

LIVESTOCK PRICES MAKE NEW RECORD

Year's Market Fixes Status of
Portland as Center of
Big Industry.

GRAND AVERAGE IS HIGH

Hog Condition Abnormal Throughout Year, but Lambs and Calves Also Set New High Marks.

Statistics Tell Story.

By F. F. STONER.

Editor Portland Livestock Reporter.

When a hog market averages \$10.39

for 12 straight months in the year, no matter whether unusual conditions made it possible or not, a little pride is excusable. Portland takes down the "grand championship" among the hog markets of the world for the year 1910, not only for the grand average price of \$10.39, but for the highest single price record of \$11.50 for a load, which passed over the scales on March 24.

Hog-Raising Neglected.

Proportionately the Northwest is far behind other sections in the production of all classes of livestock except sheep. It is in hog-raising where this territory makes an inexcusable showing. Northern farmers do not have the cholera scourge to contend with, nor the intense cold and rapid change of weather that is the despair of the hog raiser. We do not have their great corn crops, but we do have barley, wheat, field peas, vetches, clover, and alfalfa, and can grow hogs for 25 cents a pound on foot. With all these excellent opportunities for raising pork, the Northwest imports three-fourths of the pork products it consumes from the Middle West.

But this condition cannot always prevail in a country which is running away from all others in the growth of population, commerce and agriculture. The great railroads, who know the value of livestock tonnage, have made plans for several demonstration trains in 1911 and will cover every state thoroughly. The agricultural colleges, railroads and livestock interests are not the ones who are behind the times. They are bending every effort to increase production and establish intensive farming methods. It is the farmer, himself, who is slow to realize the immense opportunities held out to him.

Cattle Market Surprising.

The cattle market was another source of continued surprise, when it is considered that this market draws its beef supply from a section of the country where "fitting for market" is not reduced to the fine art of the butcher. The cattle states, the prices received by raisers are truly remarkable. The average weight of steers was scarcely over 1000 pounds and yet the year's average price was \$11.50, which does not include the sensational prices on Christmas beef. In two instances just before the holidays, fancy pure-bred steers realized \$14.00 and \$14.50 per hundred weight on the open market, demonstrating beyond an argument that stockmen and farmers in the Northwest can produce as good beef as can be produced anywhere if they only apply scientific methods of breeding and feeding.

Mutton Prices High.

While giving a few startling facts about cattle and hog prices, the mutton market must come in for its share of praise, for in some respects its achievements were as good as those of the other two. It must be considered that the great crying need of every Pacific Coast and Rocky Mountain State is an increase in population, the consumption of mutton is not as great as that of beef, and just at present falls far below the consumption of beef and pork. But the demand is growing fast, as is population, and with the greatest climate for raising sheep in the world for both the wool and mutton breeds, first-class transportation facilities, either by rail or water, and an established market at Portland, the industry has made greater strides within the past year than ever before.

The total value of all livestock passing through the Portland Union Stockyards in the past year was about \$9,000,000. That the coming year will see a great increase in the business is assured.

Excellent Showing Made.

In summing up the livestock situation for the year, a few tables have been compiled, which will give a more detailed description of the market's condition from month to month, and while the size of the receipts is not so large as those of the other and older markets in the country, they are very satisfactory showing, considering that the livestock industry in the Northwest is only in its infancy.

Average prices paid at the Portland Union Stockyards in 1910, by months, were as follows:

Month	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Hogs
January	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
February	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
March	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
April	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
May	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
June	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
July	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
August	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
September	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
October	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
November	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
December	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35	10.35
Grand ave.	10.39	10.39	10.39	10.39	10.39

HOOGS.

RECEIPT

January

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

Grand average

March	11.50
April	11.25
May	10.35
June	10.35
July	10.35
August	10.35
September	10.35
October	10.35
November	10.35
December	10.35
Grand average	10.39

Grand average

HOOGS.

RECEIPT

January

February

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Grand average

HOOGS.

RECEIPT

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Grand average

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