

U.S. Farm Exports

(Continued From Page 20) also purchased more during the first quarter than a year earlier, as did Mexico. Exports of soybeans to the PRC for the full fiscal year may not be as large as originally anticipated, however, because of a somewhat better Chinese harvest.

Tobacco exports, including bulk smoking, of 144 million pounds were about the same as a year earlier. However, the higher prices pushed the value up by 7 percent. The decline of 7.5 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco was about offset in gains of dark-

er Kentucky and Tennessee, Maryland, bulk smoking, and miscellaneous - including stems. Exports advanced sharply during the first quarter to West Germany, Switzerland, Spain, France, Sweden, Syria, Dominican Republic, Republic of China, Egypt, and Libya.

Offsetting these gains were declines to the United Kingdom, Denmark, the Netherlands, Japan, Australia, and Thailand. Foreign demand for U.S. tobacco continued strong during the current year despite the slowdown in

economic activity in major markets and somewhat larger foreign production in 1974. Tight world supplies of quality tobacco, a larger U.S. crop, and gains in foreign per capita smoking all contributed to the high level of U.S. exports.

U.S. cotton exports totaled about 812,000 running bales, down 17 percent from 985,000 bales in the first quarter of fiscal 1974. Value, however, jumped 36 percent to \$217 million. Smaller shipments to Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines, and South Korea more than offset the larger ones to Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, and Bangladesh. Exports to Western Europe continued to be at the sharply reduced level of a year earlier.

Foreign demand for cotton is weak because of the world slowdown in textile activities in major U.S. markets and large cotton inventories outside the United States.

Export value of fruits and preparations rose about one-seventh because of increases in exports of fresh fruits, citrus fruits, dried fruits, and fruit juices. Canned

fruits, however, were down by around one-third in value. Large U.S. crops and high prices in foreign markets have encouraged U.S. exports during the current year.

Canada is the largest foreign outlet for U.S. fruits, accounting for about half of the total. Exports also increased to Europe, the Middle East, and Japan.

Exports of vegetables and preparations rose by nearly a third to reach a record level of \$104 million. Much of the gain was accounted for by increased exports of dry edible beans. A larger U.S. crop and continued strong foreign demand have stimulated exports during the current year.

Exports of live animals and animal products rose in value by nearly one-fifth to a record \$401 million. Animal fats, greases, and oils - especially inedible tallow - accounted for much of the increase. Prices of inedible tallow were up sharply. Increases also were registered for hides and skins and dairy and poultry products. But the number of live animals exported was down sharply from a year earlier.

The decline reflects the embargo by Canada of cattle and meat from cattle fed with diethylstilbestrol (DES). In addition, Canada also used quotas to restrict imports of beef, eggs, and turkeys. Japan and the EC have restricted imports of beef which also account for the decline in U.S. beef exports to these areas. The EC has raised supplementary levies on poultry to a magnitude where it is nearly impossible for U.S. producers to compete in this market.

Elections Highlight Livestock Meeting

The Pennsylvania Livestock and Allied Industries Association held its annual banquet on Wednesday night in Harrisburg. The PLAIA is the organization which works with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Farm Show Commission to put on the annual Keystone International Livestock Exposition.

Donald W. Parke, executive vice-president of PennAg Industries Association in Ephrata, was named president of the association for 1975. He replaced Walter Dunlap, a retired Lancaster cattle dealer who stepped down after two years at the PLAIA helm.

Other officers elected were: first vice-president, William Gillespie, Mertz-

town; second vice-president, Gerald Hess, Roaring Spring; third vice-president, John H. Shropshire, Landenburg; fourth vice-president, Stan Gates, Lafayette Hill; treasurer, George Van Wagner, Dauphin, and secretary, Jesse F. Smith, Harrisburg.

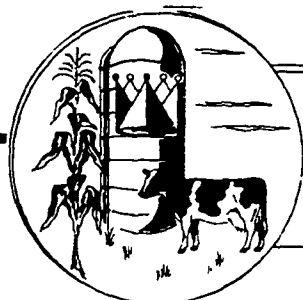
During the meeting, Stan Gates, a well-known sheep producer from Montgomery County, was named to receive the association's Livestock Man of the Year award.

