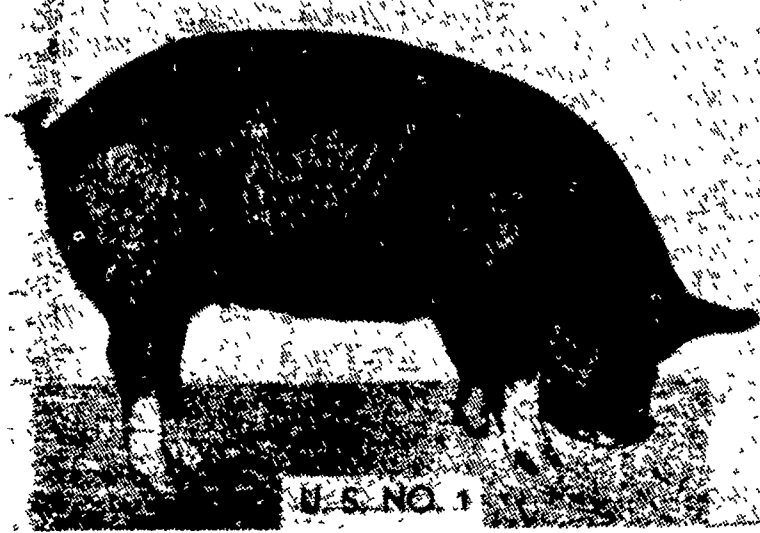


U.S. No. 1 Leads Pork Grades In Quality, Amount of Lean



The U. S. grades of barrows and gilts are U. S. #1, #2, #3, Medium and Cull. Grading of butcher hogs is based primarily in differences in the yields of lean and fat cuts and differences in quality of the cuts.

Measurements of the back fat thickness in relation to carcass weight or length are closely related to the yields of the primal cuts and quality. The back fat measurements are taken over the first and last rib and the last lumbar region.

The measurements of the length of side are taken from the first rib to the aitch bone. The following list provides a guide in determining the various grades:

Either carcass weight or length may be used with back fat thickness as a reliable guide to grade. These figures give normal length range for given weights.

Carcasses under 120 lbs. or 27 inches with avg. back fat thickness by grade: No. 1, 1.2 - 1.5; No. 2, 1.5 - 1.8; No. 3, 1.8 or more; Med., .9 - 1.2, and cull, less than .9 inches.

Carcasses 120 - 164 lbs. or 27 - 29.9 inches long: No. 1, 1.3 - 1.6; No. 2, 1.6 - 1.9; No. 3, 1.9 or more; Med., 1.0 - 1.3, and cull, less than one inch.

Carcasses 165 - 209 lbs. or 30 - 32.9 inches; No. 1, 1.4 - 1.7; No. 2, 1.7 - 2.0; No. 3, 2 inches or more; Med., 1.1 - 1.4, cull, less than 1.1 inch.

Carcasses 210 lbs or more or 33 inches or more: 1.5 - 1.8; No. 2, 1.8 - 2.1; No. 3, 2.1 or more; Med., 1.2 - 1.5, and cull, less than 1.2 inches of backfat thickness.

At present there is no Federal graded pork available to consumers, although Federal grade standards have been published and now are used by some states and individual buyers and sellers in grading live hogs or bulk carcasses.

The grading of hogs reflects consumer preference for lean meat, but without disregarding quality. You will notice that the Medium grade hog has less back fat than the U. S. #1, but the Medium hog is usually unfinished and the meat is rather tough when fried.

But, on the other hand, a chop from a #3 hog will shrink considerably due to melting the excess fat. The #1 hog combines just the right amount of fat in with the lean to please most customers.

Grade Specifications for U. S. No. 1 Barrow and Gilts

Carcasses in this grade have near the minimum degree of finish required for the production of acceptable quality cuts. Meatness based on yield of lean cuts in relation to carcass weight is slightly high; yield of fat cuts is slightly low.

The ratio of total lean and fat to bone is slightly high. Carcasses possessing the minimum finish for U. S. No. 1 grade are slightly wide and moderately long in relation to weight.

The back and loins are moderately full and thick with a well-rounded appearance. Hams are usually moderately thick, plump, and smooth and are slightly full in the lower part toward the hocks.

Bellies are moderately long and smooth, slightly

This Week

in Washington

by Clinton Davidson

Farm Battle Slows

All of the debate over farm legislation which you will be hearing for the next few months out of Washington will be interesting but of no importance so far as 1959 crops are concerned.

Congress and the Administration have been unable to resolve their differences over farm legislation in time to make changes that would apply to crops being grown this year. Plantings already have begun in the South.

The adoption of new farm legislation is a complicated and time-consuming procedure at best. It becomes exceedingly slow when there are deep and fundamental differences between the sincere friends of agriculture.

