

U.S. Farm Egg Price Up 3c

This is the forecast of the Poultry Survey Committee.

"If this is true, egg produc-

ers will have to cut back about 2% from 1967 production," cautions Dr. L. A. Wilhelm, president of PENB and an advisory member of the committee.

A one percent change in egg numbers traditionally has re-

flected a 3 to 5% change in price producers receive from eggs. This is further complicated, however, by the fact that population increases by about 1½% per year. So it takes an extra 2,775,000 cases of eggs per year to keep consumption at the same level.

Some scarce rumors are around that the industry already has most of its needs for frozen and dried eggs "in the box." If true this would be the greater part of 32 to 36 eggs per capita. Storage stock data does not indicate any such carryover into 1968. It is difficult for most poultrymen to translate storage stocks into shell egg equivalents. One pound of frozen product is 9 eggs — on a per capita basis it would require 1,800,000,000 lbs to have 9 eggs per person frozen.

Dried egg solids are a different matter — 100,000,000 lbs (½ lb per capita) would be 18 eggs per person. The egg solids industry is important to the shell egg producer since they use 9-12% of production.

A new feature in recent years is that nearly 25% (or 8 to 9 eggs per capita) of egg solids are used as fresh solids — not frozen or dried. So there will be some demand for breaker eggs — practically regardless of price.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 13, 1968—7

Pennsylvania December Potato Stocks 28% Above Average

Stocks of Pennsylvania potatoes in the hands of growers, local dealers, and chippers were estimated to be 5,800,000 cwt on December 1, 1967, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. This was 61 percent greater than December 1 stocks a year ago, 28 percent above the 1961-65 average, and the largest December 1 stocks in 13 years. Stocks held by chippers and processors in excess of normal supplies for current operations were included in the estimate.

Total stocks held on December 1 amounted to 64 percent of fall production compared with a 5-year average of 61 percent. This places disappearance (sales, home use, etc.) of the 1967 crop at 33 million cwt since harvest, compared with 27 million last year and the 1961-65 average of about 30 million cwt. The 1967 production of 9,120,000 cwt was 44 percent larger than last year's production and the largest total production in 16 years.

Pennsylvania potato growers

had a very good year although weather was not always favorable for potatoes. Planting of early potatoes began on schedule in early April but planting was very sporadic due to pre-wintering cool, wet weather. An extended hot and dry period during June slowed growth of all potatoes. Beginning during July, precipitation was generally more than adequate throughout the remainder of the season in most potato areas compared to extremely dry areas in southern and eastern counties a year ago. Potato harvest began in mid-September but lagged behind earlier years due to wet weather. Excessive rainfall especially caused problems in the Erie-Crawford and Potter County areas. Trucks and mechanical harvesters had trouble operating on wet ground and acreage in low spots was bypassed in many fields. Some of this acreage was later harvested but abandonment was substantial throughout the State. Yields were excellent in all areas as was quality after grading. Greening problems, especially with Kennebecs, growth cracks and hollow heart was present in this year's crop. Numerous growers and contacts report considerable breakdown in storage this year, while many growers report their crops are storing well.

The left side of a ship isn't called the port side because it is the side nearest port. It is so called because the red lantern displayed on that side was once the color of port wine which, in turn, took its name from Oporto, Portugal, the place where it was first made.

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