

Livestock market

St. Louis Cattle

December 4, 1986

Report Supplied by USDA

FEEDERS: Receipts around 1800 head. Feeder steers and heifers firm to 1.00 higher. Quality well below two weeks ago. Supply mainly medium and large frame 1-2 300-600 lb. steer and heifer calves, with several lots medium and small frame 1-2 fleshy steer calves.

FEEDER STEERS: Limited

supply medium and large frame 1: 300-500 lbs. 63.00-69.00; 500-800 lbs. 60.00-66.00, fleshy 800-975 lbs. 57.00-59.50. Medium and large frame 1-2: 300-700 lbs. 59.00-65.00. Medium and small frame 1-2: Fleshy 350-550 lbs. 58.00-60.00. Large frame 2 holsteins: 600-850 lbs. 44.75-48.00.

FEEDER HEIFERS: Limited supply medium and large frame 1: 300-500 lbs. 55.00-60.00; 500-800 lbs. 53.00-57.00.

Medium and large frame 1-2: 300-500 lbs. 50.00-56.00.

Beef Checkoff Revenues Higher Than Expected

HARRISBURG — Receipts from the first month of the \$1-per-head checkoff on cattle sold in Pennsylvania have exceeded the earlier estimate made by the Pennsylvania Beef Council.

October assessments collected totaled nearly \$95,000, of which \$17,000 was collected from other states, according to Robert R. Coleman, executive director of the council.

The council had estimated that about \$75,000 could be raised monthly based on a .0 percent assessment of sales recorded in the past.

"We are pleased by the response from the producers," said Paul Heffner, Adams County beef producer and chairman of the council. "Many producers I talked with believe that a checkoff is necessary to launch the kind of promotion necessary to increase beef and veal demand," he stated. "There are some rough spots to be sure," he added. "Not everyone is sold on the program."

According to Coleman, even though the actual collections exceeded expectations, there are still many producers who have not participated. He explained: "Surprisingly, many dairy producers and dealers did not realize they are included in the national checkoff. We have had many calls from dairymen who were surprised to learn that dairy

cattle were included and should be assessed \$1 per head when sold. We thought every producer, whether beef or dairy, had heard of the checkoff program because it was widely publicized in agricultural publications and newsletters. Apparently many dairymen assumed it applied to beef cattle only and did not read the details."

"But," Coleman emphasized, "the law includes all cattle - beef and dairy. Buyers are obligated to assess \$1 on each head of cattle they purchase from the sellers' proceeds and send it to the state beef council to be used for state and national beef and veal promotion."

In addition, Coleman pointed out that the law states specifically that the producer is obligated to pay the \$1 per head assessment even if the buyer fails to collect it.

The state beef council is required, under its agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Cattlemen's Beef Board to report intentional violations of the Beef Promotion and Research Act which authorized the checkoff. The fine is \$5,000 per transaction. Two violations in Pennsylvania have been reported to date, according to Coleman.

"We hope there are only a few violations," said Coleman, "because our principle task is promotion and research, not enforcement. Fortunately most

citizens are law abiding and won't intentionally violate the law."

The council is currently contacting dairymen and auctioneers who manage dairy sales to urge them to collect the assessment and remit it to the PBC as part of their sale management services to both sellers and buyers. The auctioneers will be provided with the necessary forms.

Producers who do not wish to participate in the beef and veal promotion program can request refunds. "Very few refund requests have been received," Heffner said, "except those from veal producers in northeastern Pennsylvania."

Some council officers talked to veal producers in the Northeast and emphasized that good promotion for veal is included in the state program. It was explained that promotional dollars for veal would be allocated in the approximate proportion to the checkoff funds from veal producers. "Thus," Coleman said "if they withdraw their contributions through refund requests, then the veal promotion will be a relatively small part of the state promotion program."

Coleman announced that state promotion made possible by checkoff funds will start late in December and the national promotion will get underway late in January.

Wheat Acreage Reduced In Wake Of Surplus

LEESPORT — The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, on Oct. 1, began accepting applications for the 1987 wheat acreage reduction program. The signup period ends Mar. 30, 1987.

Farmers who participate in the program will be eligible to receive price support loans at \$2.28 per bushel and target price protection at \$4.38 per bushel, according to Donald E. Lutz, chairman of the Berks County ASC Committee.

Despite the smallest wheat harvest in seven years, USDA predicts a record 4.03-billion-bushel supply of wheat will be available during 1986-87. Increased stocks and the expected near-record hard red spring wheat crop will overshadow reduced hard red winter wheat output, resulting in 3 billion bushels of bread wheat. In an effort to reduce planted acreage, production and total supplies to a level more in line with demand, Lutz said the 1987 wheat program contains a 27.5 percent

reduction requirement.

