

New Jersey Meat Packer Ordered To Pay \$20,000 Penalty

WASHINGTON — An administrative law judge has ordered Linden Packing Co., Inc., Newark, N.J., to pay a \$20,000 civil penalty after finding that the firm used incorrect tare settings on its buying scale for livestock carcasses and paid sellers on the basis of false weights. The firm buys

cows for slaughter in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York and Maryland.

Administrative Law Judge Victor W. Palmer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, ordered the penalty, plus a cease and desist order, based on testimony at a

hearing in Newark on Dec. 3-4, 1985.

Employees from USDA's Packers and Stockyards Administration testified that three separate investigations showed the firm was deducting a 20-pound tare on its buying scale, although the average weight of its hooks and

rollers was 14 pounds, 11 ounces.

They testified that a plant officer said the additional five pounds were being deducted to compensate for water on the carcasses, that he was advised this was an illegal practice, and that he promised to stop.

Judge Palmer said the evidence showed, however, that the plant continued the practice, and that from Sept. 27, 1983, through Dec. 29, 1983, it paid a single livestock seller \$6,751 less than he should have received, based on the extra five pounds deducted from 1,701

livestock carcasses.

Judge Palmer said the \$20,000 civil penalty was warranted by Linden Packing's willful violations after it persisted in adding five pounds to the tare after receiving express official warnings, and promising to stop the practice.

Judge Palmer said the penalty will not affect the firm's ability to continue in business.

The cease and desist order, similar to a permanent injunction, was issued to insure future compliance with the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act.

12 States Represented at ACA National Bull Sale

PLATTE CITY, MO — Buyers at the second ACA National Bull Test Sale in Potwin, Kansas May 17 were putting their money down for performance.

Thirty-four performance tested bulls sold bringing a total of \$39,945 and an average of \$1,174. The bulls were categorized by their test performance as either gold, silver or bronze gainers. The top 12 performance bulls sold for \$18,950 with an average of \$1,579. No bulls in the top category sold for less than \$1,000. The middle 11 performance bulls, silver gainers, averaged \$1,255 with individual sale prices ranging between \$800 and \$2,600. The bronze gainer

group had an average on 11 bulls of \$654 with the top-selling bull from this group selling for \$825.

Black bulls held only a slight preference over white bulls with 18 black bulls averaging \$1,231, a \$119 advantage over the 16 white bulls at an average of \$1,112.

Alamo Farms at Oaks, North Dakota purchased the top-selling bull of the day, lot 14-41/Blue Sky Sugar Daddy 35T, for \$3,050. Also, volume buyer, Alamo Farms spent a total of \$7,500 on four gold gaining bulls including the third high indexing bull, Bar-T Royal Review. Consigned by Bar-T Chianina, Arkansas City, Kansas, the bull sold for \$1,625.

Second high selling bull at \$2,600 was lot 12-37, sold to James Davison, Rustin, Louisiana. Classified as a silver gainer, Mr Rocking image 21T CA is sired by the 1985-86 Show Sire of the Year, Faletto's Image.



30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

—Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, Tuesday issued the following statement with regard to enactment of the new farm bill. "The agricultural act of 1956 was signed today by President Eisenhower. This legislation can help farmers by reducing our farm surplus and conserving our soil and water resources. I am glad the President signed the bill."

—Recording a top of \$500 in the cow division, the 92nd Keystone Holstein Sale at the Keystone Sales Barn, Mount Joy, totaled \$8,313 on 30 individuals Saturday averaging \$277.

—Robert Kreider, son of Mr. & Mrs. A. Clyde Kreider, R1 Quarryville, last week was named president of the Lancaster County 4-H Agricultural Council. Mr. Kreider succeeds Walter Augsberger of RD1 Reinholds.

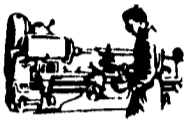
—Last weekend was sweet potato planting time at the farm of Paul Barley, R1 Millersville. He is planting 3½ acres of sweet potatoes this year.

—Dairy month in America's dairy land will get off to a spectacular start when more than 2,000 of the nation's top dairymen get together at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 6 and 7 for the 71st Annual Convention of the Holstein Friesian Association of America.

—Although many Lancaster County tomato producers reported extensive losses in their plantings through unseasonal frosts late last week, most have been replanted and there will be more of a time loss than an acreage loss, the County Agricultural Agents Office Advises today.

—Ground was broken Thursday afternoon for construction of the new Lancaster Poultry Center. Construction will get underway immediately and continue to support to raise the necessary \$30,000 is urged. Volunteer labor will be used as extensively as possible in construction of the new building at the intersection of Roseville Road and Bypass 230 north of Lancaster.

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