The question which divides Congress on one side and the President of the United States and the Secretary of Agriculture on the other is very simply this:

Are farm prices too high? **Benson Says Yes**

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson says that "high prices being paid to farmers," some of which are guaranteed by the Government, have encouraged farmers to produce excessively, resulted in costly support programs and caused high food prices.

Benson points to the steady increase in farm production which, in 1958, set a new record 11% above any previous year. Some \$3 billion worth of those crops have gone or will soon go, into government storage.

Lower price supports would cause prices to farmers to decline and thus discourage them from producing too much, Benson contends. If farmers reduced their production by only about 10% the government would be spared the expense of storing the excess production he believes.

If food prices were lower, he argues, consumers would soon begin to buy more and thus eat up the surpluses. For every dollar less received by farmers the cost of food to consumers would decline by 38 cents, that being the amount farmers get from every dollar spent by consumers for food.

Congress Says No

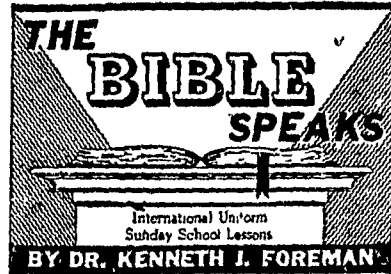
Farm critics of the Secretary in Congress say he is mistaken; that lower prices would bankrupt small farmers and concentrate land in the hands of the big operators—the so-called factory farms.

One of the most caustic of his critics is Rep. Jamie Whitten of Mississippi, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee which recently completed hearings on USDA's 1960 fiscal year budget.

Whitten points to the record that shows farm production in stead of going down when supports were reduced, actually has increased. The result has been that costs of operating the USDA have increased by over 400% in the past six years.

"Many of us," Whitten said in a recent House speech, "tried to tell him that farmers, like others, had large investments, high operating costs, and that farmers faced with increasing costs and lower prices, have to try to make up the difference with greater production."

This year may decide which—Benson or Whitten—is correct. From 1953 to 1958 price supports were reduced by an average of 20%, and production increased by 17%. For 1959 supports have been lowered by another 15% average. What will the effect be on farm production, and on food prices?



Bible Material: Luke 24 13-53.
Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 15 1-11.

Christ Lives

Lesson for March 29, 1959

"WHAT happened on Easter morning is out on the fringe," says a modern writer on the life of Christ. On the other hand, there are some who make a great point of the empty tomb and the physical resurrection of Christ. This brings out an argument that goes on and on: Which is more important, the fact of the Resurrection, or the meaning of the Resurrection?

Fact Without Meaning

Consider what the effect is if we concentrate entirely on the fact that the tomb into which Jesus' body was put on Friday evening was empty on Sunday morning, and that it was empty because the body of Jesus had miraculously



Dr. Foreman

come alive again and walked out. Now the evidence for this as a fact is strong. More than one person who set out to show that the evidence is unconvincing, has wound up by believing it. A few years ago some one wrote a very learned article intending to prove that the body of Jesus could not possibly have been put into a separate tomb, and that the women were quite mistaken when they found an empty tomb—mistaken, because the body had never been there in the first place. But how did that writer arrive at such a conclusion? Only by the skeptical writing-off, as worthless, all the testimony there is in the Gospels that the women did know, very well, where the body was supposed to be, and that a mistake under the circumstances was impossible.

Nevertheless, if we never get our minds off the empty tomb and the physical resurrection, we shall miss too much. Nowadays especially, with all the medical miracles that are reported about people who

have been brought after being officiously to life does not wonder it once is emphasis on the rection an emphasis place? Visitors to can see things human beings never act like human are more like body is alive may the spirit and too. So the really about Jesus is the alive, not that again.

Meaning Without

On the other emphasize the Resurrection, than more than that cause he lives wa Then we shall be ter of the message what happens it same time, "We Easter Faith" (re of belief in immor but we are not Easter facts"? Seem, there are just that point of get rid of all the they use, what comes down to that what happens on and we don't care rned with the never happened.

To put all one's and disregard the Easter is to build tion and leave it, ity.

The Meanings of

A study of the will show any real Christians prized meaning. They new if anything, about in sermons or let Gospel stories Ch the cry. But the pointed to some more precious than again. The New Te dwelt lovingly on the Resurrection 'stamp of approval was the triumph sin and death, a tr all his people will at was a sure tab 'beyond death; it 'tian's glimpse m of heaven; it was love and power

(Based on outline the Division of Christian National Council of Christ in the U. S. Community Press

Beekkeepers To Meet Friday

The annual meeting of the Lancaster County Honey Producers Assn. will be held in Hostetter's at Mt. Joy, at 6:30 p.m., April 3.

The program will include reports by auditing and nominating committees, election of officers for the coming year and recognition of special guests.

William Clarke, Penn State extension bee specialist, will show colored slides of bees at work and honey crops.

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