

Pacific Coast Turkeys Start To Markets

Shortest Output in Ten Years, Low Feed Costs Point to High Prices

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — Turkeys are moving from the Pacific Coast by the carloads for the Thanksgiving market.

Nearly a fourth of the nation's supply of the festive bird will come this year from Washington, Oregon and California.

The country's crop is short — smallest in 10 years. The Department of Agriculture estimates it at 31,710,000 birds. The record is 44,221,000, produced in 1945.

Cold storage stocks also are low, about half the 5-year average. "The total," Oct. 1, latest figure available, was 1,881,000 pounds. A year ago it was 38,979,000 pounds. Those are the national figures.

So you can expect to pay a pretty penny for that Thanksgiving bird. Trade circles here hint at prices of 75 to 80 cents a pound for young hens, the most in demand. The current wholesale price for dressed hens is 64-66 cents.

If you want more meat for your money, you can buy the heavier but cheaper turkey. They usually sell for about 10 cents a pound less.

California, leading turkey state since 1947, is expected to raise 4,544,000 birds this year, 12 per cent over 1947. Washington's production is placed at 1,411,000, same as last year, and Oregon's at 1,557,000, down 5 per cent. The total of 7,222,000 compared with 6,817,000 last year and 10,400,000 in the record year of 1945.

Farm receipts in the three states totaled just under \$50,000,000 last year.

Strong market prospects, high prices and declining feed costs point to higher returns this year.

Caution Urged As Production Costs To Farmers Rise

Farm production costs have mounted steadily for more than 10 years, a recent study by the Department of Agriculture shows. This year they are the highest on record—more than three times the prewar average, and they'll probably be still higher in 1949.

Compared with the prewar 1935-39 period, here are increases in the 1947 cost of goods and services used in farm production: farm machinery, 37 per cent; building material other than houses, 122 per cent; equipment and supplies, 40 per cent; feed, 135 per cent; fertilizer, 38 per cent; seed, 130 per cent; wage rates, 246 per cent; all commodities except wages, 184 per cent.

Net farm incomes rose faster than costs because farmers increased the volume of output by more than 30 per cent and prices of farm products rose more rapidly than cost rates. However, this situation is now reversed. And with costs for items other than feed moving upward and somewhat lower prices for products sold in 1949, net farm income will probably be lower next year.

In making new investments for production, the department cautions farmers to consider carefully whether such investments will increase efficiency and reduce unit costs, so that carrying charges will not prove too burdensome in the event of lower prices.

Dog Puts on Dog



What the well-dressed Cavalier King Charles spaniel wears in London is exhibited by Daywell Janet. Fawney, what?

Voting of Farm Programs Held Of High Importance

"About the easiest way for us farmers to lose the voice we have in the administration of the farm program is for us to neglect to use that voice," says E. Harvey Miller, chairman of the Oregon State PMA committee.

"Under present legislation we can elect the committee who administer the farm program locally. We can elect the delegates to the county convention where the county committee is elected."

"From these community committees comes the leadership for county committees. These county committees in turn are furnishing the leadership for the state committee. Again from the state committee of the country comes the leadership for national administration of the farm program."

Ahead are vital decisions having to do with price support and soil and water conservation, the chairman points out. "That is why it is so important for the communities elected in the communities and counties to be the choice of the majority of the farmers in the communities and counties of the country."

All Oregon farmers, who are eligible to vote, should participate in the elections, he urges. Failure to vote may mean that the committee elected will represent but a small portion of the farmers in the community. "You are helping to elect a committee whether you vote or not and you may be helping to elect the committee you don't want, if you fail to vote," Miller said.

"Unless the going is real tough there is a tendency to let such things as elections and similar responsibilities slide. It is when we neglect our rights that we lose them."

All farmers who are participating in the 1948 agricultural conservation program, or who had a contract with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for this year, are eligible to vote in these farmer-committee elections. Notices of elections will be posted beforehand in each community.

Smaller Apple Crop Ups Prices in Washington

SEATTLE, Nov. 15 — (AP) — Apple prices are much better than at this time a year ago, although Washington's 1948 apple crop will be about 21 per cent smaller than last year's.

Principally as a result of the national shortage, regular Delicious and Red Delicious apples, combination grade, are now quoted at \$3.25 and \$3.90 respec-

Young Herefords To be Important In OSC Breeding

Thirteen head of young, registered Hereford cattle have just arrived at Oregon State college to be added to the research breeding herds of the agricultural experiment station. Addition of these animals, selected by members of the animal husbandry staff, is another step in the livestock improvement research program recently expanded and readjusted.

