

Livestock market and news

Indiana Auction

Thursday, July 23

Report supplied by PDA

CATTLE: 126. Compared with last week's market: SI. cows mostly 1.00 lower. SI. steers few Good 55.00-60.00; Standard 47.00-55.25; SI. heifers few Good & Choice 53.00-57.00; Standard 44.00-50.75. SI. cows Utility & Commercial 45.00-47.25; Cutters 42.50-45.75; Canner & L. Cutter 35.00-42.00. SI. bulls: Yield Grade No. 1 & 2, 1050-1435 lbs. 51.75-57.75.

Heifers, Medium Frame No. 1, 340-640 lbs. 42.50-52.00. Bulls Medium Frame No. 1, 510-760 lbs. 45.50-51.75.

CALVES: 94. Vealers mostly steady. Few Choice 80.00-81.00; Good 67.00-80.00; few Standard &

Good 90-110 lbs. 52.00-61.00; few 65-85 lbs. 40.00-50.00.

FARM CALVES: Hol. Bulls 90-130 lbs. 66.00-94.00; few Hol. Heifers 75-95 lbs. 93.00-110.00.

HOGS: 108. 1.50-2.00 lower. US No. 1-2 205-245 lbs. 51.75-53.00; few No. 2-3 200-290 lbs. 48.25-50.00; No. 1-3 145-190 lbs. 40.00-48.00; Sows about steady. US No. 1-3 295-525 lbs. 44.50-49.00; few No. 2-3 280-675 lbs. 42.50-45.00. Few Boars 38.75-40.75.

FEEDER PIGS 46. US No. 1-3 30-45 lbs. 24.00-34.00 per head; Utility 35-40 lbs. 14.00-18.50 per head.

SHEEP: 71. Few Choice 75-100 lbs. 55.00-58.50. Good & Choice 70-85 lbs. 49.00-53.00. Good 60-75 lbs. 40.00-43.50. SI. ewes: 10.00-24.50.

Soil erosion means dollars down the drain

HARRISBURG — Soil erosion can have a serious economic effect on agricultural lands. According to Joel Myers of the Soil Conservation Service in Dauphin County, an annual ten ton soil loss per acre can be valued at a loss of \$75. This value includes the cost of topsoil as well as accompanying fertilizer, lime, spray materials - the loss of which can reduce crop yields.

Myers explained that many cropping systems in Dauphin County include all or nearly all row crops such as corn, soybeans and vegetables. Also, small grain crops are grown in rotation with these crops in many instances. These cropping systems without the benefit of conservation practices and hay or grass greatly increase the erosion potential of our farmland and can result in soil losses in excess of 10 tons.

Myers continued by indicating that acceptable soil losses in Dauphin County will range from 3-

5 tons per acre per year. Soil losses can be reduced to those levels by utilizing combinations of structural and management practices such as conservation tillage, cropland terraces and diversions, contour farming, the use of crop residues and winter cover crops.

Erosion occurring at rates in excess of 3-5 tons per acre per year can have detrimental effects on our farmlands by reducing moisture retention, increasing runoff, reducing current yields and reducing the overall future soil productivity.

Myers added that when erosion becomes visible in cropland, the soil losses are generally in the range of 10 tons per acre. For more information about soil loss or conservation measures needed to reduce soil loss contact the Harrisburg Field Office of the Soil Conservation Service by calling 652-7035.

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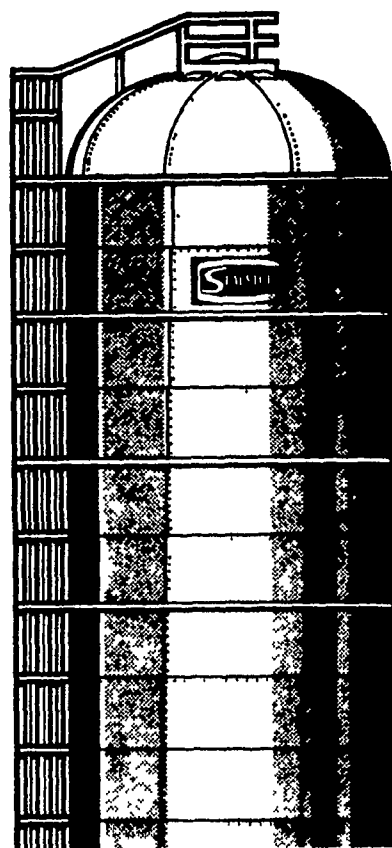
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