

# More Good Egg Prices Predicted

By Kermit Birth  
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Egg prices are expected to average well above a year earlier through the next 6 months. Feed prices will drop a little from the highs in March. Both higher egg prices and lower feed prices will aid in improving profits. Increased profitability means increased production later this year.

Hatch of chicks for laying flock replacements in January and February 1973 was about the same as a year earlier. But on March 1 13 percent more eggs were in incubators than a year earlier. Perhaps more pullets will be needed to replace force molted hens. With higher than usual feed costs, force molting of layers may not be as profitable as in prior years.

The nation's laying flock produced over 5 billion eggs during February. This was 9 percent less than a year earlier. But after adjusting for the extra day last year, production would only be about 6 percent less than a year earlier. This would be the same rate of decline in production as for December and January. Production will continue lower because on March 1, 6 percent fewer layers were on farms than a year earlier.

The decrease in production as compared to a year earlier is likely to continue for the next 4 to 6 months unless the proportion of hens in the nation's laying flock which are force molted increases. On the first of March about 10 percent of the layers on farms had been through a forced molt, about 1/2 percent less than a year earlier. However, the number of hens which were being force molted the first of the month was up about 1/2 percent more than a year earlier. The proportion of force molted hens in the nation's laying flock may increase if profitability increases and pullets are not available to replace hens now on farms and make expansion possible.

On March 1 there were only about 3 percent more pullets 3 months old and older but not of laying age on farms than a year earlier. Hens and pullets of laying age, plus pullets 2 months old but not of laying age, were about 5 percent less than a year earlier, insufficient pullets were available to offset reduced numbers of layers on farms.

It would take about a 5 percent decrease in production to keep prices high enough to offset higher feed costs as compared with a year earlier. Rate of lay in the next 6 months is likely to equal or drop below levels of a year earlier. Fewer young pullets and more older hens -- an older average age -- add up to a reduced rate of lay.

Expansion of production can be expected. However, with a high proportion of hens already force molted and only a small increase in the number of pullets not of laying age on farms the opportunity to increase production is limited until more pullets can be grown for laying flock replacements.

Will there be a mad scramble to increase production or will caution be exercised this year? Hoping for limited expansion may be too much to expect. But a new dimension has been added: future prospects for feed prices. For decades feed prices have been stable and those planning expansion of the following year's production could estimate fairly closely the cost of feed. No one expected the increase that took place in late 1972 and the first 3

months of 1973. The feed supply and price situation are influenced by the total world situation. An upgrading of human diets and desire for more meat have increased the demand for feed

grains. Thus, as one looks at the feed situation, he must consider worldwide implications rather than the U.S. situation alone.

Profitability of the egg industry, as of mid March, will lead to expansion and lower prices. Perhaps one can hope the industry will not expand production to the extent of creating an adverse profit-price situation as occurred in 1971 and 1972. Perhaps external forces, uncertainty about feed prices, supplies, and credit will help temper expansion.

PAUL Z. MARTIN'S CONSIGNMENT

## FARM EQUIPMENT SALE

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1973**  
At 9:00 A.M.

At my Place of Business, 2 miles East of Intercourse, Route 340.



**TRACTORS**  
Large Equipment of All Kinds  
Horse-drawn Equip., Dairy Equip.,  
Tools, Lumber, Hay and Straw

**HARDWARE AND TOOLS**

NOTICE—Farmers and Dealers invited to bring your goods in to this sale. Please bring your goods in before sale days. Equipment brought in day of sale will be sold last.

We have Buyers for Hay and Straw - Our Commission \$1 per ton.

SALE ORDER: Small Goods, 9 a.m.; Hay and Straw, 12 noon, Tractors, 1 p.m.; followed by Larger Equipment. Notice NO POULTRY EQUIPMENT. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**MARTIN AUCTIONEERS and Associates**      **PAUL Z. MARTIN**  
Blue Ball, Pa.  
Phone: 717-354-6671  
Business: 768-8108

Next Sale May 9

## 500 HEIFERS SELL!

**ALL KINDS AND AGES — ABOUT HALF REGISTERED AND HALF GRADE HEIFERS.**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28 AT 10:30 A.M.**

### CHARLES MYERS BLACK & WHITE FARM

LANCASTER, PA.

Take Rte. 283 west of Lancaster, exit beyond ABC stud at Florys Mill Road, turn left after exiting, go to mill, then sharp right, under bridge.

**FAMOUS BLOODLINES SELLING**

Featuring 15 daughters of the great PACLAMAR ASTRONAUT, from good dams - and bred to top sires. ALSO daughters of such sires as: Whirlhill Kingpin, Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation, Pawnee Farm Arlinda Chief, Sunnyside Standout, Tidy Burke Transmitter, Mooseheart Alliance, Paclamar Ivanhoe Black Eagle, Romandale Dividend Performer, Ecrasco Golden Topper, Harbortcrest Marilyn Dandy, Thonyma Stylemaster, Glenafton Clarion, and others.

**GOOD PRODUCTION DAMS—records up to 20,000 lbs milk**

**Two Service Bulls:** 1 is a Downalane Reflection Emperor son from a VG 721-19, 998 4y Roybrook Telstar daughter; 2nd dam 790-4.45 percent. 2 is a son of Silver Tim from a Marquis daughter with 16,689 at 4 years.

Several consignments including one group of 40 outstanding heifers from Nelson Myers, well-known breeder and heifer-raiser from Greencastle, Pa.

Think of it! - 500 HEIFERS TO CHOOSE FROM

Contact Charles Myers well in advance of sale for credit.

