

# Hay prices are mostly steady, but...

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explained. "But horse owners still need top hay because green hay can't be fed to them. For about the next six weeks, the old hay should continue to have good prices."

He believed that dairy farmers hadn't made any of

the first of the 1978 crop yet but he added that as soon as the weather cooperates, farmers will be out in the fields cutting hay. Thinking ahead to the new hay prices, he looked for prices to be steady with last year's prices.

John Zimmerman, chief of

livestock marketing of the bureau of marketing of Pa., said that state hay prices have been backing off for the past month.

"Now it's time for the first cutting of the season to come in," he noted. "Normally then, the prices go down."

But up to a few weeks ago,

the hay crop looked like a repeat of last year's first cutting - short and not too plentiful.

"The rain helped that problem," he explained. "With the warmth and the moisture, the hay has mushroomed into a fair crop coming right along."

Richard McDonald, who works with hay prices in the bureau of marketing in Pa. also commented on the \$230 price of hay.

"This load of hay went for an exorbitant price," he said. "Hay in no way is worth that."

He went on to say that he understood the race horse owner had stated that nothing is too expensive for his horse.

"If that's the case," he reasoned, "than it would be just like if a member of your own family got sick, you'd pay any price to get the medicine to make them well."

He found that the hay market has been around \$100 to \$150 for better alfalfa hay. He expects prices to continue to decline over the next few weeks.

"The big question always is 'What will the first hay of the new season bring?' For that answer, we can only wait and see," he commented. "Hay prices are

strictly supply and demand."

A quick look at hay prices this week throughout the Lancaster Farming area found Green Dragon hay prices, Ephrata, Pa., bringing \$90 to \$115 for alfalfa hay with a few going as high as \$132. Regional hay prices for this past week found alfalfa hay bring \$90 to \$100, with a few up to \$125.

At the Harvey Z. Martin hay market, Leola, Pa., this week alfalfa hay went from \$77 to \$90, with a few from \$102 to \$137. Alfalfa hay prices from New Holland ranged from a low of \$94 to the high mentioned above.

At Vintage Sales Stables, alfalfa hay brought \$98 to \$112. Three loads of new 1978 first crop alfalfa and rye hay were also sold for the price of \$75 per ton. The hay, which was from Romanville, Chester County, had been baled on Tuesday, and according to Robert Frame, at Vintage Sales Stables, the hay was awfully heavy and green. If it had been dry, he estimated that it probably would have brought around \$125 to \$130 per ton.

# Feeder pigs drop as much as \$20

HARRISBURG - The top of the feeder pig prices fell sharply this week, according to the Pa. Livestock Auction Summary, a survey of 17 livestock auctions.

Feeder pigs sold by the head brought \$1 to \$3 less this week while those sold by the hundredweight were mostly \$3 to \$10 lower, with spots \$20 lower.

According to John Zimmerman, chief of livestock marketing, bureau of marketing in Pa., it was the top end of the market which went down.

"The bulk of the feeder pigs are moving as before," was his comment. "I really

don't see how the top of the market can hold out at the high prices much longer." He went on to say that he doesn't expect the feeder pig market to have the extremely high prices in the next few weeks.

"A lot depends on the weather," he related. "When the corn is all in the ground and farmers see what is coming up, it may make a difference. If it looks like it will settle out, then the market should start easing around mid-June. That's what should happen if it's a normal season."

"If the corn doesn't look good, there might be more

pigs put on the market, which could lower the prices," he added.

He stated that in the last couple of weeks, bidding for the feeder pigs has been extremely high.

"I think it could be a case of people bidding and then

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Control of entry for motor carriers is governed by the ICC which requires each operator to prove a need for its specific service and that the proposed service is consistent with the public interest. In fiscal 1976, the ICC granted 488 applications (about 80 per cent) for operating authority for new motor carriers. In addition, many existing carriers were granted authority to expand their operations.

### Changing Jobs

Two college presidents were discussing alternatives to their current employment status "I think I'd like to run an orphanage," said one "No parents to contend with" "I'd rather run a penitentiary," said the other "No alumni pressure groups"

# Human brucellosis

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including emotional disturbances and psychoneurosis.

Diagnosis is less of a problem when a doctor knows his patient has been in contact with infected animals or raw milk. "If you suspect that you may have brucellosis," said Dr. Becton, "don't delay in seeing your physician."

"There is no dependable or practical form of drug therapy for animal brucellosis, said Dr. Becton, "but antibiotics are quite effective in treating human cases."

Inadequate treatment may result in a relapse according to medical authorities. Chronic forms of the disease usually require more rigorous and prolonged therapy.

"Fortunately," said Dr. Becton, "brucellosis is preventable. Its incidence in man has dropped dramatically with the containing and elimination of animal infection. But as long as some livestock continue to harbor infection, human cases will continue to occur."

On the farm or ranch, the greatest danger to people comes from contact with the placental tissues or other discharges of infected animals. Dr. Becton recommended the following precautions:

- Clean contaminated areas such as calving pens and animal isolation areas;
- Wear protective gloves when assisting animals giving birth or aborting, and scrub well afterward;
- Carefully dispose of aborted fetuses and contaminated placental tissues (burn or bury them);
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect areas where abortions have occurred; and
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth until you have washed your hands after handling animals (especially newborn) or raw milk or milking equipment

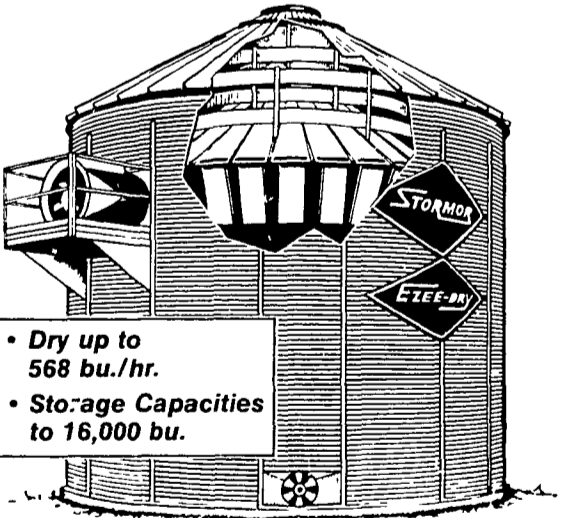
"Habits of personal and

area cleanliness are important," said Dr. Becton, "even when no known diseased animals are involved. Also important is the precaution to avoid drinking raw milk or eating any of its by-products. Pasteurization is simple and quick. It can save much suffering."

"Ultimately," said Dr. Becton, "the best prevention will be the eradication of brucellosis in livestock."

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