

NEPPCO Asks USDA for Industry

LANCASTER, N. J.—A five-point program to help northwestern poultrymen fight off the economic squeeze that has driven egg prices well below the cost of production was approved last week by the Northwestern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO).

The program, adopted from the Council's 14 northeastern states from Maine to West Virginia and westward to California, is to take their poultry to U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Tamm for immediate action. The program should be immediately by the NEPPCO officials.

The NEPPCO directors believe that a similar situation holds true for poultry farmers in every one of the 14 states in the Council area.

Removal of excess fowl, in a manner similar to that employed by the government on turkeys, would encourage poultrymen to get birds off the farm and into cold storage, officials believe.

This would make available inroads into current high egg production. Currently fowl are selling for seven to eight cents a pound, live weight. The release of federal surplus wheat to poultrymen is asked for only a 60-day period. This would make a reduction of about \$10 per ton.

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business we must have emergency help.

Our present crisis is as real as floods and other natural disasters—and could result in the end of the egg industry as we know it today.

For several months, whole sale egg prices have hovered close to or below the cost of production.

In New Jersey, Secretary of Agriculture Philip Alampi estimates that wholesale prices now in the high twenties are about 10 cents per dozen below cost. He estimates that poultrymen in his state are running about a half-million dollars in the hole every week.

NEPPCO directors believe

CONTROL SPITTLEBUGS

Size, quality, and yield of strawberries can be greatly improved by controlling spittlebugs early in the season, reminds John Pepper, Penn State extension entomologist. Chlordane or heptachlor may be used just after the young hatch, with treatment applied as the first normal blossoms appear.

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in feed costs, NEJPCO officials believe, thus easing the egg prices down to the lowest levels in the past few decades.

A stepped-up program of federal buying of whole egg solids could be immediately reflected in removing the market pressure that has driven egg prices down to the lowest levels in the past few decades.

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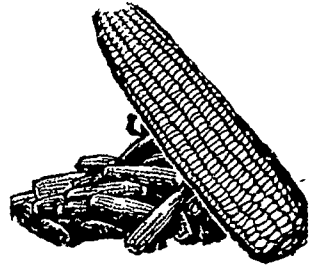
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