

Livestock market

Weekly Summary

Fri., Dec. 2

Report Supplied by PDA

CATTLE: 6406. Compared with 4423 head last week and 5546 head a year ago. Compared with last Friday's market:

Slaughter steers mostly steady to 1.00 higher; Sl. heifers steady to 2.00 higher; Sl. cows steady to .75 lower spots to 1.50 lower; Sl. bullocks uneven on a small supply; Sl. bulls steady to 2.00 higher. Sl. steers: High Choice & Prime No. 3-4, 64.50-69.25; Choice NO. 2-4, 60.50-68.00; Good 57.00-63.50; Standard 47.00-54.00. Sl. heifers: Choice 59.00-63.35; Good 53.00-60.50; Standard 44.00-50.00. Sl. cows: Utility & Commercial 36.00-40.00; Cutters 33.00-37.00; Canner & L. Cutter 28.00-34.00; Shells down to 25.00. Sl. bullocks: Choice 55.00-59.25; Good 49.75-53.25; (few) Standard 44.75-47.50. Sl. bulls: Yield Grade No. 1, 1000-2450 lbs. 46.00-53.50; Yield Grade No. 2, 900-1450 lbs. 42.00-49.00.

FEEDER CATTLE: Steers, Medium Frame No. 1, 300-750 lbs. 45.00-54.50. Heifers, Medium Frame No. 1, 350-750 lbs. 40.00-47.25.

CALVES: 4812. Compared with 3269 head last week and 4308 head a year ago. Vealers strong to 5.00,

spots to 10.00 higher. (few) Prime 99.00-109.00; Choice 78.00-99.00; Good 65.00-81.00; Standard & Good 110-130 lbs. 50.00-65.00; 90-110 lbs. 45.00-50.00; 65-90 lbs. 35.00-45.00; Utility 50-110 lbs. 30.00-40.00.

FARM CALVES: Hol. Bulls 90-135 lbs. 46.00-89.00, mostly 60.00-82.00; Hol. Heifers 90-140 lbs. 48.00-58.00.

HOGS: 6395. Compared with 6536 head last week and 5193 head a year ago. Barrows and gilts mostly steady to .50, spots 1.50 higher. US No. 1-2 200-245 lbs. 40.75-43.75 No. 1-3 200-250 lbs. 39.00-41.00; No. 2-3 200-275 lbs. 38.50-40.00; Sows 1.00-1.50 lower. US No. 1-3 300-585 lbs. 30.00-37.00; few No. 2-3 300-650 lbs. 27.00-32.00. Boars 20.00-27.50.

FEEDER PIGS 878. Compared with 1421 head last week and 576 a year ago. Steady to 6.00 higher. US No. 1-3 20-35 lbs. 7.00-14.00 per head; No. 1-3 35-50 lbs. 14.00-24.50; No. 1-3 50-85 lbs. 24.00-35.50.

3 GRADED FEEDER PIG SALES: 1750. Compared with 2849 head last week, and 2150 head a year ago. All sales by CWT. Feeder Pigs mostly 3.00-15.00 higher. US No. 1-2 30-40 lbs. 60.00-68.00, 40-50 lbs. 52.00-71.00, 50-60 lbs. 47.00-66.00, 60-80 lbs. 45.00-63.00; US No. 2-3 35-50 lbs. 45.00-66.00, 50-90 lbs. 36.00-44.00.

SHEEP: 631. Compared with 760 head last week and 495 head a year ago. Highly uneven, Spring/Wooled sl. lambs High Choice & Prime 80-130 lbs. 50.00-63.00; Choice 70-130 lbs. 43.00-50.00; Good 50-90 lbs. 40.00-47.00. Sl. ewes: 8.00-18.00, few to 25.00.

North Jersey Livestock

Hackettstown, N.J.

Tuesday, November 29

Report supplied by auction 1294 head.

Calves 15.00-83.00; Cows 28.00-45.00; Easy Cows 25.00-41.75; Heifers 30.00-55.50; Bulls 32.00-55.75; Steers 40.00-57.50; Hogs 32.00-44.00; Roasting Pigs, each 10.00-27.00; Kids 10.00-36.00; Boars 28.00-32.00; Sows 28.00-30.00; Sheep 16.00-48.00; Lambs, each 22.00-49.00; Lambs, per lb. 44.00-64.00; Goats, each 10.00-85.00; Hides .25-3.00.



Quarantine violation fines hiked

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Travelers caught smuggling prohibited agricultural products into the United States in their baggage will soon face stiff fines, according to USDA plant protection officials.

"Under new civil penalty authority, agriculture officials may levy substantial fines on persons violating quarantine regulations," said Bert Hawkins, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

"We see the new penalty provisions as a key element in keeping unwanted plant and animal pests and diseases out of our country," Hawkins said. "Until now, we had a 'deterrence gap' because violators didn't expect to be prosecuted or pay a fine — they merely lost the

prohibited items." "Inspecting international travelers is a particularly tough job," Hawkins said, "because many people don't realize that one piece of fruit or link of sausage has the potential to cause vast damage to our agriculture and disrupt our food supply."

Smuggled fruit was the most likely source of the recent Medfly infestation in California, Hawkins said. It cost federal and state governments about \$100 million to eradicate this infestation. A single piece of sausage could carry disease organisms causing diseases such as African swine fever. An outbreak of this swine disease could cost hundreds of millions of dollars to eradicate, drive up the price of pork and close many

U.S. export markets.

The new fine system will be phased in over several months, beginning at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport early in November. USDA will implement the system at other selected ports about Dec. 1; and the system will be nationwide about Feb. 1.

Travelers caught smuggling prohibited items will have the option of paying an immediate fine or of having a hearing at a later date before an administrative law judge, how may impose a fine of up to \$1,000.

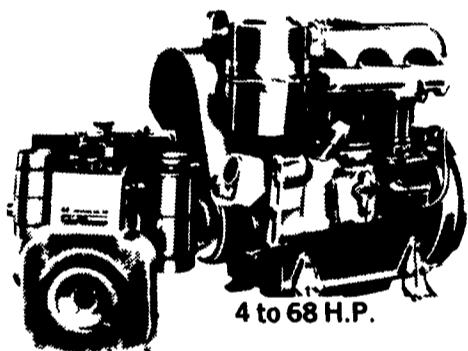
Prohibited items generally include fresh fruits and vegetables, live birds, meat and other animal products. Mangos, citrus, sausages and hams are among the most frequently intercepted items, Hawkins said.

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