

Prices down

prev. (Continued from Page 1)
Wednesday's auction.

Prices quoted were U.S. No. 1 and 2, 200 to 240 pounds, \$52.25 to 53.10; with a few lots of selected U.S. No. 1-2, 210 to 235 pounds, \$53.85 to 55.00. U.S. No. 1 to 3 weighing 220 to 260 pounds brought 51.50 to 52.25.

There were 896 hogs reported at Monday's market.

Hog prices the previous week at Lancaster's Monday market were No. 1, 200 to 240 pounds 56.00 to 56.75; No. 1 to 2, 200 to 245 pounds, \$54.75 to 55.85; and No. 2 to 3, 200 to 255 pounds, 53.85 to 54.50.

The Wednesday auction at Lancaster Stockyards found barrows and gilts \$1.00 to 1.50 higher. There were 981 hogs reported.

On November 1, the U.S. No. 1 and 2 hogs, weighing 210 to 245 pounds brought \$54.25 to 54.60, with a few late lots bringing \$54.75 to 55.00. A few selected U.S. No. 1 hogs weighing 205 to 235

pounds brought \$55.00 to 55.50; and U.S. No. 1 to 3 hogs weighing 200 to 260 pounds sold for 53.00 to 54.10.

Across the nation, the Thursday November 1 hog markets reported hogs slow to moderate.

In the Indianapolis hog market, with 1300 head reported, barrows and gilts were slow, opening 75 cents to \$1.00 lower, and a full decline seen on weights over 240 pounds.

St. Louis hogs reported 6000 head, with the barrows and gilts moderate, 75 cents to \$1.00 lower.

Slow was the word reported at the Peoria Hog market also, with 3000 head noted, barrows and gilts slow, opening 50 to 75 cents lower.

In the Pa. Auction Summary, there were 6440 hogs reported this week with the barrow and gilts 50 cents to \$1.50 lower. Prices quoted included U.S. No. 1 and 2 hogs, 200 to 240 pounds \$52.00 to 54.60; No. 1 to 3 hogs, 190 to 260 pounds, \$51.00 to 53.50;

and a few No. 2 and 3 hogs, weighing 240 to 280 pounds, \$49.00 to 52.00.

Taken to the market in Pennsylvania last week there were 6674 hogs compared to the 7133 reported a year ago, according to the auction summary of 14 auction reports.

Marketing specialist Richard McDonald, working for the Pa. Dept. of Agriculture, stated that the market was uneven this week, and varied from day-to-day, with the futures market reflecting the up and down trends also. The prices of hogs he thought were mainly depending on the numbers of hogs available from day to day, depending on the supply and demand.

For a more complete market picture, check the market pages in this section of Lancaster Farming.



Hog price fluctuated from day to day this week, but were generally down throughout the state of Pennsylvania. The biggest drop is price seemed to come at the beginning of the week.

Pa. milk production up

HARRISBURG - Milk production in Pennsylvania during the first nine months of 1978 totaled 5.963 billion pounds or 2.773 billion quarts, according to a special quarterly dairy report released by the Pennsylvania Crop Rotating Service.

This is one per cent more than the corresponding period a year ago and five per cent more than in 1976. Average production per cow in the third quarter of 1978 was 954 pounds or 444 quarts, up slightly more than two per cent from the same period a year ago. The number of cows averaged 700,000 head during the quarter, down 3,000 head from a year ago.

Wholesale milk prices reported by dairymen during the first eight months of 1978 averaged five per

cent higher than in 1977. The August, 1978 average blend price of \$10.75 per hundredweight or 23.1 cents a quart as reported by commercial dairymen is up 40 cents a cwt. or eight-tenths of a cent per quart from the previous month and 72 cents a cwt. or 1.5 cents a quart above August, 1977.

Production costs for Pennsylvania dairymen for the year ending September 30, 1978 averaged \$10.42 per 100 pounds of milk 22.4 cents a quart. This is 11 cents a cwt. or three-tenths of a cent per quart more than June 30, 1978 and 77 cents a cwt. or 1.7 cents a quart more than September, 1977.

Production items contributing most to the increase are building and fencing materials, replacement milk cows and machinery.

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