Farm Prices Down Two P.C. From February

Prices received by Commonwealth farmers in mid-March for their agricultural products were down 2 percent from a month earlier, but up nearly 3 percent from last year, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service: "

The decline in March is sea- lier. sonal and caused primarily by price. However, this is the prices received by farmers have March price in 7 years. averaged above a year earlier.

The Index of Prices Receiv- roasters, and turkeys in March ed, which is a measure of the showed an increase from Febreceived by farmers, was 225 es slipped downward. Egg pric-percent of the 1910-14-100 es remained steady at 41 cents base. This compared with 229 per dozen. getables were steady to slight-cluding Interest Taxes, and ly lower. Fruit prices were higher.

a month earlier and 219 a year Prices received for feed

ago.

the decline in wholesale milk ing the usual seasonal decline the highest March price in 6 es for oranges, cotton, grapewas 4 percent under the March years but still quité a ways fruit, and lettuce. The March eighth consecutive month that 1962 price and the lowest under the record high March 15 Index was 2 percent below price of \$1.16 set in 1948. a year earlier. The Index of Prices received for broilers, Prices of food grains, and ve- Prices Paid by Farmers, 'in-

During the month ended grains and hay continued their March 15, the National Index Most meat animal prices de- advance. March hay prices of Frices Received by Farmers clined during March with celv- reached a new all-time high declined nearly 1 percent to es and hogs leading the decline with alfalfa averaging \$46.50 240 percent of 1ty 1910-14 by \$1.80 and \$1.60 respectful- per ton. Corn and oats also average. The most significant ly. All meat animal prices with showed increases with corn price declines were reported the exception of sheep and only showing a seasonal in- for cattle and hogs. Wholesale lambs were below a year ear- crease but still the highest milk, tomatoes, cabbage, and March price since 1958. Oats eggs also were down. Partial-Wholesale milk price show- averaged \$.83 per bushel for ly offsetting were higher pric-

receded slightly. Prices of production goods averaged un-changed from February. The March Index was 1 percent higher than March 1962.

As prices received by farmers declined slightly more than prices of commodities they buy, the Parity Ratio slipped off 1 point to .77, the lowest since December 1959.

Enough Protein Ups Feed Intake In Beef Cattle

An inadequate amount of protein drastically reduces the feed consumption of cattle, ARS scientists found in a feeding study at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md.

Cattle ate about 16 pound of feed a day when their rations contained adequate protein, carbohydrate, and other digestible nutrients at the recommended level On low-protein rations, daily feed consumption dropped more than 37 percent ---- to about 10 pounds. The low-protein rations contained half the recommended amount of protein.

The low-protein rations included either cornstarch or sugar, plus poor-quality grass hay, corn and cob meal, molasses, salt, bonemeal, and vitamin A To this ration was added cottonseed meal or urea to convert it to an adequate-protein ration.

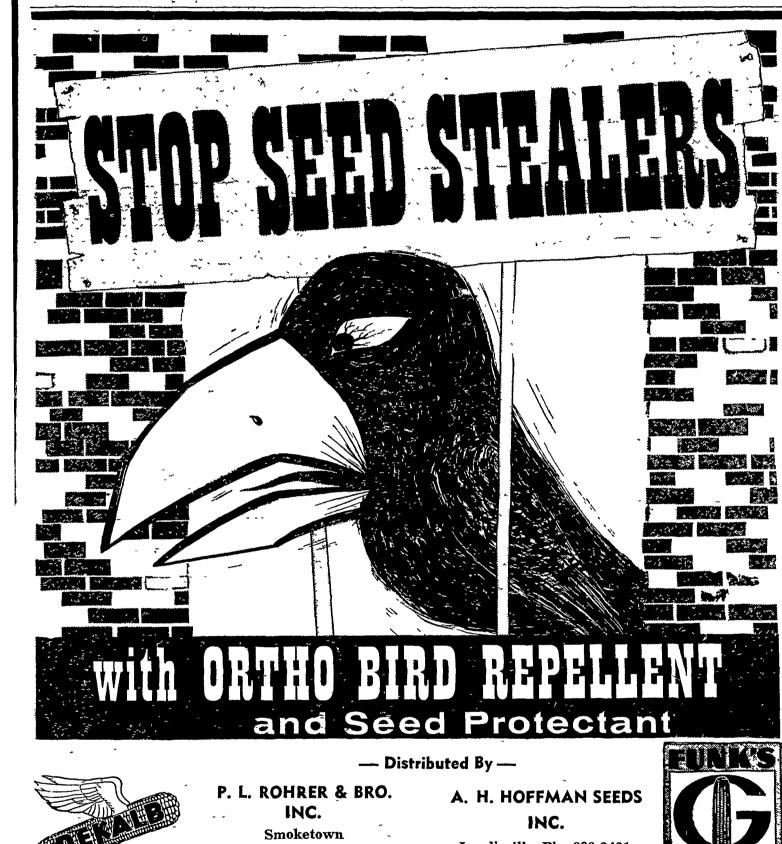
Cattle were permitted to eat as much of a given ration as they wanted. They showed a slight preference for the cornstarch diet in the low-protein tests. But as the protein level was increased, the cattle ate more of the feed containing sugar than of the one containing cornstarch.

Since the only variable was the added protein, the scientsts say the cautle apparently changed their preference from cornstarch to sugar as the protein level was increased.

In testing the rations containing the adequate level of protein, the scientists also found that cattle gained the most weight on the feed that contained cornstarch and ures.

County Planners To Hold Series Of Local Meets

The Lancaster County Planning Commission has scheduled a series of spring meetings





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with area planning commis-Foster, С. S10DS Bickley Planning Director said last week.

All councilmen, supervisors, planning commissioners, zoning officers, chief school administrators and county and state representatives have been invited to panticipate, Foster said.

Three meetings scheduled to be held next week from 7:30 to 10 pm. will be in the following places:

Area No. 1, Tuesday, April 9 Elizabethtown Borough-Conference Room in the basement of First National Bank - 12 South Market Street Parking in rear

Area No. 2, Wednesday, April 10, Lititz Borough - Main Auditorium of Brobst Recreation Center — Turn East at Square (Rt. 501) on to Main St. - Go one block and turn right into parking lot.

Area No. 3, Monday, April 8, West Lampeter Township (Continued on Page 19)