

### Poultry Prices Sees No Improvement Soon

Washington, D. C., Sept. 12—"Farm broiler prices are expected to continue at unprofitable levels through the remainder of 1961. U. S. farm prices may average about 12 cents during the October-December period, about four cents below a year earlier.

"Returns to egg producers during the laying year beginning in October, 1961, will be lower than during the preceding year. The decrease will be due to lower egg prices and higher feed costs

"U. S. farm turkey prices are expected to average about 20 cents for the September-December period, six cents below the same period of 1960. The estimated crop of 107 million head is 26% larger than last year."

So stated the Poultry Survey Committee of the American Feed Manufacturers Association, comprised of four top college poultry economists. They are: Dr. Ralph L. Baker, Ohio State University; Dr. William R. Henry, North Carolina State College; Dr. Richard L. Kohls, Purdue University; and, Dr. Henry E. Larzelere, Michigan State University. Several additional economists from industry and the U. S. Department of Agriculture serve in an ex-officio capacity. The committee's work is co-sponsored by American Feed Manufacturers Association, National Turkey Federation, and Poultry and Egg National Board.

Specific portions of the complete report, is as follows:

**BROILERS**  
U. S. farm prices of broilers are expected to average about 12 cents per pound during the last quarter of 1961, about 4 cents below the same period a year earlier. Prices will continue at unprofitable levels—as they have since late May 1961. October - December broiler marketings will be 6 to 8 per cent above last year and will be competing with increased supplies of turkeys and red meats.

**EGGS**  
U S farm egg prices during October - December '61, will average about 36-37 cents a dozen, 8-9 cents below the comparable 1960 period. January-March 1962 prices will probably average 32-33 cents, about 5-6 cents below a year earlier. In April-June 1962, prices will average about 30 cents a dozen, two cents under the corresponding 1961 period.

Egg supplies will be above year earlier levels during the first half of 1962. The percentage of increase is expected to diminish as the year progresses. Hens and pullets of laying age on farms January 1, 1962, will be one to two per cent above January

### Barren Heifers Should Be Sold Research Shows

Of every 100 bred heifers that fail to produce a calf as 3-year-olds, 29 will fail to calve the next year, too. That's what USDA and Montana researchers found when they studied 30-year calving records of cattle at the U. S. Range Livestock Experiment Station, Miles City, Mont.

Their findings confirm the practical advice given many cattlemen; if heifers are bred

1, 1961.

Returns to egg producers in the laying year beginning in October 1961, will be lower than during the preceding 12 months. This situation will be the result of lower egg prices and higher feed costs.

Returns, however, will be high enough to encourage the continued commercialization of the egg industry. The hatch of egg-type chicks during the first six months of 1962 is expected to be the same or slightly higher than during the first six months of 1961.

The Poultry Survey Committee announced that their next meeting will be held on December 11-12, 1961. The group meets four times a year to forecast prices and production and consumption trends for poultry products.

and don't conceive, its often wise to cull them as soon as possible.

During the 30 years, 1,589 heifers were bred during their third year. Those producing a calf then—1,323 averaged an 86.8 percent lifetime calf crop.

Those that didn't calve as 3-year-olds had a lifetime average of 54.9 percent. This low percentage, however, in-

cludes records of cows that never calved. Cows in the experiment were culled they failed to calve at 3 and 4 years of age. Abortions and stillbirths were included in the data so conception rates could be gauged.

Cows having their first calves at 4 years averaged 83.5-percent lifetime crop (Turn to page 12)

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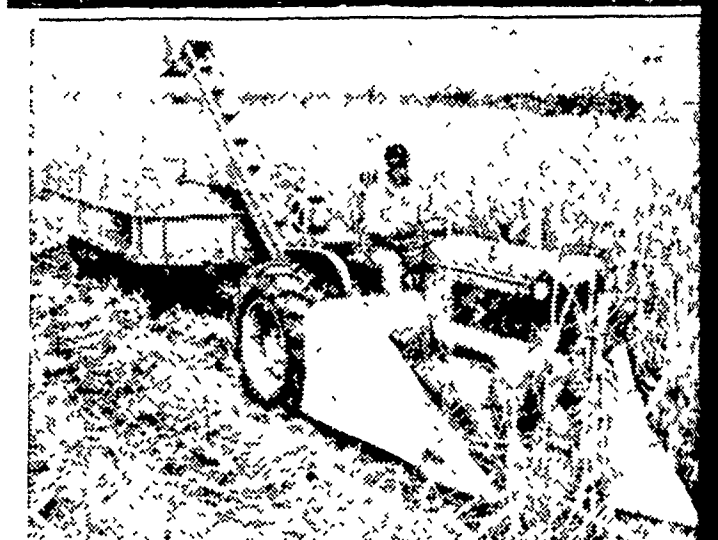
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