

Cattlemen expect 3 percent drop in U.S. beef production

DENVER, Colo. — U.S. beef production in 1980 is now estimated to decrease by about three percent from the 1979 total, the National Cattlemen's Assn. said Monday.

Total cattle numbers and basic breeding herds are now increasing after the prolonged liquidation period of the 10-year cattle cycle, NCA noted, but beef production cannot increase again until the offspring of the additional cows are fed out for market.

Economists with Cattle-Fax, the market analysis service associated with NCA, are estimating that U.S. beef output in 1980 will total 20.4 billion pounds on a carcass weight basis, compared with 21.1 billion in 1979 and 24 billion in 1978. Total per capita beef supplies in 1980 will be about 103 pounds on a carcass weight basis (76 pounds, retail weight), compared with 106 lbs. in 1979.

"Beef prices no doubt will fluctuate substantially during the year, just as prices of commodities like beef have fluctuated in the past," Cattle-Fax said.

"However, it now appears that, for the year as a whole, the retail price average may be up by around 10 to 15% from the average of \$2.25 per pound for Choice beef in 1979. About 5% out of the 15% might be a result of the smaller beef supplies, with the rest attributed to inflation and rising costs of energy and of processing and distributing food."

While beef output will be down somewhat from 1979, production of other meats will continue large, particularly during the first part of the year, when both pork and poultry output will exceed comparable 1978 levels.

"With smaller total cattle

numbers and smaller beef supplies," said NCA President Lauren Carlson, "the economic situation for most cattlemen has improved over what it was during the 1974-77 period. However, costs have in-

creased very rapidly, and many cattle feeders, for example, have recently been losing money again.

"The size of the nation's cattle herd now appears to be increasing, and total cattle numbers on Jan. 1,

1980, should be up by about two percent from a year earlier. However, it appears that the rebuilding phase of the cattle cycle is being slowed significantly by inflation, rapidly rising costs, and the tight supply of money

and high interest rates.

"In view of the current economic situation and outlook, many cattlemen are unable to expand or to reenter the cattle business, and many lenders as well as producers and potential

producers are hesitating to increase investments or to reinvest in the beef business. If this situation continues, the growth in beef output during the next few years may be less than we previously anticipated."

\$4000 Bonus Certificate

\$4,000 BONUS CERTIFICATE
plus Special Financing

Buy a new Massey-Ferguson self-propelled combine* MF 540, MF 550, MF 750 or MF 760 and get a \$4000 Bonus Certificate from MF. You can use this certificate toward the purchase of new MF tractors, implements, hay equipment or even another combine until August 1, 1980.

PLUS—special financing: If you finance with MF, you'll pay no finance charges until June 1, 1980, for grain combines or no finance charges until September 1, 1980, on corn/soybean/sorghum/rice combines.

See your participating dealer for full details. But act now for great savings. Offer ends February 1, 1980.

MF SELF-PROPELLED COMBINES



*Offer excludes certain combines or four wheel drive tractors

EARLY BIRD BONUS DAYS

Customer Parts Certificate

CUSTOMER PARTS CERTIFICATE
worth up to \$1000

Here's a great inflation fighting offer. If you purchase a selected used combine from your participating MF dealer, you will receive a Customer Parts Certificate good for up to \$1000 on the purchase of genuine MF parts before October 31, 1980. (Your certificate value is based on 5% of your purchase price of the used combine, up to a maximum value of \$1000). Check with your participating MF dealer for details. Offer ends February 1, 1980.

USED COMBINES




EARLY BIRD BONUS DAYS

SPECIAL FINANCING

- NO FINANCE CHARGES until March 1, 1980.
- 12% ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE financing for the next 9 months starting March 1, 1980.

If you're looking for the right kind of tractors and the right kind of deal, now is the time to buy a new MF 230, 245, 255, 265, 275 or 285 tractor. When you finance with MF you pay no finance charges until March 1, 1980. Then a low, low 12% annual percentage rate is available during the next nine months of the contract beginning March 1, 1980. Check out this deal with your participating MF dealer, but don't delay. Offer ends February 1, 1980.

MF 34-81 HP TRACTORS




EARLY BIRD BONUS DAYS

SPECIAL FINANCING

- NO FINANCE CHARGES until March 1, 1980.
- 10% ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE financing for the next 12 months starting March 1, 1980.

Save big on financing. When you purchase a new MF 2000 Series Tractor MF 2675, 2705, 2745, 2775 or 2805 and finance with MF you will pay no finance charges until March 1, 1980. Then a low, low 10% annual percentage rate is available during the next year of the contract. See your participating MF dealer for details, but hurry. Offer ends February 1, 1980.

MF 100-190 HP TRACTORS



EARLY BIRD BONUS DAYS

Wisconsin engine overhaul...



WE DO IT RIGHT!

- Factory-trained mechanics
- Factory-built parts
- Prompt service

We can put back all the power and reliability you want your Wisconsin engine to deliver with a complete overhaul. Our mechanics are expertly trained and we use only factory-built parts and approved procedures. Put new life in your engines. Call us soon.

WES STAUFFER SMALL ENGINES
RD 3 Ephrata, PA
Phone (717) 733-9174
Ephrata Exit New Rt 222
½ Mile West on Rt 322
turn left onto Pleasant Valley Rd

ABRACZINSKA'S FARM EQUIP. INC.
Catawissa, PA
717-356-2323

ACE JURISTA, INC.
Tunkhannock, PA
717-836-2610

ZECHMAN'S FARM SUPPLY & EQUIP.
Selinsgrove, PA
717-374-7231

SWARTZ GARAGE
Richfield, PA
717-694-3861

REX RUSSEL EQUIPMENT
Rome, PA
717-247-7858

RAYMOND C. PICKERING
Thompson, PA
717-756-2646

MARLIN W. SCHREFFLER
Pitman, PA
717-648-1120

WYNNE'S GARAGE
Canton, PA
717-673-8456

WEB SNYDER, INC.
Watsonstown, PA
717-538-5555

EARLY BIRD BONUS DAYS



Massey Ferguson