

Lancaster Farming Reviews

January production of red meat in Penna. totaled 75 million lbs. dressed weight, down four per cent from December, and nine per cent from Jan. 1958. Veal and pork showed Dec.-Jan. decreases of 11 and nine per cent respectively. Beef was up one per cent, and lamb and mutton up five per cent.

Compared with January 1958 all classes showed losses; beef, 10%; veal, 25%; pork, 7%; and lamb and mutton 5%.

Ohio Experiment Station trials show that tom turkeys will gain faster while roughing it on range than indoors. Toms raised on Ladino clover range consistently weighed more at 24 weeks than those reared in confinement.

Range-reared Bronze toms averaged nearly two lbs. more than confined birds; while Large Whites averaged a little over a lb. more than the toms raised in shelter.

Rate-of-gain for females, however, was the same indoors or out, although range reared females of both varieties required a little less feed per lb. of gain.

The average cost of raising a dairy heifer in New Jersey is \$338, according to a study made on 50 farms by Rutgers economists. The 15 highest cost farms raised

heifers for an average cost of \$380, compared with \$298 for the 15 lowest cost farms.

Average feed cost for the 1,536 heifers was \$218 or 61 per cent of the total, with calves valued at \$30 at birth.

India's 1958-59 rice crop is now forecast at a record 30,500,000 long tons of milled rice. This compares with the 1958 "drought-year" crop of 24,821,000 tons and with the previous record crop of 28,282,000 tons in 1956-57.

A total of 23,176,000 lbs. of poultry, ready-to-cook weight, were used during January in canning and other processed foods. This was seven per cent less than a year ago, according to the USDA.

The current report also indicates that the quantity of poultry certified under fed-

eral inspection in Jan. totaled 239,163,000 lbs., compared with 104,462,000 lbs. in Jan. 1958, resulting from the newly imposed regulations for inspection of all poultry moving into interstate trade.

Research at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station indicates that the price tag on a bag of poultry feed may not be the best way to judge the value of the feed contained for egg production.

In the Ohio tests a mash that cost only \$3 per cwt. maintained egg production just as well as a more potent ration that cost \$4 per cwt. Thus the cost of producing eggs was only 11.6 cents a dozen compared to 13.2 cents for the more potent higher protein ration.

On a ration extremely low in protein and energy, costing only \$2.50 per cwt., researchers found that more than five lbs. were needed to produce a dozen eggs, compared to less than four lbs. of the \$3 feed, which means the cost was higher when the low energy ration

was used. The USDA Crop Reporting Service has released a tabulation which shows by states the estimated number of farms in operation in 1958 as compared with 1957.

The total number of farms in operation in 1958 is estimated at 4,749,000, two per cent less than in 1957 and 18 per cent fewer than were in operation 10 years earlier. Preliminary estimates of the Service indicate that about 4,645,000 farms will be in operation in 1959.

In February of this year, dairy price support purchases amounted to 15,284,533 lb. of butter; 1,950,065 lbs. of Cheddar cheese, and 69,529,016 lbs. of nonfat dry milk.

Ned Paes, Strasburg Rd. was elected president of Lancaster County 4-H Ashire - Guernsey Dairy Club during the club's reorganizing meeting this week.

James Brubaker, Ltd. was elected vice-president. Joyce Kreider, Drumore, was elected secretary, and Lucille Kreider, treasurer.

Kenneth L. Tyson, formerly assistant superintendent of French Creek State Park has been employed for staff of Lancaster County Soil Conservation Service. Tyson, a Penn State forest graduate, will be with the local SCS unit primarily in trainee capacity learning to develop farm conservation plans, precluding future assignments.

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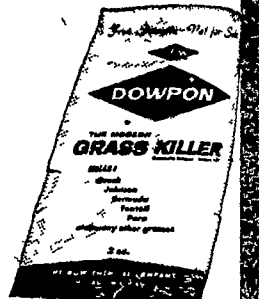
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