

# Bergland pegs 1979 farm exports at \$32 billion

CROOKSTON, Minn. — U.S. agricultural exports are likely to hit a record \$32 billion this fiscal year, a gain of almost \$5 billion over last year, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland said recently.

"That's over five times what our farm exports were 10 years ago," Bergland said. "It will mean added farm income, more jobs producing and exporting farm products, and another hefty contribution to this nation's balance of trade."

He said the Department's quarterly export outlook, issued May 18, forecasts agricultural exports of \$32 billion and imports of \$16 billion in the current fiscal

year, which ends Sept. 30, for a trade surplus of \$16 billion.

"That means \$16 billion in foreign exchange will be earned by agricultural trade to be applied to the purchase of oil and the other imports this industrial society needs," he said. "This will be good for the dollar in the international market, where the rise and fall of a currency depends heavily on a country's balance of trade."

The forecast indicates most of the expected 17 per cent growth from last fiscal year's previous export high of \$27.3 billion will come from higher export prices. However, gains in volume also are expected for several

major commodities, including soybeans, feed grains, rice and tobacco. Wheat volume is expected to be down slightly, but value should be up. Export volume of major bulk commodities is forecast to rise by about four per cent from last year's 122 million metric tons.

Bergland said U.S. agricultural exports will top \$30 billion for the first time in the year that also marks the completion of the Tokyo Round of international trade negotiations.

"The agreements reached in the Tokyo round, which will go to Congress this month for approval, will

reduce trade barriers and improve trading rules for agriculture," Bergland said. "That will help us to build toward \$40 billion in annual exports, and this might come sooner than we think; when I was elected to Congress in 1970 the goal for agriculture was to hit \$10 billion a year in exports by 1980."

The Department's report forecast that U.S. agricultural exports to the Soviet Union would increase slightly to about \$2 billion and that China would become a billion-dollar customer for the first time. China bought \$368 million worth of U.S. farm products last fiscal year.

## Cowtown Rodeo lists winners

COWTOWN, N.J. — At the Cowtown Rodeo, on May 26, in the first event of the evening, Stanley Thomas, a cowboy from Woodstown, New Jersey took first place on a horse named "Crasher" among ten bareback bronc riders with a score of sixty-one. Jay Stover rode a bronc called "Toma" for second place while Buck Howard riding "Stoney" chalked up number three position. Fourth place was split for ground money.

Bill Wilds, a roper from Connecticut, took honors for first place with an eighteen and two tenths second timing in the calf roping contest. A Philadelphia cowboy named Charles Markee put his notch in for second place with twenty-one seconds and Bob Roberto with 21.1 and Clay Clement with a 30.5 finalized the third and fourth place positions in this event.

First place for the Saddle Bronc Riders saw Willie Ed Walker from Pedricktown, New Jersey on a bronc called "Black Mt." taking spot with a marking of 59. Dan Aurand, out of Lewistown, Pa. riding a horse called "Tumbleweed" placed, while David West on "Rainbow" took the money for the show position.

Out of eleven contestants in the Steer Roping contest, the four money winners were: Chris Gerhardt from Sicklerville, New Jersey, 12.3 seconds; Jim Hoehn from Little Silver, New Jersey, 16.5 seconds, second place; Charles Bueti, a cowboy from Staten Island, third place with 17.7 seconds; and Stanley Thomas from Woodstown, New Jersey in fourth, with 19.3 seconds.

Twenty-one cowboys tried their hand at Bull Riding

with only five contestants managing to stay on for the required eight seconds during the entire evening.

Jimmy Lee Walker stayed with a mean critter called "Everready" for the eight second whistle and the judges gave him a 66 rating making him the first place winner. Chester Lloyd scored a sixty to put him in second place. Stanley Thomas took the show position for riding a bull called "C-1". Cowtown's own Andy Harris rode "Mid-

dleworth" racking up a 54 point rating earning.

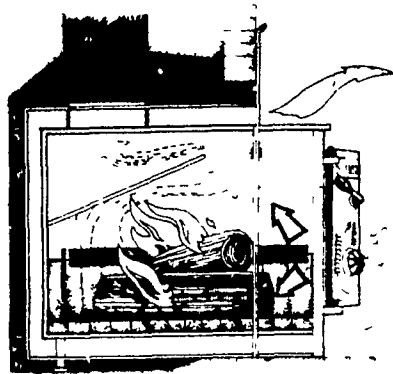
In the girl's Barrel Racing competition, Lorraine Alexander placed first for running the clover-leaf pattern in 18.18 seconds. Following were Diane Sleeter with a time of 18.83; Judy Clement with 18.95 and Debbie Shenberg chalking up a 19.06.

Saturday's performance was the first of the regular Rodeo season to run through September 1.

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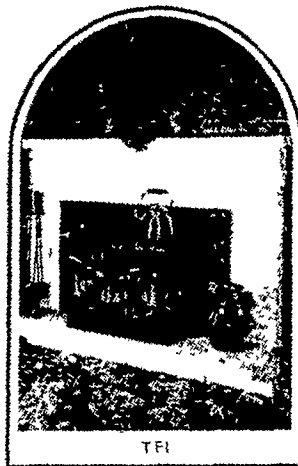


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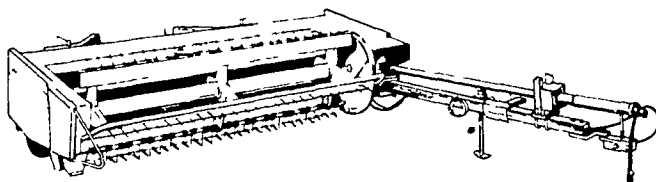
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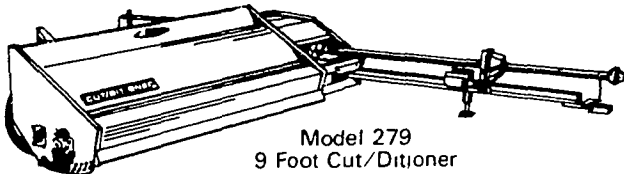
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