Red 6.25 ---RHUBARB: OFFERINGS NONE ---RUTABAGAS: 50 lb ctns CD CDOne waxed med 8.00 ---SPINACH: MARKET ABOUT STEADY ctns bchd CA Flat 24s 8.00-9.00 1 2/5 bucrts bchd CA Flat 24s 11.00 1 2/5 bu ctns.00 mostly 5.00 Yellow Straightneck sml-med 6.00-7.00 mostly 7.00 med 5.00 1 1/9 buctns FL Acorn med 8.00 ---SWEET POTATOES: MARKET ABOUT STEADY 40 lb ctns NC U.S. One Jewels cured med 13.00-14.00 mostly 13.50 ---TOMATOES: MARKET ABOUT STEADY 25 lb ctns FL 85% U.S. One or Better pink to light red xlge 24.00-25.00 lge 22.00-24.00 mostly 23.00-24.00 med 18.00-22.00 Local Repack 85% U.S. One or Better xlge 26.00 lge 25.00 med 24.00 ---TOMATOES, CHERRY: flts 12 1-pt bkts MX light red to red 12.00 ---TOMATOES, PLUM TYPE: 25 lb ctns FL light red to red 13.00 MX light red to red 13.00-14.00 ---TURNIPS: 25 lb flmbgs PA Purple Top med 6.00 ---VEGETABLES OTHER: ctns MX Cactus Leaf 15.00 8 lb ctns CA Radicchio 12s 9.00.

Frederick Co. Hay

Buckeystown, Md.
Thursday, December 23, 1993
Report Supplied by Auction

25 LOADS. MARKET SLOW.

ALFALFA: FAIR TO GOOD 90.00-100.00

ALFALFA MIX: GOOD 92.00-100.00.

TIMOTHY: FANCY 127.00, FAIR TO GOOD 92.00-111.00; LARGE ROUND BALES 15.00-21.00 EACH.

MIXED HAY: FAIR TO GOOD 71.00-81.00. LOWER: FAIR TO GOOD 99.00.

ORCHARD GRASS: GOOD 76.00-97.00.

FIREWOOD: GOOD 81.00-89.00 CORD.

NOTE: NEW YEARS PARTY JAN. 6.

Pennsylvania Ag Prognosis Good For 1994

(Continued from Page A11)

bushels. This is 275 million bushels less than a year ago and the second lowest level of exports in 20 years.

Government payments to agriculture in the 1993-94 program year, especially to grain producers, will rise to their highest levels since 1988; the main reason will be weather disasters this past summer.

Despite sharply reduced production in 1993, excess capacity is still the major long-run problem in the crop sector of U.S. agriculture. We can no longer expect increasing exports to take away our surplus crop production.

In Pennsylvania, too little moisture during the critical growth period sharply reduced crop growth.

The 1993 harvest of corn will total about 91.2 million bushels, down 23 percent from the previous year and off 40 percent from the record crop of 152 million bushels harvested in 1985.

Pennsylvania soybean production at 10.9 million bushels will be just 2 percent lower than in 1992.

Hay supplies in the Northeast and Southeast will be tight during the 1994 feeding year because sizable quantities were fed to offset the loss of pasture during the 1993 drought.

Meat Supply Expansion

Meat supplies have increased each year in the 1990s. These supply increases have added competitive pressure to the various sectors of the industry.

Most of the recent increases in production have come from poultry and pork (Figure 2).

Beef

The midyear cattle inventory indicates that producers are expanding numbers in a very slow, conservative way. Total cattle numbers on July 1 were up just 1 percent from 1992 and 1991. Numbers have grown only 3 percent since the cyclical low was reached on July 1, 1990 (Table 1). The pace of expansion may be increasing in 1993 as the calf crop is up about 3 percent.

Favorable returns to cow-calf producers in recent years and through the next couple of years will probably encourage further expansion in beef herds. Beef cow numbers at 34 million head on July 1 were the largest for any midyear inventory since 1974.

After falling in the first half of 1993, beef supplies have been increasing and putting downward pressure on prices.

Table 1. Percentage change in red meat and poultry production from a year earlier.

ITEM	1990	1991	1992	PROJECTED 1993	PROJECTED 1994
Beef	-1	1	1		3
Pork	-3	4	8	0	0
Lamb and mutton	5	0	-4	-1	-2
Veal	-8	-6	1	-8	-2
Poultry	7	5	6	5	4
Total	1	3	5	2	4

SOURCE. Livestock and Poultry Situation and Outlook ERS, USDA

Carcass weights have been increasing, so we are getting more beef per animal.

Beef supplies in 1994 will be about 3 percent above year earlier levels. The short-term tightness in the supply of stocker cattle has supported feeder cattle prices despite recent declines in fed-cattle prices and increases in feed grain prices.

Pork

A fast pace of technological development in the hog industry has resulted in fewer farms producing record levels of pork. In the 1981-91 period the nation lost nearly 60 percent of its hog producers. The number of farms with hogs in Pennsylvania fell from 20,000 at the beginning of 1981 to 7,600 at the end of 1992.

Despite the sharp drop in operations with hogs, new records have been set in pork production in the 1991-93 period.

The September-November pig

Table 2. Changes in 1993 wholesale cheese prices and the Minnesota-Wisconsin milk price.

MONTH	CHEESE PRICE $/POUND	CHEESE PRICE CHANGE $/10 POUNDS	M-W PRICE CHANGE $/CWT
January	1 18		
February	1 16	-0 20	-0 15
March	1 21	+0 50	+0 28
April	1 37	+1 60	+1 13
May	1 39	+0 20	+0 37
June	1 32	-0 70	-0 49
July	1 24	-0 80	-0 61
August	1 22	-0 20	-0 25
September	1 35	+1 30	+0 73

SOURCE AMS USDA

(Turn to Page A14)