Cattle, sheep and swine at O.S.C. are now managed on a performance basis, according to Dr. Fred E. McKenzie, head of the department of animal husbandry. Animals are retained in the breeding herd only when they demonstrate their capacity to gain rapidly and to convert rough feeds into meat efficiently. Longevity and high fertility are also sought.

"As much as 25 per cent difference exists between two young females of different parentage in the amount of feed necessary to put them into marketable condition," said Dr. McKenzie. "Obviously the cattle industry cannot continue to progress with such a wide variation. Improved breeding is needed to produce strains of livestock which will be consistently good converters of feed into meat."

The program at Oregon State is geared into a similar national research project under the federal research and marketing act. It is in line with these objectives that all selections of breeding stock are being made, said Dr. McKenzie. Whether the new Herefords will meet the final test will be determined from actual records of feeding gains.

The young bulls in the new purchase will be used with cows the beef herds at Corvallis and at the Astoria, Burns and Union branch stations, with gains of all offspring being carefully measured, together with quality of carcass.

The 13 Herefords were imported from British Columbia, 10 being sired by Atok Lionheart, an English bull brought to Canada to the Earl Court Farms, Ltd., at Lytton, B.C. The remaining three are by a son of Atok Lionheart, a three-year old bull recently purchased by Charles Redd of Utah.

The cattle from which the new O.S.C. stock came are thick fleshed, deep quartered and heavy boned cattle that feed well and show remarkable uniformity, particularly as yearlings and two-year olds.

Top Dairy Bulls To Aid Research

Two dairy bulls added to the Oregon State College within the last two years are expected to contribute greatly to the long-time program of breeding research in dairy herd improvement, says Floyd B. Volberg, assistant professor of dairy husbandry and superintendent of official testing.

Claire B. Miller, classifying judge of the Holstein-Friesian association, recently classified Carnation Ormsby Pontiac Imperial, purchased by the college two years ago, as "excellent senior Holstein sire," a rating not attained by any other Holstein bull in this state.

Pontiac was purchased two years ago from the Walner Bros. farm at Mt. Vernon, Wash., the

son of Carnation Governor Imperial, four times winner of All-American honors. The college bull has 15 daughters each with average production of 12,729 pounds of milk and 468.5 pounds of butterfat in 10 months.

Standard Butterking, a yearling Jersey bull purchased as a calf from Nati and Sweet of Sixe, Ore., is highly regarded by Volberg. His dam, Wolseley Buttergirl, has established an unconfirmed world record for Jerseys more than 13 years old by producing 937 pounds of butterfat on two-time milking for the year ended June 30, 1948.

Butterking's sire, Pioneer Design Standard, has been rated third highest tested sire of the basis of production and type combined.

Record Output Of Ladino Clover Seed Indicated

All signs point to a record breaking acreage of Oregon certified ladino clover harvested for seed in 1949, reports H. E. Finnell, O.S.C. extension service seed certification specialist.

Finnell announced that 5644 acres of ladino clover were passed for certification this year under provisions of the state seed certification program. That figure shows a sizable increase over the 4806 acres certified during 1947. Neither acreage, however, tops the state's all-time high for certified ladino clover—5736 acres in 1944.

Ranking Oregon certified ladino clover seed producing county is Jefferson county, Finnell states. A total of 1846 acres of the crop was certified there in 1948 as compared with 673 acres last year, practically all of it grown on the new North Unit reclamation project.

Ken Duling, Terrebonne, was owner of the largest acreage of ladino clover passing certification under the 1948 program. His certified ladino holdings totaled 267 acres.

Second high ladino county in 1948 was Josephine with a total 1446 acres passing certification. This total is 400 acres short of the 1947 figure. Jackson county ranked third with 1074 acres passed. Six additional counties—Crook, Malheur, Grant, Washington, Marion and Deschutes—each had more than 100 acres. Eight other counties had smaller approved acreages.

The 5 per cent limitation covering the amount of other white clover allowed in fields was one

of the chief reasons this year for disqualifying ladino acreage. Other acreage fell by the wayside mainly for violation of the isolation requirement and for lack of evidence to prove that certified seed was planted.

Farm Price Support Is Pledged by 2 Lawmakers

NASHVILLE, N. C., Nov. 15 — (AP) — The American farmer has the assurance of two congressional leaders that farm prices still will be supported at 90 per cent of parity.

Rep. Harold D. Cooley (D-NC), who likely will be chairman of

the House Agriculture Committee, said he is in favor of the program if production controls are linked with it.

Joining Senator Elmer Thom-

as (D-OKLA.), who is in line for the Senate Agriculture Committee chairmanship and who earlier approved the same support level, Cooley said: "I am definitely in favor of a 90 per cent support program for the basic commodities—cotton, tobacco, wheat, corn and peanuts—provided the 'growers will accept' production controls."

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