

Drought Makes Produce Scarce

Hot dry weather continues to plague our local growing area. Sweet corn, tomatoes and other vegetables have been hurt and supplies are limited at many roadside stands. Foodmarkets have plentiful supplies of all vegetables as

supply channels are filled with offerings from competitive areas, reports Tom Piper, Penn State Extension Marketing Agent.

Wholesale markets report that most fresh fruits and vegetables are now selling at a

small fraction of the price obtained at other times of the year. Lettuce, cabbage, sweet corn, carrots, celery, potatoes, tomatoes and squash are in plentiful supply. Peppers, eggplant, cucumbers and salad ingredients share this classification.

The local peach harvest is at its peak and local orchards are now offering Hale, Elberta, Bella of Georgia and lesser

known varieties. Size may be somewhat smaller than usual but quality and flavor is excellent. Bartlett pears, prune plums and Rambo apples are in plentiful supply as are watermelons, cantaloupes, limes and honeydew melons.

Red meat prices remain generally unchanged from the firm levels of a week ago. Pork prices moved down slightly -- not enough to effect general


Grocers are able to buy canned peaches at the lowest packer prices in years. Part of the reason is extra large carryover stocks and another big production year. Attractive retail prices are also spurring the movement of canned and frozen fruit juices, apples, applesauce, pears and plums through marketing channels.

Guide To Cheese Storage

One guide to proper cheese storage is in the food market, believes Louise Hamilton, Penn State extension food specialist. Many shapes and sizes of cheese packages are in refrigerated cases. When you buy any of these cheeses, keep them in the refrigerator. Cheese spreads sell from the shelves. Once you open these jars, keep them in the refrigerator, soft, unripened cheese, such as cottage and cream, is perishable and should be used within a few days after buying it.

retails but enough to warrant some selective promotions locally. Poultry meats remain generally unchanged and are scheduled for promotion in some stores. Eggs and seafood, namely bluefish, butterfish, scallops and fillet of flounder and haddock are attractively priced.

The outlook for processed vegetables is good for the 1962-63 marketing season. A large carryover of most items coupled with an average size pack this year will mean larger total supplies of canned and frozen vegetables.



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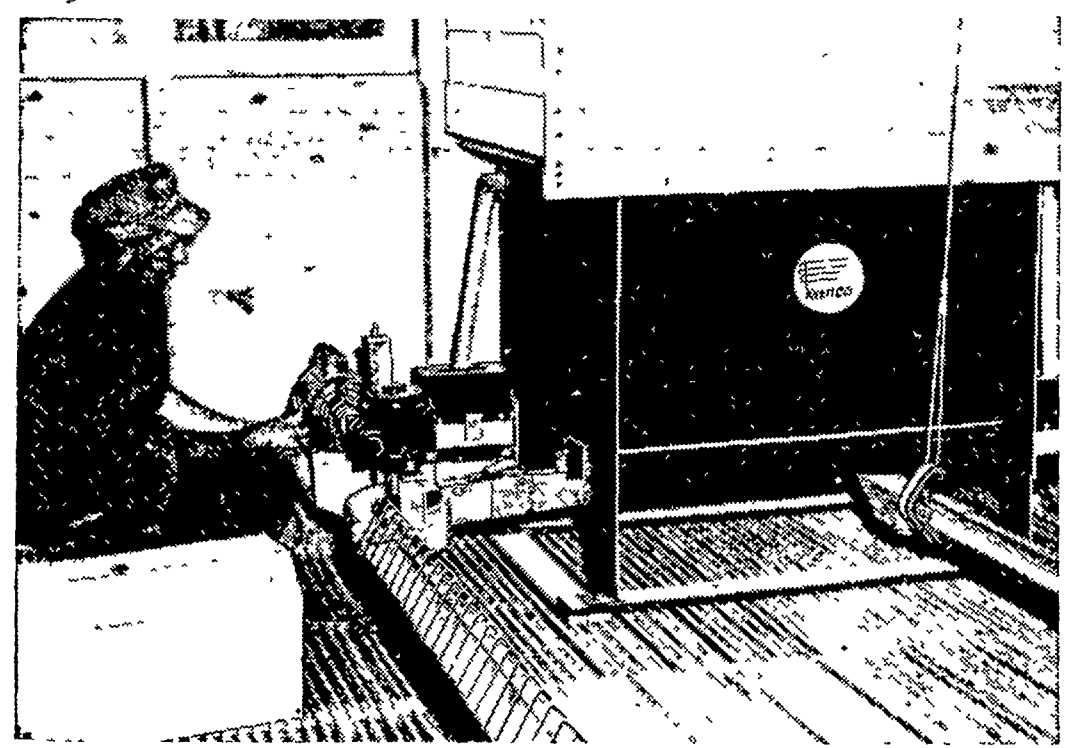
*Based on final reports in 1959-60 Random Sample Tests in Ariz., B.C., Calif., Fla., Ia., Minn., Mo., C.N.Y., W.N.Y., N.C., Pa., Tenn., Tex., Utah, and Wisc.

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