

Adequate grain supplies dependent on 'third world' countries

DES MOINES, Iowa - The need for the main grain-producing countries to increase their output to meet the needs of the world is unlikely to be met at the levels of the past four years, and the part of the increases needed over the next four years will have to come from developing countries.

The 1976 annual report published by Massey-Ferguson, says that it is a dilemma with major sequences which, because the third world does not now have the structure to support increases, will force all countries to harden at this prospect for agriculture.

It points out that while grain production

increased by 170 million metric tons between 1972 and 1976 to a record 1,321 million metric tons, the area of harvested land increased from 675.5 to 734.7 million hectares. This contributed 60 per cent of the higher output with the remaining 40 per cent resulting from better yields.

The United States accounted for an estimated 23 per cent of the world increase in harvested area and it was relatively easily achieved because it represented land taken out of production by government action in the 1960s.

By contrast, in the developing countries, where the greatest need for food exists, the harvested area increased by only 14 per cent

of the world total. Without the large increase in the U.S. acreage, there would have been acute grain shortages in 1972-1976, states the MF report.

With the world population increasing at the rate of 88 million people a year, an extra 30 million metric tons a year are now needed merely to maintain the food levels of the past 15 years.

In the next four years, this will require an increase equivalent to almost three times the total wheat and feed grain output of Canada, and by 1985 the increase must approach that of the total present production of the U.S.

The United States' contribution to the increase needed is unlikely to be

anywhere near that of its achievement between 1972 and 1976. But, because of the high productivity in the U.S., for every acre not added there, the world on average must add two acres of land and the developing countries must add three acres.

Together with a predicted lower rate of expansion in the United States, little prospect is foreseen for Western and Eastern Europe to increase its production much beyond the levels ruling before last year's drought. Similarly, it is thought unlikely that Russia, China, Brazil, Argentina, Australia and Canada can go on adding the same incremental volumes to their production as have been

achieved in the past four years.

Thus, the developing nations must, the MF report says, provide the major

portion of the increase required in the next four years, which will mean improving their 1972-1976 production achievement threefold.

Wool pool announced

CARLISLE—Marlin Rook, president of the Cumberland Cooperative Sheep and Wool Growers announced the following prices will be paid for wool received at the pool on June 16, 1977 at the Carlisle Fair Grounds, here.

3/8 and 1/4 Staple 80 cents per pound
 3/8 and 1/4 Clothing 72 cents per pound
 Medium Rejects 61 cents per pound
 Low 3/4 74 cents per pound
 Fine 67 cents per pound
 Fine Rejects 58 cents per pound
 Karakul 22 cents per pound
 Tags 22 cents per pound

A charge will be deducted from each pooler's total pounds of wool for expenses of the pool operations. All fleeces must be tied - loose (untied) fleeces and fleeces tied with binder twine or other string will be sold as rejects. Use only paper fleece twine or other approved material to tie your wool. If wet, dry them in the sun. Store in a dry place - not in the cellar or on concrete.

Fleeces that are brought to the pool in plastic weaved bags will be severely discounted. (Garbage type bags - however are actually quite desirable).

The pool will be held only one day, Thursday, June 16,

1977 at the Carlisle Fair Grounds located along Route 34 in Carlisle near H.R. Gutshall & Sons - John Deere Dealer. Wool will be accepted on June 16th from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The grading crew will take their lunch break from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. The Cumberland County 4-H Sheep Club will operate a lunch stand.

Producers from nearby counties are welcome. There are no dues or membership fees. Wool will be graded and weighed in the pooler's presence. He will get a receipt showing pounds of each grade. Producers will receive checks for wool within a couple weeks after the pool. Pennsylvania State University Extension livestock specialists will conduct wool grading demonstrations as part of the day's activities.



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