were not operating. Offerings were not heavy, though generally adequate for needs. The situation continued through Tuesday and Wednesday with very light trading at all points.

The week's volume. Monday—At farm, 466,000 at 14-15, 84 per cent at 14; FOB plants 171,500 at 15 Tuesday at farm, 420,700, 86 per cent at 14, FOB plants, 94,900 at 15.

U.S. Meat Output Drops

Meat production under federal inspection for the week ended December 20, 1958 was estimated at 394 million pounds according to the U. S. D. A. This was six per cent below the 420 million lbs. a week ago, but the same as a year ago.

Total meat production was below the previous week, which has been the normal pattern during most past

years for the week preceding Christmas. Veal was the only beef class to show a production increase for the week, when compared with a year ago, with an increase in pork production bringing total meat output on a par with a year earlier, even though production of other classes decreased.

Cattle slaughter, estimated at 318,000 head, was eight per cent below the preceding week and eight per cent below the 346,000 head for a year ago. Beef production was 188.6 million lbs compared with 208.4 million lbs. the preceding week and 192.1 million lbs a year ago.

Calf slaughter was estimated at 112,000 head compared with 106,000 the preceding week and 145,000 last year. Output of inspected veal for the three weeks under comparison was 116, 111 and 149 million lbs respectively.

Estimated slaughter of 1,320,000 hogs was three per cent below the previous week's 1,358,000, but slightly above the 1,319,000 a year ago. Pork production was 184.3 million lbs compared with 188.9 million a week earlier and 177.2 lbs a year ago.

Sheep and lamb was estimated at 201,000 compared with 251,000 the preceding week and 209,000 last year. Production of lamb and mut-

Feed Market Still Climbs

Washington, Dec. 23—USDA Weekly Feed Market Report:

Feedstuff markets continued to rise and prices averaged \$1.55 per ton higher during the week ended December 22, the USDA reported this week.

Trading was unusually active for this time of year. Demand remained exceptionally strong, reflecting good movement of formula feeds. Spot supplies of many ingredients tightened, with vegetable and animal proteins particularly hard to locate.

The wholesale feedstuff price index reached the highest point since August 1954. At 93.7 this week, it was 22 points above a week earlier and 21 points above a year ago. The feed gram index declined to 64.1 this week as against 64.4 last week and 62.6 last year. The hog-corn ratio, based on Chicago prices, was 15.7 compared with 15.3 last week and 16.4 a year earlier.

Spot offerings of oilseed meals were very limited and fell short of satisfying strong current demand. Prices averaged \$2.15 per ton higher on soybean meal, \$1.50 higher on cottonseed meal and \$3.60 higher on linseed meal. Copra meal held firm, while peanut meal went up \$1.35.

Meat proteins continued to advance in the face of increased buyer resistance. Although buying was limited to immediate needs, demand was still good and producers were well sold. Advances averaged around \$2.80 per ton on meat meal, \$3.60 on tankage and \$2.50 on fish meal.

Demand for wheat mill-feeds slackened despite relatively light supplies. Mills were not pressed for sales even through outlets to some.

(Turn to page 5)

ton for the three weeks amounted to 96, 118 and 100 million lbs respectively.

For the week ended December 6, 1958, actual slaughter included 352,001 cattle, 118,014 calves, 1,381,115 hogs and 260,469 sheep and lambs.

Weekly New York Egg Mkt.

From December 22nd to Friday, December 26th

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Nearby Whites				
Extra				
Fcy Hywts	47 -	47 -	47 -	47 -
Medium	37 -	37 -	37 -	37 -
Pullets	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31
Pcwees	23 -24	23 -24	23 -24	23 -24

Nearby Browns				
Extra				
Fcy Hywts	47 -	47 -	47 -	47 -
Medium	36½-37	36½-37	36½-37	36½-37
Pullets	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31
Pcwees	23 -24	23 -24	23 -24	23 -24

Midwestern Mixed				
Fcy Hywts	42 -	42 -	42 -	42 -
Medium	33½-34	33½-34	33½-34	33½-34
Pullets	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31
Standards	39 -39½	39 -39½	39 -39½	39 -39½
Checks	37 -	37 -	37 -	37 -

Midwestern Whites				
Fcy Hywts	44½-	44½-	44½-	44½-
Medium	33½-34	33½-34	33½-34	33½-34
Pullets	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31	30½-31

Midwestern Browns				
Fcy Hywts	43 -	43 -	43 -	43 -

TREND—Shell egg market this week very firm with a light absorption of supplies and prices very fully supported.

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