

3 outlook

YEAR OF THE RUNNING OVER TROUGH . . . Between October 1, 1971, and September 30, 1972, feed grain use probably will turn out to be 10 to 12 million tons more than the previous year. Domestic feeding will probably swallow most of the increase, reaching an estimated 163 million tons by the end of the year. That's 10 per cent more than domestic feeders used during 1970-71. Exports might run as high as 22 million tons, 8 per cent over the previous year.

FEED GRAIN CARRYOVER . . . Prospective feed grain use of almost 186 million tons will leave a carryover into 1972-73 of 53 million tons, some 20 million tons more than a year earlier.

EXPORT PULSE . . . The 3.6 million tons of feed grains sold to the USSR accounted for a fifth of all feed grain exports October 1 through April 30. By April 30 almost all of the 85 million bushels of corn sold and around two-third of the 24 million bushels of oats were on their way to Russia. Very little of the ordered 38 million tons of barley had been shipped. And . . . the short 1972 Argentine corn crop will mean reduced competition during May-September for U S feed grains in international trade

CORN USE April-September 1972 will total around 1.8 billion bushels domestically and around 300 million bushels will be exported. Use for the marketing year may total almost 5 billion bushels. Carryover should stand at around 1 1/4 billion bushels, nearly double a year earlier.

SORGHUM USE by feeders and exporters may total around 280 million bushels during April-September, a bit above 1971's second half disappearance. Carryover on October 1 will probably total around 200 million bushels, double that of a year earlier.

WHEAT FEEDING Despite the abundance of corn, wheat feeding during October 1971-September 1972 will probably nearly equal last year's 239 million bushels. While wheat is less competitive with corn this year, it continues quite competitive with grain sorghum and other feed grains. Wheat feeding this year has been especially

heavy in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Colorado.

MORE MILK . . . Dairy men will probably market 1 to 2 per cent more milk during 1972, up from last year's almost 115 billion pounds. Although dairy farmers are culling their herds 1 per cent, they've been feeding liberally due to low feed prices. So far this year, daily milk production per cow has run over 2 per cent above last. Increased marketings, plus a small price rise, should lift cash receipts from dairying to \$7 billion for 1972, up from 1971's \$6.8 billion.

SMILE . . . Dairy sales this year may exceed last year's 109 billion pounds milk equivalent. American and other cheese sales hit 531 million pounds in January-April, topping 1971's first quarter by 13 per cent. Higher meat and fish prices likely contributed to the sales jump. Low-fat milk sales are up about 11 per cent.

EARLY CENSUS RESULTS . . . Based on early data from the 1969 Census of Agriculture, U.S. farm enterprises with milk cows

numbered 600,000 in 1969, compared with 1.1 million in 1964. Of the 600,000, about 400,000 farms were selling milk or cream . . . the other third production only for household consumption.

COTTON ACRES . . . Cotton farmers will probably plant an average 50 acres of upland cotton per farm this year, compared with 1971's 41. At the same time, judging from a 9 per cent decline in signups for the 1972 Upland Cotton Program, fewer farmers are going to produce cotton. Regionally, acreage increases per farm may range from 10 per cent in the Southeast to nearly 30 per cent in the Delta.

COTTON FORECAST . . . If farmers plant the indicated 13 1/2 million acres, up 10 per cent from last year, and abandonment and

yields remain near 1968-70 levels, there'll likely be a 12-million-bale cotton harvest this fall, about 2 million over last year. This will adequately cover domestic use and exports, which are estimated to total around this season's level of 11 million bales.

WHAT YOU EAT . . . Americans will eat about the same amount of food on a per capita basis during 1972 as they did in 1971. However, we're liable

to be eating a fraction more crop foods and a fraction less animal products, such as milk and butter.

ENTRESS . . . A 3 to 4 per cent increase in per capita beef consumption is expected to almost offset declines for veal, pork, and lamb. However, at breakfast besides less bacon, there'll also be fewer eggs. Per capita consumption for 1972 will probably be down slightly.

Fix-It Tip

New couplings for rubber garden hoses consist of the coupling parts mounted on tubes inserted into the hose ends. The prongs are then pounded down or a clamp is used.

Coupling parts for a plastic hose are a little more complicated. The coupling tube is slipped over the hose and not into it. With the sleeve over the hose, a bushing is placed inside the hose at the end. The bushing is threaded and, when turned with a special key, seats itself inside the hose and exerts pressure on the wall of the hose against the metal sleeve.

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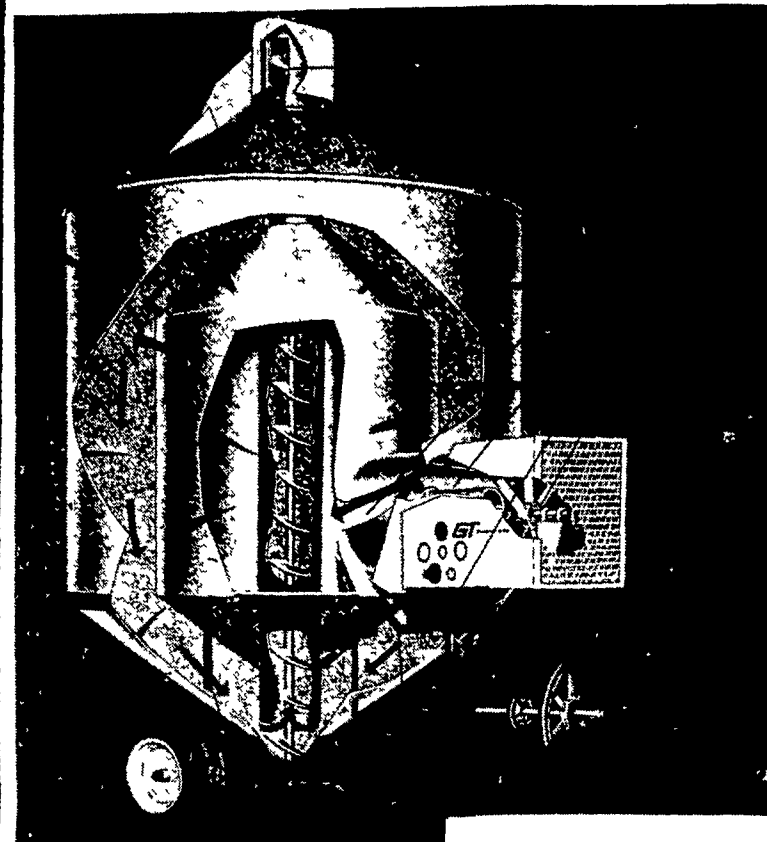


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AT VENTURES

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