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FARM NEWS

TURKEY PRICE UP SLIGHTLY FOR HOLIDAYS

That holiday turkey is going to cost you slightly more than you paid last year.

Henry Lorzelle, Michigan State College agricultural economist, cites these reasons: Consumer incomes are at an all-time high. Turkeys are available in more attractive form in more stores for longer periods than they used to be. Birds now are displayed frozen and ready to cook. And, adds Lorzelle, since beef, pork and lamb prices are expected to be as high slightly higher than a year ago, the demand for turkey will be boosted, especially for the Christmas trade.

The difference between turkey and red meat prices affects the demand for turkey more at Christmas time than Thanksgiving, according to the economist.

National figures show that the total turkey meat to be marketed from September 1 through the holiday season will be 12 per cent less than during the same period in 1952. Lorzelle figures that the decrease in number of turkeys will mean about a 2 per cent increase in price over last year.

Dairy Cattlemen To Meet At MSC

Ideas for improvement in Michigan dairy herds will be exchanged at the Dairy Cattle Breeders Conference at Michigan State College on Monday and Tuesday, November 9 and 10.

N. P. (Pat) Ralston, MSC dairy researcher, says the annual two-day meeting is expected to draw dairy breeders from many parts of the state. Speakers will include men from the MSC dairy department, Michigan farmers and one from Canada. And there will be time for breeders to exchange ideas among themselves. The first session will be at 10:00 a.m. Monday.

A Canadian dairy researcher, C. J. Renne of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, will talk on "Canadian Research and Type Classification" on Monday afternoon. The Monday afternoon session will include a panel discussion on "How I Use Type Classification in a Breeding Program." Participants will include Robin Carr, Pontcharville Holstein breeder; Jim Fish, Hickory Corners Guernsey breeder; Bruce Veltman, Comstock Park Ayrshire breeder; Glenn Feldkamp, Manchester Brown Swiss breeder; and R. E. (Doc) Stout, Marshall Jersey breeder.

Topics for the Tuesday meeting will include results from using a loose housing system for dairy cattle, observations on dairy herd operations, attempts to measure environmental influence on production records, the national artificial breeding program and advances in semen preservation.

Western Farmers Approve Of Price Supports In Periods of Depression

A substantial majority of Iowa and Illinois farmers would favor government price supports of cattle and hogs in periods of depression, but under existing economic conditions they lean away from such aid, a sampling of opinions in this livestock producing area revealed.

On the question of the government continuing supports of feed grains at the time the survey was conducted in April, those interviewed were about evenly divided, survey tabulations show. Farmers in the area, however, voiced strong favor of these supports during periods of depression.

Farmers in both states want livestock prices supported when the government is supporting feed grain prices.

The opinion data were collected in personal interviews with 588 farmers scientifically selected by the statistical laboratory of Iowa State College in the area covering the entire state of Iowa and the northern three-fifths of Illinois.

At the time the survey was conducted in April, 59 per cent of those interviewed said they favored support of cattle prices in periods of unfavorable price levels.

At that time, 35 per cent of the farmers thought cattle prices should be supported, 55 per cent were opposed, and 10 per cent were undecided. Cattle were selling at about 80 per cent of parity when the interviews were taken.

To the question of government support of hog prices, 69 per cent were in favor, 29 per cent were opposed, and 2 per cent were undecided. Hogs were selling at 102 per cent of parity, and prices had been rising steadily for nearly three months.

Questioned on supports of feed

ABA SERVICE RAISES INCOME FOR DAIRYMEN

More and more Michigan farmers are boosting their dairy herd income by getting artificial breeding service.

A. C. Baltzer, extension dairyman at Michigan State College and manager of the Michigan Artificial Breeders Cooperative, reports that 35,000 dairy herds now are enrolled in the 140 artificial breeding units operating in the state. That's an increase of about 2,000 units from 1952. A total of about 180,000 cows are now being bred artificially in Michigan.

Baltzer's figures show that the estimated average net income from cows owned by members of the AABC was double that of average Michigan cows. The figures are \$308 for ABA cows compared with \$150, the average for all Michigan cows. Recent figures on net income from dairy herd improvement association cows average \$268.

Techniques have been improved greatly in recent years, so that aires now can be used to breed an increasing number of cows.

Corn with 25 per cent moisture content will cost about 6 cents a bushel to dry artificially to safe storage levels, notes Carl Hall, MSC agricultural engineer.

John Clappison Sells Insurance

FARM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 5 - 7, Soil Conservation Society of America, Colorado Springs.

November 5 - 7, Michigan Home-making Teachers Conference, MSC.

November 5 - 6, Southwest Michigan Potato Show, high school, Edmore.

November 6, State Holstein Sale at Wolverine Pavilion, Williamston.

November 6, Dairy Barn Ventilation meeting, Washtenaw County.

November 7, Junior Farm Bureau meeting, MSC.

November 7, Dahlia Society annual meeting, MSC.

November 7 - 14, American Education Week.

November 7, Michigan Hereford Breeders Futurity Sale, MSC.

November 9 - 10, Michigan Canners and Freezers meeting, Grand Rapids.

November 9 - 10, Dairy Cattle Breeders' conference, MSC.

November 10, Dairy Barn Ventilation meeting, Missaukee County.

November 10 - 12, American Association of Land-Grant Colleges, Columbus.

November 11 - 13, Farm Bureau annual meetings, MSC.

November 11 - 13, International Crop Improvement Association annual meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.

November 11, Dairy Barn Ventilation meeting, East Jordan.

November 12, Dairy Barn Ventilation meeting, Arenac County.

Unwashed Eggs Bring Best Price

A dirty egg, regardless of how it is cleaned, is not as good as a clean, unwashed egg, reminds Ed Alchin, Oakland County agricultural agent.

Mr. Alchin passes along this advice from L. E. Dawson of Michigan State College's poultry department. Dawson says a few simple precautions will keep your eggs clean and attractive and will boost your income. Here are the precautions:

Keep floors dry. This takes insulation and ventilation. A good straw loft with a large louver in each end of the poultry house will remove much moisture and keep the house warmer. Put waterers on screened roosting pits to prevent clean throwing water on the litter while drinking. You also can put waterers on screened frames or suspend flat chicken wire several inches over the waterers.

Provide plenty of nests and make them deep. Each five or six hens should have at least one square foot of nest space. Build nests at least 12 inches deep with an 8-inch board along the front, or use community nests with deep litter.

Keep nests clean. Fill them with four or five inches of fine clean absorbent material — shavings, chopped straw, coarse ground corn cobs, or excelsior pads or some commercial nesting material. Oats are suitable for community nests. But keep hens out of nests at night.

Gather eggs often — three or four times a day. This reduces breakage, cuts down numbers of dirty eggs and helps maintain inside egg quality.

WHOA!

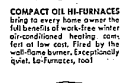
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