

Tobacco market active

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seem to be willing to pay more for superb crops.

Early Friday morning, Lancaster Leaf still was offering 70 cents. However, they were willing to pay the grower two dollars per hundredweight for trucking expenses.

This adds another two cents per pound onto their Thursday 70 cent price.

Buyers from the House of Windsor and the Lorillards Corporation of Lancaster are stressing the importance of watching the moisture content in this year's crop.

Since the Fall did not provide the best curing weather, buyers are encouraging growers not to bale the tobacco when it is damp. "It should almost crack as it goes into the

bale," commented a House of Windsor buyer.

Witmer Rohrer, a buyer for the Lorillards, added, "it is important to keep the bales light; 70 lbs. or lighter."

Tobacco that is baled with a high moisture content in the leaf will rot in the bale.

Buyers opened the market two weeks ahead of last year. In many cases, the growers are not ready to sell, reported one buyer.

It has been a mild Fall, and many farmers have continued to work in the field. Now, it has turned colder, but there has been no decent weather for removing the tobacco from the sheds.

As a result, they are not really sure of their crop. They are not certain of the

quality, or how much their tobacco is weighing.

Without a doubt, the crop is weighing considerably lighter than last year's crop.

At a twelve cent increase over last year's price, the manufacturer is trying to make up for the limited amount of tobacco available. Although no one can expect the manufacturer to make up all the difference for a poorer crop, commented Rohrer.

Martin Kunkle, a buyer from Lancaster Leaf said, "the increase over last year's market is needed. Everything else is up. And generally, the farmer is pleased to see the increase."

On Thursday afternoon, an A.K. Mann Corporation spokesman had said "quite a few acres have been sold.

Warm story of vet to air in January

HERSHEY — Last summer, the heartwarming and humorous adventures of a young Yorkshire Dales veterinarian captured the imaginations of public television viewers throughout south central Pennsylvania.

Now, this very popular television drama, "All Creatures Great and Small,"

Some farmers like to be the first to sell. Others will wait and eventually sell for 70 cents."

His statement came several hours before the other buyers announced the price increase.

Interested in purchasing the better quality tobacco. He has offered 65 cents for some of the poorer quality. "Although some crops won't bring even that much when the good, major, market closes," he said.

As to when all the tobacco will be purchased, few buyers are willing to comment.

With today's sudden jump in the price, it is likely that the tobacco market may close before the New Year is welcomed.

returns to WITF-TV/33 on Thursday, January 3 at 8 p.m. for 28 all-new episodes.

Based on the best-selling novels

by veterinarian/author James Herriot, "All Creatures Great and Small," revolves around Herriot's

remembrances of himself as a young newly qualified surgeon; his partnership with Siegfried Farnon and Farnon's ever-scheming younger brother Tristan, his courtship and marriage, and his eventual acceptance by the local farmers and country folk in an area where a stranger was always regarded with suspicion.

Set in the Yorkshire countryside of northern England during the 1930's, the warmth and good humor of Herriot's recollections bring to life the rigorous experiences of the job and the special flavor of the era.

Last July, when the first 13 episodes were aired, "All Creatures" attracted a larger viewing audience than any other program in WITF's broadcasting schedule. And, when the series ended, viewers continued to call the station requesting more programs.

In response to this demand, WITF has purchased the right to all of the remaining episodes in the series. Now, loyal followers of the series will be able to relive Herriot's unforgettable stories of caring and kindness in 28 additional hours of family entertainment.

"All Creatures Great and Small" stars Christopher Timothy as James Herriot and Robert Hardy as Siegfried Farnon. The series is a BBC production, distributed by the Eastern and Central Educational Television Networks.

Dairy Income Outlook

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large stocks and uncertain sales prospects, larger diversions to butter-powder operations can be expected to continue.

Although retail dairy prices rose more than prices for all food, commercial use during September-October declined by only about one-half percent from a year ago.

A substantial reduction in butter use was mostly offset by continuing strong utilization of cheese. For the entire year, commercial use may top the 1978 record by about one percent.

Sales of dairy products next year are expected to be at or near 1979 levels, but could be greater if the impacts of the economic slowdown are less severe than now anticipated, or if meat prices are about expectations.

For 1979, preliminary data

suggest that per capita consumption of all dairy products will probably post a very small increase over 1978. Increased use of cheese and low fat fluid milk items will outweigh declines in use of other products.

Larger USDA donations next year (due to larger CCC purchases) could outweigh any declines in per capita commercial use that may result from slowed economic conditions.

Commercial dairy product stocks substantially surpassed the tight holdings of a year ago on November 1. Contributing to the increase were the larger supplies of milk available for manufacturing and the eased commercial use of certain dairy products.

For 1979, price support purchases by CCC will total about two billion pounds on a milk equivalent basis, or a

decrease of about a fourth from 1978 calendar year removals.

On December 1, uncommitted inventories of butter, while still relatively large, were down 18 percent from a year earlier. Uncommitted stocks of nonfat dry milk, down about a fourth, were at their lowest level since late 1976.

Imports, commercial exports, food-aid shipments to other nations, and shipments to U.S. Territories were all below year-earlier levels.

Both world production and consumption of milk and dairy products have increased in 1979, but consumption rose faster due to rising incomes and subsidized sales.



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