

# Survey shows '80 hog market numbers hit 10-year high

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The highest number of hog transactions in 10 years, and its effect on the entire red meat economy, was a key element emerging from an annual study done for Livestock Marketing Association.

The study, which measures each time the ownership of a head of livestock changes hands, showed last year's transaction volume for hogs was 119.2 million head, up sharply from the 1979 figure of 110.5 million head.

Last year's hog volume figure was the highest since the 1971 figure of 121.4 million head.

The increasing hog volume figure had a predictable impact on the value of those transactions. Last year's hog value was \$9.4 billion, down from 1979's \$9.5 billion.

The 1980 livestock transaction value figure — which includes cattle, calves, hogs and sheep — was \$53.6 billion, down from 1979's record \$56.3 billion.

The 1980 value figure was posted on a total volume of 238.5 million head, up sharply from the 229.4 million head in 1979.

The cattle and calf volume figure last year was 106.4 million head, unchanged from 1979. The pressure of the increase hog volume, however, showed up in the

prices received for the cattle, resulting in a 1980 value total of \$43.5 billion. This was down from the 1979 value figure of \$46.1 billion.

The per head value of cattle and calves in 1980 dropped to \$409, down from \$433 per head in 1979. The per-head hog value last year was \$79, down from 1979's \$86.

The study is done for the Kansas City-based Trade Group by Allen Enterprises, Topeka, Kan. The study's unit of measure is the livestock merchandising transaction, defined as the transfer of title on one head of livestock.

Animals sold more than once during the year are included as more than one transaction, and the value is the dollar amount of all transactions.

LMA officials said that the survey recognizes that most livestock are merchandised more than once during their lifetimes. Surveying each transaction results in a more realistic picture of the nation's total livestock commerce than the industry's usual inventory or slaughter figures.

Other highlights from the 1980 survey:

The merchandising turnover rate, or the number of times the average head changes ownership,

shows that the increased volume figure came from more livestock being marketed, rather than simply more marketings per head. The turnover rate for cattle and calves was 1.91, virtually unchanged from 1.92 in 1979; the corresponding figure for hogs was 1.19, versus 1.18 in 1979.

Livestock and meat value of commerce — which includes cattle, hogs, sheep, beef, pork and lamb — was \$96.7 billion, up from \$89.5 billion in 1979.

The transaction value for sheep was \$0.7 billion, unchanged from 1979, while the transaction volume posted an increase for the first time in several years, at 12.9 million head. The 1979 volume figure was 12.5 million head. Sheep marketings last year were nearly equal to the 1976 figure of 13 million head.

The percentage of cattle, calves and hogs slaughtered which were sold by marketing firms remained unchanged from 1979. The cattle and calf figure was 66 percent, and the figure for hogs was 19 percent.

The trend toward livestock traveling under 100 miles from marketing point to destination continued. Last year 68.4 percent of feeder cattle, 79.7 percent of butcher cattle, 83.5 percent of butcher hogs, and 87 percent of all feeder pigs traveled under 100 miles. The figure was up over 1979 for all classes except feeder pigs, which was down less than one percent from 1979.

The value of horse transactions was up sharply to \$1.04 billion, from \$837.8 million in 1979. The volume total was 1.023 million

head, down from 1.05 million head in 1979.

For 1981, the study projects that the volume of cattle transactions will be up, while hog marketings will decline. The total livestock volume should be 232.6 million

head, and should produce a value figure of \$55.0 billion.

The per head value this year for cattle and calves should rise \$5 to \$414, while the corresponding figure for hogs should be \$84, also up \$5.

## Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page A10)

County Administration Bldg  
Dutch Country Dairy Goat Club, 7 p.m., Lancaster Farm and Home Center

Governor to proclaim May egg month, 11 a.m., rotunda area of capitol bldg.

Wednesday, May 6  
Lancaster Conservation Dist.

Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., Farm and Home Center,

Thursday, May 8

PA Egg Marketing Assn. meeting, Sheraton, Conestoga, 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 9

Berks Cty Sheep and Wool Growers Annual meeting, Berks County Ag Center, Leesport

## Now Is The Time

(Continued from Page A10)

drops rapidly. Some of our rye fields have already started to head out! That means we should be thinking about cutting rye, perhaps even before we start planting corn.

### To Be Alert for Termites

The subterranean termite is the termite that feeds on, and damages structural wood in the house and other buildings. It is called the subterranean termite because the colony nests in the ground and builds earthlike or subterranean tubes from the ground to the wood.

