

CROP NEWS

HARRISBURG — Production of fresh market and processing vegetables and lawberries in the Keystone State in 1965 totaled 293,300 tons, an increase of 7 percent over the previous year, says the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Crops were harvested from 510 acres, 4 percent more than in 1964.

Tomatoes produced a record high yield per acre, 14.2 tons, compared to 13.1 tons in 1964. Significant increases were recorded in total production of snap beans, peas, tomatoes and cabbage. The lawberry crop amounted to 530 tons, down 220 tons from the previous year.

POTATOES

Stocks of potatoes held by Pennsylvania growers, dealers and choppers on December 1 were the largest in three years.

The total, 4.6 million hun-

dredweight, was 19 percent higher than a year earlier, but 2 percent below the 1959-63 average. It represented approximately two-thirds of the state's 1965 fall potato crop.

Fall production in Pennsylvania totaled 6.9 million cwt., up 11 percent from the previous year. The crop, benefited by late season rain, was of excellent quality except in a few scattered areas.

CROP PRICES

Prices received for farm products were up 2.5 percent over the November average, and 7 percent higher than prices received in December 1964.

The gains reflect increasing demand for Pennsylvania farm products, both at home and in foreign countries, and the spread of the Commonwealth's growing economy to producer levels, says the Crop Reporting Service.

The hog market was the real sparkplug, with prices rising \$3.40 per hundred-

Golden Anniversary

(Continued from Page 1) including a vast array of farm machinery, total 224. Some machinery exhibits will feature new models which will be unveiled for the first time at this show.

Competitive exhibits will number nearly 11,000 items in field, fruit and vegetable crops, livestock, poultry, home economics and displays from public schools. Show director Horace Mann estimated all of the exhibits will have a total intrinsic value of \$10 million. Premiums will total \$64,600, a new all-time high, Mann said.

This year's exposition has been described by Governor Seranton as a "show window for our multi-billion dollar agricultural industry."

weight in a month to \$27.60. It was the highest December hog price on record in the state, and the best price received since September 1948. Along with hog prices, other livestock quotations advanced, with steers and heifers up \$1.20 from a month earlier. Eggs were up three cents a dozen.

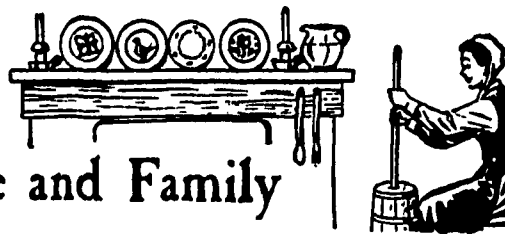
All crop prices advanced, with the exception of rye and potatoes which were the same as in mid-November. Corn was up eight cents a bushel, and wheat gained four cents.

Alfalfa hay rose \$1.00 to \$39.50 a ton, 50 cents higher than a year ago. The increase reflects the effect of early season drought that reduced production in many areas and forced livestock farmers to use early cuttings to supplement short feed supplies.

Only milk, farm chickens and broilers showed price declines.

Prices paid by farmers for commodities and services also rose, up 3.5 percent in the nation over those of December 1964.

For the Farm Wife and Family



By Doris Thomas, Extension Home Economist
Ladies, Have You Heard? . . .

Worth Knowing About Buying Nuts
When buying unshelled nuts, select those without scars, cracks, or holes. The kernel should not rattle.

It will take about two pounds of unshelled nuts to give you one pound or about four cups of nutmeats. Weight may vary with type, condition, and size of the nut.

Nuts in the shell generally are a better buy than shelled nuts, but the shelled are more convenient to use.

This year for the first time, you may find packages of mixed nuts marked with a grade label, such as U.S. Extra Fancy or U.S. Fancy. Grades mean that the mixed nuts are reasonably mixed with at least ten

percent but no more than forty percent of each kind in the mixture.

The oily nature of nuts causes them to become rancid and stale when exposed to air, moisture, and warmth. Unshelled nuts remain fresh longer than nutmeats, but do not keep them at room temperature more than a few weeks.

Keep nutmeats in tightly sealed containers or in moisture and vapor-proof wrappings and store in the refrigerator or freezer to prolong their freshness. Large nutmeats stay fresh longer than chopped or ground ones.

Do You Know That . . .

Small throw rugs are the cause of many falls in the home. If you must use throw rugs, be sure they are coated on the back with a non-skid material or put a non-skid pad under each rug. Avoid using small throw rugs in areas of heavy foot traffic.

A "discard box" helps to relieve the crush of clothing



THOMAS

in closets between seasons. You can remove garments no longer useful from their storage places as you finish wearing them. After cleaning or laundering, put the garments in a large box. When filled, you can donate the box to charity or a clothing drive.

A manufacturer's brand is a nationally advertised food brand found in many types of retail outlets. A retailer's brand is his own private brand and found only on food items in his store. Although both brands are advertised, a manufacturer's brand is likely to be advertised more often throughout the country.

Among the rewards of being a better shopper are a balanced budget, more quality for the money, and better living for the family.



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