

A Decade Of Change

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Egg production in Pennsylvania declined nearly 18 percent in the past decade according to Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service estimates. Production decreased from 299 million dozen eggs in 1957 to 264 million dozen in 1967, a decrease of 35 million dozen. Production in 1957 was about 5 million dozen less than the peak Pennsylvania production which occurred in 1955.

Production declines for the entire state have not been as dramatic as among areas of the state and counties. Changes in production among areas ranged from a 40 percent decrease to a 2 percent increase. Declines were greatest in northwestern and southwestern areas of the state. Changes in dozens of eggs produced and layers on farms in the respective areas between 1957 and 1967 and the percent changes are given on the maps

Change in number of eggs produced among counties ranged from a decrease of 75 percent to an increase of about 52 percent. Increases occurred in 18 counties.

Tibet's Rainfall

Although rainfall in the Himalayas often reaches 200 inches annually during the monsoon season, the rest of Tibet is one of the driest areas in the world, with a precipitation of less than eight inches per year.

Milk Prices To Farmers Set By Six Northeastern Orders

Fluid milk prices to farmers set by six northeastern Federal milk marketing orders will be increased 24 cents a hundredweight, or about 1/2 cent a quart, from Sept. 15 through April 1969, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today.

USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service officials said amended orders for the Massachusetts - Rhode Island - New Hampshire, New York-New Jersey, Connecticut and Delaware Valley markets were approved by more than the required two-

thirds of the dairy farmers supplying each of the order areas, in a poll of their cooperative associations.

No amendments were required for the Washington, D.C., and Upper Chesapeake Bay orders since the prices in these markets are tied to the prices set under the Delaware Valley order.

Terms of the amended orders are identical to those of USDA's final decision issued and submitted for dairy farmer approval on Sept. 6. They are based on a public hearing July 25-26, held at the request of major dairy groups in the Northeast.

USDA officials said that production in northeastern markets continues to decline and the price increase is needed to assure an adequate milk supply. It will offset increases in production costs and restore price relationships between northeastern and midwestern markets that existed before recent price increases were made in the Midwest.

Diseases In Cattle

Severe problems and heavy losses from respiratory diseases in feeder cattle stimulates interest in programs to immunize feeder cattle before they reach the feedlots. The term referred to as "Preconditioned Feeder Calves" is getting considerable attention this fall in all farm publications. Stress at shipment time appears to be the greatest single factor influencing respiratory diseases. Weaning and castrating of calves at least 30 days prior to shipping would be a step in the right direction. The more general use of vaccines prior to shipment would reduce problems. Most people agree that preconditioning procedures are good, but the problem seems to be who will perform these practices, who will guarantee treatment, and who will pay for them. Quiet and careful handling with a minimum of stress and strain continues to be appropriate this fall.

MD. FEEDER PIGS SET SALES RECORD

Maryland Pork Producers, Inc., a non-profit corporation dedicated to improving the efficiency of pork production, set a new record in August 1968 by selling 3428 feeder pigs for \$204,000.

The Pork Producers have been sponsoring feeder pig sales since 1956. Sixty consignors delivered the record-breaking number of pigs to two sales—the Caroline Sales Company, Denton, on the second Monday monthly, and Duke Bros Stockyards, Eden, Md., on the fourth Monday.

A record number of pigs — 17,913 — have been sold in 1968.

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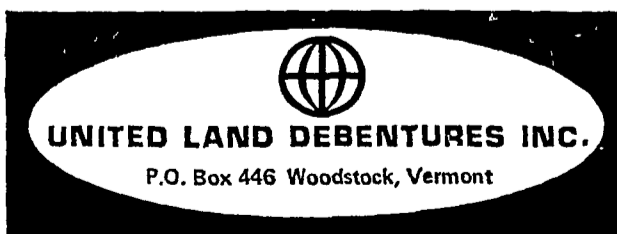
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