**CHARLES MYERS**  
Owner and Manager  
2220 Dairy Lane  
Lancaster, Pa. 717-569-2106

Send for catalog to  
**R. AUSTIN BACKUS INC.**  
Aucts. & Pedigrees  
Mexico, N.Y. 13114

## Public Sale

**OF VALUABLE FARM REAL ESTATE AND FARM MACHINERY**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1973**  
Time: 9:30 A.M.

In Perry County situated approximately 2 miles east of Blain, just south of Rt. 274 at Andersonburg.

Due to the untimely death of Richard Thomas the undersigned will offer at public sale the following:

**FARM REAL ESTATE**  
At 1:30 P.M.

**TRACT NO. 1**

All that certain tract of land situate in South West Madison Twp., Perry Co., containing 270 acres, more or less, approx. 30 acres in pasture, in excess of 200 acres tillable, balance woodland with some good timber. Having thereon erected a beautiful 8-room solid brick house with an ultra-modern kitchen, oil hot air heat, full bath, wall to wall carpet, the walls are finished with very nice panelling, several fireplaces, cement basement with fireplace.

Large 3-floor bank barn fixed for steers and hogs, running water in barn and also to an adjacent steer shed, barn and barn yard are cemented. Hog pen, chicken house, wagon shed, machine shed and other outbuildings. The water supply to house and barn is from a strong spring; also a stream by the buildings.

**NOTE:** This is a very good and productive farm. If you are looking for a good farm don't miss this sale.

**TRACT NO. 2**

All that certain tract of land situate in South West Madison Twp., Perry Co., adjacent to the farm, containing 1/2 acre, more or less, having thereon erected a 5-room frame house with bath, furnace, garage, good well and other small outbuildings.

Terms: Real Estate 10% down, other terms at sale time.

(Approximately 15 Head Of Feeder Cattle)

**FARM MACHINERY**  
Farmall 656 tractor with 3-pt. hitch, Farmall 460 tractor with fast hitch, IHC 300 utility tractor with US4 loader and snow bucket, Ferguson 30 tractor with 3-pt. hitch, Massey Harris Super No. 26 self-propelled 10-ft. combine, IHC No. 2MH two-row mounted corn picker, New Holland No. 275 baler with thrower, New Holland No. 269 haybine, IHC No. 110 front mounted 7-ft. mower, Fill Rife ensilage blower, New Holland No. 717 harvester, IHC No. 8 flail chopper, IHC No. 56 4-row corn planter (like new), John Deere semi-mounted 4 - 16" trip bottom plows, IHC 4 - 14" trip bottom plows (fast hitch), John Deere 2 - 14" trip plows (3-pt.), two Brillion cultipackers with 4" axle, Dunham 10-ft. disk harrow, IHC No. 401 lever harrow, spike tooth harrow, fast hitch two-row cultivator, IHC tractor set harrow, John Deere disk drill, fertilizer drill, New Holland No. 330 tractor spreader, New Holland No. 352 portable hammermill and mixer, fast hitch scraper blade, two Grove self-unloading wagons, IHC wagon with hay rack, John Deere wagon with hay rack, New Holland heavy duty wagon with bed and hydraulic dump, Donuser MD5 3-pt. post driver (like new), New Holland roll bar tractor rake, Kingwise elevator, Cardinal Jr. elevator, Farmec cross conveyer for wagon.

**1970 C50 Chev. Cattle Truck with 18-ft. bed (like new)**  
**1973 1/2 Ton Pickup with 4-Wheel Drive**

3 round wire corn cribs, Feed Lot sheltered feeder, Homelite chain saw, Lincoln 225 amp welder, portable air compressor, tractor chains, truck tires, 1/2" electric drill, tarps, heat houser, hog feeders, pushers, anvil, vice, steel drums, drum of motor oil, wheelbarrow, snow fence, shovel plow, locust posts, milk cans, hand tools and many other small items.

**Note:** This machinery is all in good shape, some in the manner of new.

**MRS. RICHARD THOMAS**  
RD 1, Loysville, Pa.  
Ph. 717-536-3268

Gerald K. Morrison, Atty.  
Dean Shull, Auct.  
Hench & Dromgold, Clerks.  
Lunch by  
United Church of Christ.

## "AUCTION"

**Thurs. Evening - Apr. 26-6:30 P.M.**

WEST CHESTER, PENNA.

Franklin & Baynard St. behind the Hoopes Bros. & Darlington Wheel Works Company

**Metal & Wood Working**  
**MACHINE TOOLS & ETC.**

Power-kraft 36" wood lathe, Power-kraft tilt arbor 10" table saw, Beaver 6" jointer, 2 hp. table type ripping saw, 5 hp. HD radical arm saw, drill press with complete mortising outfit, 36" throat band saw, Schramm model 1-KD-6 air compressor, AM Tool & Mach. Co. turret lathe with 8" throw, left & right threader, auto, & a three speed changer, power disc sander, three speed HD drill press with adjustable table & quill, water stone grinder, 12" stationary grinder, Singer upholstery sewing machine, metal parts bins, cupboards, oak desk, drill press stand, water tank for radiator repair, paint gun, clamps, ladders, post & broad axes, hot vise, electric & hand blowers, scaffold & ladder hooks, saw horses, cabinetmaker's work bench, metal, wood & saw vises, anvils, fire place crane, old book press, drawing table, band mardel and many more items.

All equipment in good working order and all wired for single phase.

Food service beginning at 5:00 PM. Sale conducted mostly indoors and under lights.

Sale ordered by S. W. Hagen

AUC-N-WAY PHONE (215) 347-1616. Detailed directions will be recorded 24 hours before sale time and any cancellation information (due to weather) will be recorded 2 hrs. before sale time.

**TERMS:** CASH unless credit has been or can be established with us. Payment by check will be accepted by the undersigned Auctioneer only if accompanied by a current credit reference from your Bank

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