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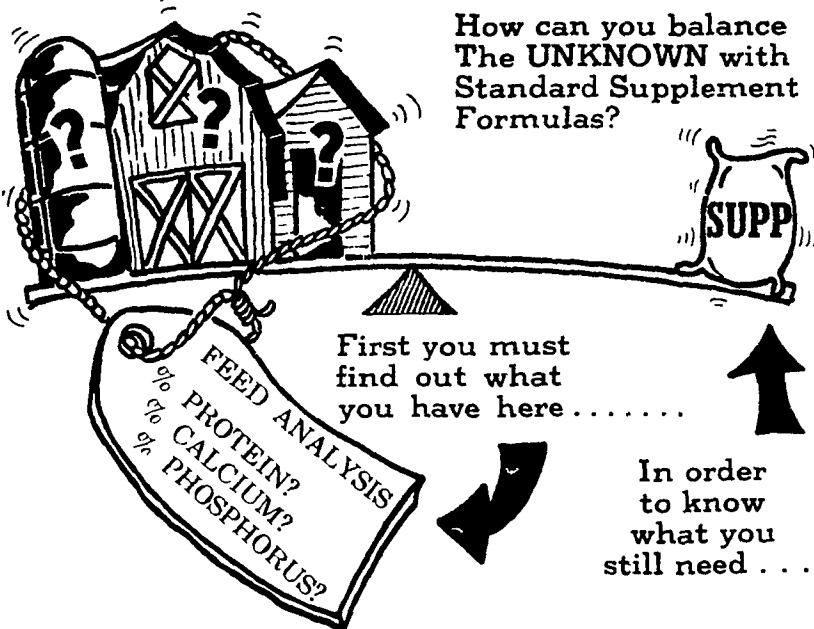
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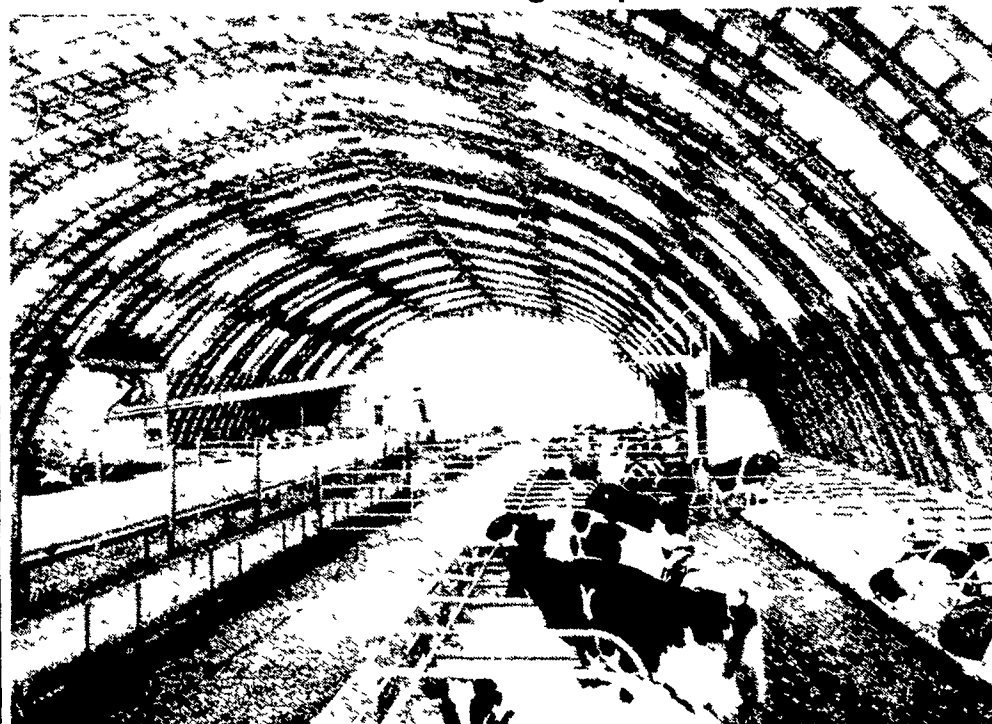
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