The program requires farmers to limit their 1987 wheat planted to no more than 72.5 percent of their wheat acreage base, Lutz said. Program participants also must maintain in acreage conservation reserve an area equal to 37.93 percent of their planted acres.

He said to be eligible for loans, purchases and payments on wheat, the acreage planted for harvest on a farm to other program commodities may not exceed their respective crop acreage base. Producers who plant at least 50 percent of the permitted acreage to wheat and maintain the remaining permitted acreage in conserving uses will be eligible for deficiency payments of 92 percent of the permitted acreage, the same as in 1986.

To apply for the 1987 Wheat Program, or obtain additional program information, farmers may contact their county ASCS Offices.

Extension Income Tax Meetings Set For January

UNIVERSITY PARK — Tax preparers, farmers, homemakers, and other interested individuals can secure information about

federal income tax at the 1987 Penn State Extension income tax area meetings. This year, the January meetings will be offered at 13 locations.

Topics covered at the meetings will range from a look at new developments to a review of important tax principles. The program will include a discussion of recent changes in tax law, deducting expenses for business use of automobiles and pickup trucks, taxes and financial distress.

A review of several practical tax filing exercises will also be included.

Dr. Jesse Cooper and Dr. Larry Jenkins, extension economists with Penn State, will serve as instructors for each of the sessions.

Meeting dates and locations are: Tamaqua, Jan. 6; Quakertown, Jan. 7; Lancaster, Jan. 8; Chambersburg, Jan. 9; Meadville, Jan. 13; Butler, Jan. 14; Indiana,

Jan. 15; DuBois, Jan. 16; Lewisburg, Jan. 20; Coudersport, Jan. 21; Mansfield, Jan. 22; Tunkhannock, Jan. 23; and Bedford, Jan. 27.

Each of the one-day sessions will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The registration fee of \$25 per person includes lunch and reference materials to be used during the day. Additional reference materials, including a Master Tax Guide, may be purchased for a small extra fee.

The registration deadline is Jan. 1, 1987. Persons registering after that date will be charged a late registration fee of \$5.

A brochure and registration form and more information about the one-day income tax meeting are available from any Penn State Cooperative Extension Office. Questions about the meetings may be directed to your County Extension Director or to one of the instructors at (814)-865-7656.

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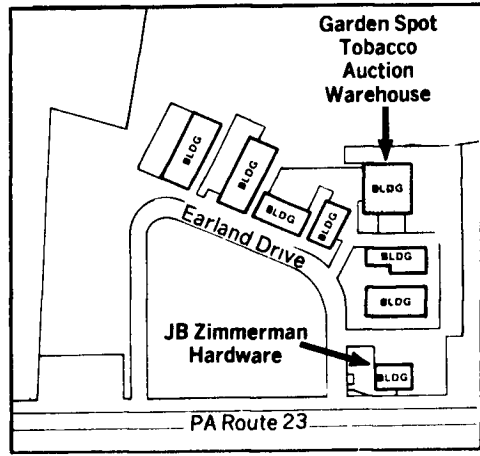
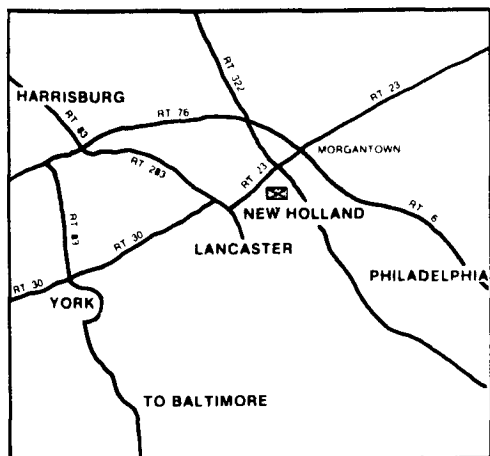
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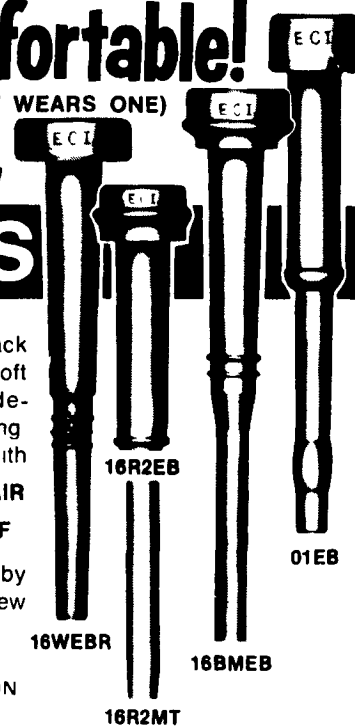
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