

Weekly Broiler Report

Broiler Placements Decline 9 Percent

Placements of broiler chicks in the Keystone State during the week ending February 13 totaled 931,000 according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The placements declined 9 percent from the previous week but advanced 5 percent from a year ago. Settings for broiler chicks totaling 1,301,000 were about the same as the previous week but decreased 6 percent from a year earlier. The current 3-week total of eggs set decreased 3 percent from last year. Inshipments of broiler-type chicks during the past 10 weeks totaled 396,000 or 10 percent below the comparable period in 1963-64. Outshipments (2,278,000) were about 22 percent above the comparable period a year earlier.

Placements in the 22 major producing states totaling 43,493,000 chicks increased 1 percent from the previous week and 8 percent from a year earlier. The 10-week total increased 5 percent from last year. Settings of 59,148,000 advanced 1 percent from the previous week and 2 percent from a year ago. The 3-week total increased 4 percent from a year ago.

Eastern Pa. & N.J.

Prices unchanged to as much as 1¢ higher for light type hens. Demand fair with offerings no more than adequate. Some processing plants operating on reduced dressing schedules. Supplies of heavy type hens barely adequate. Demand fair. The highest reported price reflects movement of a flock averaging 9 lbs. few lots of 5-6 lb hens moved off farms at 8½-9¢. Prices paid at farms: Light type hens 4½-7¢ mostly 5½-6¢; heavy type hens 18-21¢ mostly 19-20¢.

Fogelsville

(Prices for dock weights, cents per lb. except where noted.)

Hens, light type 5½-7½, 6; hens, heavy type 12-20½, 15-19; Pullets 18-19, 25-29; Roasters



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15-33½, 27-31; Ducks 24-30½; Drakes 34-45, 38-41; Geese 20-31½, 29-30; Turkeys, toms 24-27½; Turkeys, hens 30-37½; Rabbits 31-51, 38-46; Guineas 45-55; Pigeons (per pair) 60-80, 62½-70; Jumbo Squab 85. Total coops sold: 726.

Chicago

(Continued from Page 2) late sales High Choice and Prime 1100-1400 lbs. 24 50-25-25, including few loads 1100-1130 lbs 25 00-25 25, Choice 1000-1400 lbs. 23 25-24 50, up to 25 00 early in the week, couple loads High Choice and Prime 1500-1525 lbs. 23 50-24 00, loadlots Mixed Good and Choice 900-1350 lbs 22 50-23 25, Good 20 00-22 50, Standard and Low Good 17 50-20 00, including Holsteins 17 50-19 25, Mixed Utility and Standard 16 00-17 50.

Slaughter heifers: Late sales High Choice and Prime 950-1025 lbs. 23 25-23 50, earlier High Choice and Prime 950-105 lbs. 23 75-24 10, part load 1080 lbs. 24 25. Late sales Choice 800-1100 lbs. 22 00-23 25, Good 19 00-21 50.

Cows Utility and Commercial 12 50-14 00, Canner and Cutter 11 00-13 00.

Bulls Cutter to Commercial 16 00-19 00, Fat Commercial 14 00-15 00.

The "Blackbird Battle" Rages As Damages And Bird Numbers Mount

The search for an effective way of controlling the damage to field crops by the nation's 225 million blackbirds is a continuing battle with no easy solution according to J. L. Seubert, chief of the animal depredation section of the U. S. Department of Interior. Speaking at a wildlands ecology session, he outlined control methods under study and reported on the apparent fail-

Delmarva

Delmarva broiler and fryer live prices advanced sharply with a good demand for moderately heavy auction offerings. Extension of pickup dates was a factor in stimulating demand.

Ready-to-cook demand was spotty, ranging from slight to fair. Sizes remained light.

Delivered prices ranged 1 cent higher on extra premium quality, though generally unchanged.

Estimated slaughter for Friday and Saturday — 788,000 head, compared with 772,000 head last weekend.

Prices paid and reported purchases for the 24-hour period ending 10-30 a.m. Friday: broilers and fryers, 15 1-16 6; 976,700 head, including 476,900 head offered and sold at Eastern Poultry Growers Exchange, Thursday.

Thirty-five percent of the offerings brought 15.5-15.9.

