

Northeast farm market activities summarized

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- Northeast farm market prices were mostly mixed for the week ending June 30th, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Egg prices increased, while prices on all other commodities were mixed. Milk production was trending lower with some sharp declines noted.

FLUID DAIRY PRODUCTS

Eastern milk production was falling slowly in most areas, with scattered instances of sharp declines reported. Fluid supplies were more than ample but

were slightly less excessive than past weeks. Surplus diversions to manufacturing channels remained heavy.

The call for Class I milk was rarely better than fair, generally slow.

Sales of condensed skim milk was seasonally fair to good.

Fluid cream supplies were tight for a good spot buying interest. Churning activity was lighter as less excess cream was available.

Ice cream production and sales were seasonally heavy.

Sour cream and cream cheese movement was steady.

Cottage cheese movement was slower, while yogurt

sales were slightly improved.

EGGS

New York egg prices advanced again. Cartoned egg demand was only fair with distribution patterns shifting to the resort areas. Large eggs were generally adequate for needs despite the hot weather reducing available supplies. On the other hand, the weather has increased the supply of mediums to at least a fully adequate position.

Thursday's prices to retailers and sales to volume buyers of Consumer Grade A white eggs in cartons, delivered store door in New York City were: large, 55 to

57 cents, up three cents from last Thursday; mediums, 43 to 45 cents, up one cent.

POULTRY

New York broiler-fryer buying interest was active for delivery before the holiday but was moderate for the end of the week. Trucklot trading was developing at high prices, generally three cents when compared to last week's negotiations. Offerings were adequate but confidently held at the higher levels. The undertone was firm.

Thursday's broiler-fryer negotiated prices for immediate delivery, including multiple-drop shipments to New York City, brought 52 to 55 cents for U.S. Grade A and 52 to 54 cents for Plant Grade.

Delmarva ready-to-cook broiler-fryer movement was good. Slaughter schedules were fairly heavy at most plants. Live supplies were barely adequate at weights lighter than desired.

Thursday's less-than-trucklot asking prices were 54 cents on Plant Grade and 55 cents on U.S. Grade A, up two to three cents when compared to the previous week.

New York chicken parts prices were lower, especially on legs. The demand was light and unaggressive. Offerings on breasts were ample, while legs were burdensome and frequently forced for sale.

Thursday's prices paid per pound, ice packed, delivered in pool trucklot and trucklot quantities were as follows: breasts, 84 to 93 cents, mostly 87 to 88 cents; legs, 52 to 64 cents, mostly 56 to 57 cents.

On the turkey market, the demand for hens was moderate and seller offerings were barely adequate at current levels. Buying interest for toms was

light and offerings were adequate.

Trading activity on carlot and trucklot young turkeys, U.S. Grade A, frozen, F.O.B. New York brought 64 cents for 8 to 16 pound hens and also for 14 to 22 pound toms.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Northeastern area fruit and vegetable trading was moderate at shipping points and prices were variable.

Orange County, New York, lettuce harvest came into full swing and trading for eastern New York lettuce was moderate. At the close of the week, New York lettuce prices were lower due, in part, to the sharp decline of western prices. Lettuce, along with several other items, were practically finished seasonally in New Jersey at the end of the week.

New Jersey producers packed first-of-the-season blueberries as the demand was very good.

The demand for New Jersey cabbage was also very good.

The F.O.B. shipping point price for New Jersey medium size cabbage was \$6 per crate or carton.

Blueberries in trays of 12 pints brought \$9.60.

In Orange County, New York, Iceberg lettuce was sold at \$6 per carton of 24 heads. Romaine type lettuce was priced from \$2.50 to \$3 per crate and big Boston lettuce brought \$3 per crate of 24 heads.

At the Vineland, New Jersey auction, the price paid to growers for bushel baskets of snap beans ranged mostly from \$5 to \$9.

Cabbage was sold from \$5.40 to \$6.50, per crate.

Half-bushel baskets of green squash were mostly priced from \$2.50 to \$3.50.

Yellow squash cost mostly \$2.30 to \$3.95.

Very light offerings of curly parsley were priced from \$19 to \$25.50, with mid-week prices going down to \$12.50. Plain parsley varied mostly from \$5.20 to \$9.50.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

Northeastern livestock and meat prices were generally mixed. At Lancaster, Vintage and New Holland, Pennsylvania auctions and sixteen Upstate New York auctions, slaughter steers sold steady to \$2 higher. Utility cows ranged from steady to \$2 lower. Choice vealers also ranged from steady to \$2 lower, while Good and Choice boning type vealers were firm to \$5 higher. Slaughter barrows and gilts were down \$2.50 to \$3 in Pennsylvania. At Omaha, slaughter steers closed 50 cents to \$1.25 lower, and in some instances \$1.50 lower. Barrows and gilts were mostly \$1 higher, and at times \$1.50 higher.

Choice Two to Four slaughter steers, weighing 900 to 1350 pounds, ranged from \$51.75 to \$54.75, with a few bringing up to \$56, in New York and Pennsylvania. While at Omaha they brought \$51.50 to \$53.50. Utility Two to Three cows went from \$37.50 to \$41.50, with a few advancing to \$43.75. Choice vealers, 150 to 300 pounds, sold from \$65.50 to \$80, with High-Choice and Prime going up to \$85.00. Good and Choice boning type vealers, 90 to 110 pounds, went from \$61 to \$68 in New York State, while in Pennsylvania they brought \$47 to \$65. U.S. One to Two barrows and gilts, 200 to 240 pounds, were priced \$47.50 to \$49.35 at Pennsylvania auctions and \$47.50 to \$48 at Omaha.

On the East Coast, carcass steer beef closed \$2 higher.

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