

Pa. farm exports at \$151.5 million

By DIETER KRIEG

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Pennsylvania's agricultural exports amounted to \$151.5 million dollars during the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 1978. That gave the Keystone State an easy lead in the Northeast, and a significant improvement over 1977 farm exports when sales were valued at \$136.3 million.

The figures were released recently by the United States Department of Agriculture.

While Pennsylvania may well boast to be No. 1 in farm exports in the Northeast, it ranks a modest 33rd place among all 50 states. The top 10 are, in order, Illinois, Iowa, Texas, California, Minnesota, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Ohio. Illinois exported \$2.1 billion worth of agricultural products during the past fiscal year, and Ohio, in 10th place, sold \$1.06 billion worth of farm products to foreign buyers.

Pennsylvania's leading export commodities are poultry products, followed by fruits and preparations, and dairy products. Livestock were included in the USDA report, but were not broken down separately. They were included under "other commodities," which had a combined value of \$10.5 million. Poultry products were pegged at \$11 million, fruits and preparations at \$8.7 million, and dairy products at \$4.5 million. According to the USDA report, the Keystone State ranked ninth in both poultry and dairy products, and 10th in fruits and preparations.

In all reported areas of international agricultural marketing, here's how Pennsylvania fared, and how it compares to the respective leading states in the country:

Wheat and products: \$19.1 million, compared to \$741.1 million for Kansas.

Feed grains and products: \$59 million, compared to \$1,103.8 million for Illinois.

Soybeans and products: \$7.6 million, compared to \$1,223.8 million for Illinois.

Fruits and preparations: \$8.7 million, compared to \$543.2 million for California.

Vegetables and preparations: \$2.6 million, compared to \$196.2 million for California

Dairy products: \$4.5 million, compared to \$31.7 million for Minnesota.

Meats and preparations: \$6.9 million, compared to \$108.3 million for Iowa.

Hides and skins: \$15.7 million, compared to \$81.6 million for Wisconsin.

Poultry products: \$11 million, compared to \$39.4 million for Arkansas.

Lard and tallow: \$5.6 million, compared to \$72.7 million for Texas.

Tobacco, unmanufactured: \$0.3 million, compared to \$564.4 million for North Carolina.

Pennsylvania's farm export program, while significant in view of the domestic population fed and clothed by Pennsylvania agriculture, is outdone by all states except West Virginia, (\$12.1 million), Wyoming (\$45 million), Utah (\$58.6 million), Nevada (\$11.1 million), New Mexico (\$102.6 million), and Hawaii (\$19.1 million), in addition to other states in the Northeast.

The Northeast combined (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) accounted for \$534.2 million worth of farm products during the last fiscal year. That figure is exceeded by 15 individual states. In fact, USDA reports that the top 10 states account for 60 per cent of the U.S. farm exports total for 1978. As a matter of comparison, the state of Louisiana shipped out almost as much (\$524.8 million) in farm products as did the entire Northeast.

Significantly, the Northeast was one of only two geographic regions in the country which suffered a decline in farm exports. The Northeast's export total for 1978 (\$534.2 million) compares with \$549.7 million for the year before. The only other region to report a decline is the Southeast, where Florida alone exceeded the totals of the year before.

The Northeast's drop in farm exports came primarily from Maryland, Delaware, and Maine. Maryland, the 1977 farm export leader in the Northeast, dropped from \$137.6 million to \$122.1 million. Delaware fell from \$56.9 million to \$46.6 million. Maine lost \$10 million for a 1978 mark of \$15.4 million. Rhode Island had its farm exports cut to less than half of 1977 levels. Their total for 1978 was \$0.3 million. Other states in the Northeast recorded slight increases. Pennsylvania was the only state to jump significantly in sales, (from \$136.3 million to \$151.5 million) according to the USDA report.

New York, with 1978 farm exports valued at \$118 million, is seventh in the nation with vegetables and preparations (\$21.4 million), fifth in dairy products (\$9.7 million), and ninth in fruits and preparations (\$12.7 million).

Maryland can boast being in the top 10 with two farm commodities. The Free State ranks eighth in poultry products exports (\$12.4 million) and ninth in tobacco (\$14.1 million).

Total U.S. farm exports were pegged at \$27.3 billion dollars last year, the USDA report concluded.

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Hog producers to enter show

LANCASTER - Wayne G. Gower, Windy Hill Farm, Leighton; James T. Parlett, Airville; and Tony L. Folker, Pork Chop Farm, New Holland; have all entered barrows in the 1979 National Barrow Show, set for September 10 through 12, in Austin, Minnesota.

Gower entered both a Hampshire and a Yorkshire

barrow; and Folker and Parlett each entered a Chester White barrow.

John C. Phillips, Show superintendent, reported that 1,175 entries were submitted for this year's event which will again be held at the Mower County Fairgrounds in Austin. Often referred to as the "World Series of Swine Shows," the

National Barrow Show is in its 33rd year.

The National Barrow Show is an all-breed event which attracts hogs from throughout the United States and visitors from many foreign countries. In addition to championship barrows, the N.B.S. also features judging of the nation's finest breeding

stock which represent the major purebred breeds of hogs in the United States.

By submitting these entries, the producer of purebred breeding stock, have indicated their intention to place their hogs in competition in the 1979 show.

Rugby, North Dakota is the geographical center of North America

Lebanon Co. FFA officers named



Lebanon County FFA officers recently assumed office. Pictured above are, from left to right, in the back row, Brett Eberly, Newmanstown R1, treasurer; Mike Balsbaugh, Lebanon R1, sentinel; Bob Kreider, Anville R1, vice president; and Gerald Strickler, advisor. Standing in front are Dawn Shirk, Lebanon R5, secretary; Susan

Heilinger, Newmanstown R2, president; and Roland Maust, Lebanon R4, chaplain. Seated are Marilyn Deaven, Fredericksburg R1, reporter; and Dan Seaman, Grantville R1, parliamentarian. Missing are Brenda Kaufold, Jonestown R2, historian; and Bonita Kelly, Quentin, second vice-president.

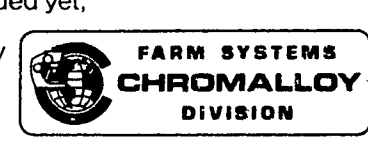


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