The Delmarva broiler-feed ratio for the week ending 2/12/65 was 3.1, down 1 point from the preceding week. The average mash cost was \$102.34, and the average broiler price was 15 97 cents per pound

ures and successes of many of them included in USDI's arsenal of control methods are such things as decoy traps, commercial pesticides, anti-metabolites, biological control methods, and chemosterilants.

Seubert said that in studying blackbird behavior, researchers found that the estimated 225 million blackbirds in the United States roost in only 173 well-defined areas. He described this as the weak link in the cycle "When 20 million birds roost on ten acres, the opportunities for control are increased." He said that if chemosterilants can be found that can be sprayed on the roosting area so that the chemicals are absorbed through the birds' feet

Weekly New York Egg Mkt.

From Monday, February 15th to Friday, February 19th

| | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thur. | Fri. |
|----------------|--------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| WHITE | | | | | |
| Ex. Fcy. Hywts | 32 | 29½ | 29½ | 29½ | 28½ |
| Fcy. Hywts. | 31-31½ | 29 | 29 | 28½ | 27½ |
| Fcy Med | 29 | 28 | 28 | 28½ | 27½ |
| No. 1 Med. | 27½ | 27 | 27 | 27 27½ | 26-26½ |
| Pullets | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25½ |
| Peewees | 22 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| BROWN | | | | | |
| Ex. Fcy. Hywts | 34 | 34 | 34 | 32 | 31 |
| Fcy Hywts | 31½ | 31½ | 31½ | 30 | 29 |
| Fcy. Med. | 29 | 28 | 28 | 28½ | 27½ |
| Pullets | 27 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25½ |
| Peewees | 22 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| MIXED | | | | | |
| Fcy. Hywts. | 31-31½ | 29 | 29 | 28½ | 27½ |
| Standards | 28½ | 28 | 28 | 27 | 26½ |
| Checks | 22 | 22 | 22 | 23 | 23 |

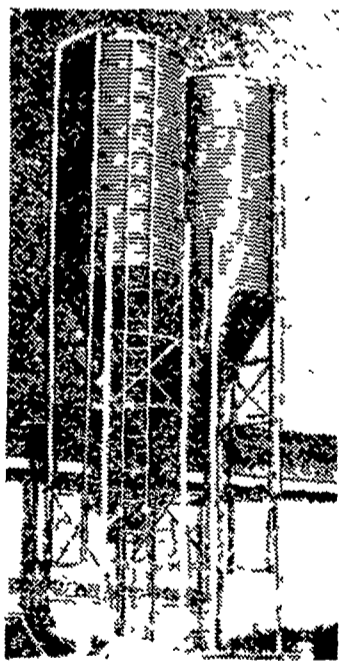
TREND: Market continues to show weaknesses in top whites, and this has forced a lower price structure on nearly all grades.

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to the point where they do not produce young the following spring, the corn damage realize the magnitude of the problem in Delaware would be solved without killing a lot of birds. Researchers are still looking for the right agri-nomic practices is continuing. Evaluation of chemical repellents, scare devices, and commercial marking dye called Sudan Black. Seubert said many people plagued by blackbird damage

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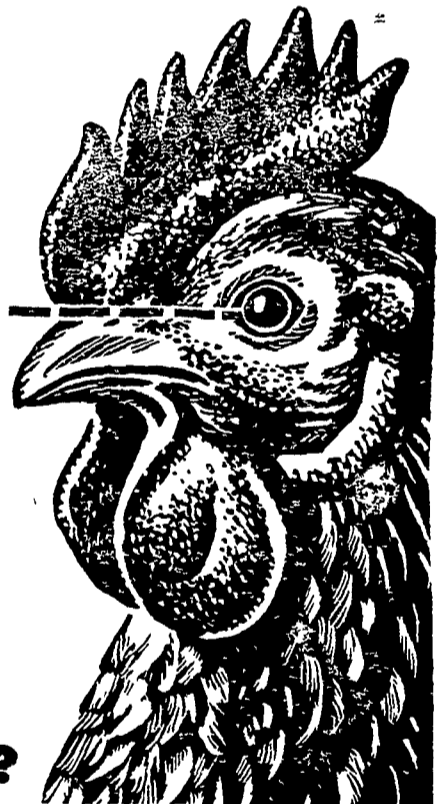
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