

St. Louis Auction

July 24

Receipts 9,000, Last Week 10,000, Year Ago 7,300. Compared to last Tuesday, Slaughter Steers and Heifers very uneven, steady to mostly 1.00 lower. Demand continues light for Good Grade Steers under 1000 lbs. and Good Grade Heifers under 850 lbs. Cows 1.00-2.00 higher. Bulls mostly 1.00 lower. Supply near 40 percent steers, Good and Choice 900-1100 lbs. Yield Grade 2-4 with near 22 percent Slaughter Heifers; Cows 15 percent and Feeders 20 percent.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: Load Choice including Prime 1175 lbs. Yield Grade 3-4 52.50 on Monday. Choice 1000-1300 lbs. Yield Grade 2-4 47.00-51.00, load 51.75 on Monday. Mostly Choice 900-1050 lbs. 45.00-48.00. Mixed Good and Choice 900-1200 lbs. 43.00-47.50. Good 40.00-44.00; mostly Good 800-1000 lbs. 38.00-42.00. Two loads mostly Good Holsteins 1250 lbs. 39.00. Standard and Good 1000-1200 lbs. 30.00-37.25, mostly 34.00-36.00. Part load Standard 975 lbs. 28.00.

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: Load and part load Choice including Prime 900-950 lbs. Yield Grade 3-4 46.50-47.00. Choice 850-1050 lbs. Yield Grade 2-4 43.00-46.00, closing mostly 43.00-45.00. Mixed Good and Choice 800-1000 lbs. 41.00-44.50. Good 37.00-42.00.

Standard and Good 650-900 lbs. 32.00-36.00.

COWS: Utility and Commercial 18.00-22.00, few 23.00. Cutter 15.00-19.00. Canner 12.00-15.00.

BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2 1100-1600 lbs. 21.00-25.00, thin 900-1100 lbs. 18.00-22.00.

VEALERS: Good and Choice 20.00-30.00, few 32.00.

FEEDERS: Including near 1300 at Thursday auction. Steers 1.00-2.00 higher, Heifers 2.00-4.00 higher. Supply mainly Good and Choice 500-900 lb. steers and 300-600 lb. heifers, also a moderate showing Standard and Good 400-600 lbs. steers including many lots Bulls.

STEERS: Choice 400-600 lbs. 28.00-33.75, one consignment pre-conditioned 517 lbs. 36.25. Choice 600-700 lbs. 30.50-36.00; 700-900 lbs. 34.75-37.25. Mixed Good and Choice 500-700 lbs. 24.75-30.00. Good 375-600 lbs. 20.00-26.75; 600-871 lbs. 18.00-22.75.

HEIFERS: One consignment Choice 200 lbs. 25.25; mostly Choice 400-600 lbs. 24.75-30.00; Twp. lots 696-745 lbs. 34.00-34.75. Mixed Good and Choice 300-400 lbs. 19.00-24.00; 400-550 lbs. 20.25-24.50. Good 350-525 lbs. 17.00-19.50.

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New Holland Dairy

Wednesday, July 23

Reported receipts of 97 cows, 21 heifers and 2 bulls. Market steady with last week.

Load of Maryland springers 300-660; load of Pa. cows fresh 330-505; springers 365-550 and fresh 315-690. Local cows 300-780; open heifers 185-265; bred heifers 290-380; bulls 200-360. Small herd dispersal of 20 head in all stages of production 275-520.

Local Grain

Thursday, July 24

These prices are made up of the average prices quoted by a number of participating local feed and grain concerns. It should be noted, however, that not every dealer or broker handles each commodity. All prices are per bushel except ear corn which is per ton.

The average local grain prices quoted Thursday, July 24, 1975 are as follows:

	Buy+	Sell+
Ear Corn	69.00	75.50
Shelled Corn	2.98	3.21
Oats		
Local	1.60	1.87
Western	1.88	2.08
Barley	1.67	1.89
Wheat	3.08	3.30

+Buy is the price the dealer will buy from the farmer delivered to the mill. Sell is the price the dealer will sell for at his mill.

Layer production down

HARRISBURG - Pennsylvania layers produced 266 million eggs during June, 5 percent less than the previous month and 7 percent less than a year earlier, according to the Crop Reporting Service.

The June average of 13.1 million layers was down almost 1 percent from the previous month and down 8 percent from a year earlier.

