

Prices Received By Farmers Lowest For April In 16 Years

The prices Pennsylvania farmers received for their agricultural products during April was the lowest in 16 years, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service said this week in its monthly price report.

Prices received for livestock products declined as the result of lower prices for dairy products, poultry and eggs. The slight decline in the mid-April 1962 index of prices received for all crops was mainly due to a 4 percent decline in the price of apples. Food grains, feed grains, hay and vegetables showed little or no change from the previous month.

Scattered Showers In County Bring Much Needed Moisture

Local showers and thunderstorms brought much-needed moisture to Lancaster county farms this week but the cold damp days tended to discourage field work.

However, farmers reported field work about on schedule with plowing for corn well progressed.

Allalfa was reported making good growth on most county farms but the dry soil conditions coupled with below normal temperatures slowed growth of some forage crops.

Field peas made satisfactory growth but neatly planted potatoes were slow coming up and continue to make slow growth due to both dry soil and cool temperatures.

A sudden burst of warm weather pushed plowing and planting to the top of farm work schedules last week in Pennsylvania, the State Crop Reporting Service said in its weekly crop and weather roundup.

The high temperatures brought many fruit trees into bloom in the Berks-Lehigh and South Mountain areas. Reports from Adams County fruit growers indicate that the annual Apple Blossom Festival and organized tours of the area will be held as scheduled on Sunday, May 6. Fruit buds are also beginning to blossom in the Erie region.

Oats plowing and planting

which is the barometer of farm income, was 212 per cent of the "1910-14 equal 100" base. This compared with 220 a month earlier and 221 a year ago. The 212 figure is the lowest in 16 years.

The national Index of Prices Paid by farmers during the month ended April 15 was 306 making the parity ratio 212 divided by 306 or 69 per cent.

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products, poultry and eggs. The slight decline in the mid-April 1962 index of prices received for all crops was mainly due to a 4 percent decline in the price of apples. Food grains, feed grains, hay and vegetables showed little or no change from the previous month.

During the month ended April 15, the Index of Prices Received by Farmers throughout the nation declined nearly 1 percent (2 points) to 242 percent of its 1910-14 average. The most important declines

were reported for milk, oranges, lettuce hogs, eggs, and chickens. Partially offsetting were increases for cotton, apples, corn, and wheat. At mid-April, the index was 1 percent above a year earlier. The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services rose one-third of 1 percent (1 point) to a new high of 36 in mid-April.

With prices paid up slightly and farm product prices down from March, the Parity Ratio declined 1 percent to 79 the same as a year earlier.

Dairymen Take Note . . .

Here are the claims of a prominent dairy feed maker in 1908 —

Corrects The Bowels

produces an oily skin, opening pores, makes the coat sleek and glossy, sharpens the appetite and puts new blood, new life into the cow's whole being. The result is she throws off the winter's accumulation of poison, and comes out in the spring fresh, sleek and strong.

End of the 1908 ad . . . and

not one word about how much additional milk could be expected.

WHAT ABOUT 1962?

EXAGGERATED CLAIMS

CATCH-ALL PROGRAMS

GIMMICKS & GIVE-AWAYS

have no appeal for the modern dairy businessman.

This man looks for a feed supplier who has his feet on the ground, so to speak.

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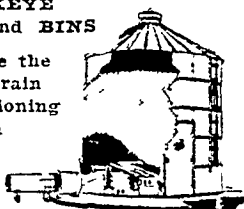
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