Sometimes these tubes can be seen when they rise from the

ground and go up the outside of the concrete block or the wooden uprights in the basement. Most of the time these subterranean tubes cannot be seen because they may rise in between the block.

It is usually in the spring that the winged forms of termites begin to fly around the house. The winged termites are black in color with translucent wings and are about one-half inch long.

Many people confuse them with winged ants. The way you can tell the difference, is that the termite has a broad waist whereas the ant has a narrow wasp-like waist.

Termites are controlled by treating the soil around the foundation with soil insecticides.

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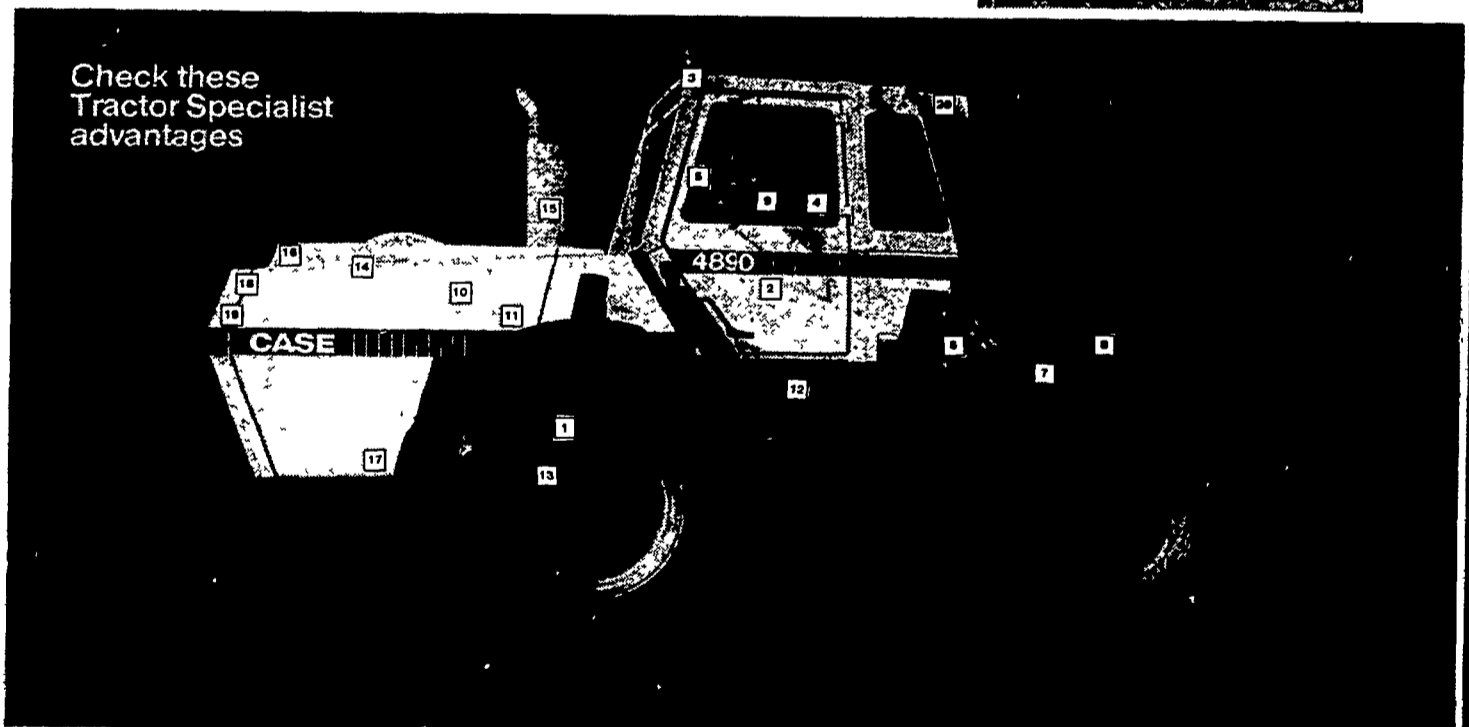
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- 13 Outboard planetaries add weight where it's needed. Wheel treads are adjustable in 2 in. (50.8 mm) increments.
- 14 Sound suppressed turbo diesel engine. 6-cylinder 674 cu in (11 L) 2200 RPM. High torque.
- 15 Seasonal servicing air cleaner. Aspirated muffler. Efficient dirt and dust removal.
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- 17 Front frame extension for increased serviceability.
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- 19 Up-front halogen lights. Improved lighting.
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