

NFU Calls For Higher Parity Ceilings

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A House Subcommittee was urged by Farmers Union today to provide more money so price support levels can be boosted to already-authorized ceilings of 90 percent of parity or more for all supported commodities.

Farmers would have \$4.5 billion more in gross income, the farm organization said, if Congress provided money needed to make these support levels operational.

Most of the major commodities now are supported at levels ranging from 66 percent (rice) to 87 percent (manufacturing milk). All could be supported at 90 percent except wheat, which has an authorized ceiling of 100 percent of parity.

The request was made by Tony T. Dechant, NFU president, in testimony prepared for the Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Subcommittee, headed by Rep. Jamie Whitten (D-Miss.), is holding hearings on the Department of Agriculture

Budget for the year starting July 1.

Also recommended were a boost in Farmers Home Administration Operating and Farm Purchase Loans to a level of \$2 billion annually; restoration of a \$100 million cut in ACP cost-sharing; a \$6 million boost in The Great Plains Conservation Program; and a \$2 million increase in funds for the Packers and Stockyards Division.

Dechant told the Subcommittee that cost savings resulting from recent improvements in the supply-demand balance in agriculture should be applied to the farm program budget in ways that increase both prices and income.

"Unlike the prophets of gloom and doom who want to get government out of agriculture," he said, "we want to make the commodity programs work better — work for farmers toward the urgent objective of raising prices and income to the level of parity."

Dechant pointed out that price support and diverted acreage payments to feed grains producers, which totaled \$127 billion in 1966, will come to only \$550 million in 1968.

"Producers who made this cost saving possible," he said, "ought to be the beneficiary

Agricultural Output Up In Europe & USSR

Agricultural production increased in Western Europe, Eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union in 1966, with the largest increase occurring in the Soviet Union, according to a report published this week by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The report, by USDA's Economic Research Service, reviews agricultural and related economic and foreign trade developments in the countries of these three regions during 1966, relating these developments to trends of the past five years.

Total and per capita agricultural output in Western Europe continued to rise in 1966, despite poor weather at key periods. Trade in agricultural products by West European countries continued to increase rapidly in 1965, as did U.S. agricultural exports to Western Europe.

Favorable weather moved East European farm production to the highest level on record, some six percent above 1965 and 22 percent above the 1957-59 average. In addition to favorable weather contributing to the successful crop year, there were improved inputs, higher farm prices and incentives, and efforts by the governments to raise farm output.

The Soviet Union's record grain harvest of about 140 million tons, led by a bumper wheat crop of 80 million tons, was the outstanding feature of its agricultural performance in 1966. Record output levels were also achieved for most livestock products, cotton, and oilseeds.

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The FHA increase sought by Farmers Union would make possible at least \$1 billion for operating loans and \$1 billion for farm purchase financing by young farmers and others

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grain production remains a problem in the Soviet Union, the report analyzes the major factors which have accounted for the rapid recovery of agricultural production in the USSR in the past three years.

Production of most livestock products increased in all three regions in 1966. Meat production rose in Western Europe and the USSR and fell slightly from the peak 1965 level in Eastern Europe.

• New Holland

(Continued from Page 2)
other breeds, 200-415 Bulls, 175-210. Heifers, 150-250

HORSES

May 8, 1967
Receipts totaling 432 head sold steady Riding horses, 135-350; driving, 125-275, killers, 10-11 cents per lb. Mules, singly, 115-155. Pony mares, 30-100, geldings, 15-45

HOGS

May 8, 1967
The 1067 head offered averaged \$2-\$2.50 higher. Retail, 23-24, heavweights, 21.50-22.50, wholesale (U.S. 1-3), 22-23. Sows, 14-16. There were no shoats listed.

CALVES

May 8, 1967
A steady to stronger trend prevailed as 108 head sold. Choice and Prime, 38.50-43; Good and Low Choice, 35.50-38. Standard 32-34.50. Common, 24-31.50

• Vintage

(Continued from Page 2)

25.25, Standard to low-Good 22.50-23.75

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS — Good and Choice 800-1100 lbs. 22-23.75

COWS — Utility and high-yielding Cutter 19.50-21.75; Cutter 18.60-20.25, Canner and low Cutter 17.50-19

BULLS — Good 23-24.75; Utility and Commercial 22.25-24.10, couple 24.85-26.75

CALVES 328 — Standard to Choice vealers \$1-2 lower, Cull and Utility fully steady

VEALERS — Choice 39.50-43.50, Good 36.50-39.50, Standard 35-37, Utility 33-36, Cull 31-35, 60-85 lbs. Cull 28-31

HOGS 307 — Barrows and gilts \$1.75-2.50 higher

BARROWS AND GILTS — US 1-2 190-240 lbs 23-23.35, US 1-3 180-240 lbs 22.25-22.85, 2-3 220-250 lbs 21.25-22.25

SHEEP 157 — Spring lambs mostly \$1 lower

SPRING LAMBS — Choice 40-90 lbs 28-32.50, few 33-34; Good 23-27

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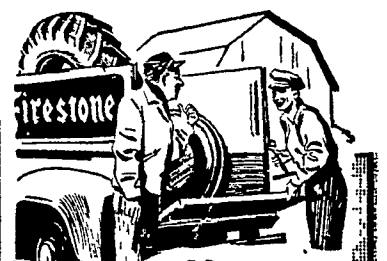
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