Egg production per 100 layers during June totaled 2,025 eggs, down 4 percent from the previous month but up 1 percent from a year earlier.

The nation's laying flock produced 5,211 million eggs during June, 4 percent less than a year earlier. Layer on hand during June averaged 270 million, down 4 percent from a year earlier. The average rate of lay during the month was virtually the same as a year earlier.

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Active combining of grains

HARRISBURG - Small grain combining was active throughout Pennsylvania for the week ending July 14, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Barley is reported 38 percent ripe and one-third harvested, about four days behind 1974. Combining is 17 percent done in the north, 20 percent in central and 55 percent done in southern counties. Lodged barley continues to plague those attempting to combine.

Wheat is reported at 37 percent turning, 54 percent ripe and six percent harvested, also behind 1974 by four days. Harvest has barely begun in the northern and central counties, but is reported 13 percent done in southern counties. Wheat lodging has become a problem.

Oats are rated at 31 percent turning yellow and two percent ripe - same as in 1974. Ripening is furthest along in the south at five percent.

The first cutting of alfalfa hay is 95 percent complete and the second nearly one-fourth done statewide. First cut clover-timothy hay is reportedly 83 percent complete. Hay quality continues to be rated mostly fair. The rating is somewhat better than the previous week but not as good as this time the previous two years.

Corn is now three feet tall statewide, a foot higher than last week and two days ahead of 1974 progress. Height is 31 inches in the north, 39 inches in central and 41 inches in southern counties.

Tobacco transplanting has finally been completed. The tobacco crop is reportedly growing well.

Soil moisture is still rated adequate statewide. Moisture is reported shortest in the north to wettest in the south. Rain the past few days may be expected to accentuate the problem in the southern area.

The harvesting of sweet corn has begun and the cherry harvest is continuing. Some early tomatoes are nearly ready to pick. Harvest of snap beans is underway.

An average amount of feed continues to be derived from pastures.

In the United States for the week ending July 6, heavy rains in the southern Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota caused wide-spread flooding,

Pa. vegetable grower supports direct marketing

WASHINGTON, D.C. - More Direct Marketing would benefit both consumers and producers, a National Farmers Union witness told the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing and Consumer Relations Wednesday.

David Zachrel, a vegetable and grain farmer from Clarion County, Pennsylvania, told the Subcommittee that "consumers would gain benefits in improved quality of farm produce, savings over retail chain store costs, and the educational and recreational experience of 'pick your own' buying of fruits and vegetables."

"Farmers, in turn, would receive greater returns through direct marketing of their crops to help off-set

increasing production costs. During the month of May, "Zachrel told the Subcommittee, "farmers received, on a national average, only 34 cents out of each dollar paid by the consumer for fresh fruits and vegetables."

The Subcommittee is considering legislation (HR 7488), introduced by Chairman Joseph Vigorito (D-Pa.), to assist farmers in organizing more direct marketing facilities, whether they be roadside stands, permanent marketing facilities, or cooperative farmer-consumer enterprises to compete directly with retail food chains.

Beekeeper

Effective July 15, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will no longer make Beekeeper Indemnity Program payments on queen bee nuclei losses which occur between August 15 and December 31 each year, according to Paul H. Keeney, Chairman of Berks County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. (Queen bee nuclei are miniature colonies used in the production of queen bees for sale.)

USDA has also changed the final date for adjusting the degree of loss on bee colonies from November 1 to October 1.

erosion and drown-out of crops.

Winter wheat harvested gained momentum and combining of the 1975 crop has passed the half-way mark. This is still behind the excellent progress in 1974 of 65 percent done.

In the north central states average height of corn ranged from 55 inches in Illinois to 27 inches in South Dakota. The corn crop is five percent tassled in Iowa, five percent silked in Indiana and 10 percent silked in Ohio. This is one week ahead of normal.

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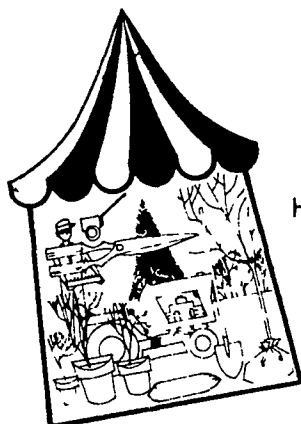
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