

Many Local Growers Oppose Turkey Marketing Order

By JOE COWLEY
Farm Editor

Many of Jackson county's turkey growers still seem opposed to the turkey marketing order.

(See story elsewhere on this page for voting qualifications etc.)

The election is June 18 to 22. However, industry-wide growers say there is more sentiment for it now than ever before. Turkey prices have not been very good, not nearly as good as growers hoped they would be. They are now 18 cents a pound on toms and 21 cents for hens liveweight on the farm. Growers had thought they would be two or three cents higher.

Generally, local growers against the order don't want the government in their business and don't want to be stuck with quotas.

Some market experts point out that free markets really do work for farmers. Recent developments in the livestock and poultry business show that farmers will adjust production to their market when they can make their own decisions and are not being encouraged by price support incentives.

Nationally, the turkey poult hatch is down about 12 percent from last season, according to reports. Prices next fall may be 4 cents to 6 cents above last fall, according to some predictions. And the fall is when the turkey makes it with the turkey feasts on Thanksgiving and Christmas in the offing.

An indication of the number of turkeys on the market are the numbers run through testings for pullorum disease. During March national testings showed a drop of 4 percent from the previous March. Heavy white breeds were down 37 percent. However, broad-breasted bronze, which are largely used in this area were up 97 percent compared to March, 1961.

In April testings of heavy breed turkeys in the U.S. were up 82 percent from the

previous April. However, testings of all heavy breeds during July, 1961 through April, 1962 were down 8 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The marketing order for meat turkeys would be operated by an industry-nominated advisory board and would provide for supply management measures when price stabilization is needed by producers.

After a study of the exceptions filed earlier, a final decision on the order was made by the secretary of agriculture. The marketing order can be issued by the secretary if two-thirds of the producers voting, by number or by volume, vote in favor.

The order would authorize supply management when necessary by either one or a combination of two methods. The first method, available after 1962, would allow handlers to acquire only the total quantity of turkeys apportioned to producers by allotment in a given period.

The second, available during the current year, would be set-aside regulations which would require handlers to hold back designated percentages of the turkeys they slaughter. Surplus turkeys would be pooled, disposed of and the proceeds distributed to producers.

If producer allotments in 1963 and 1964 are established they would be based on the average marketings of producers in 1959, 1960 and 1961. Handlers subject to the order would be those who acquire for slaughtering more than 7,000 pounds live weight of turkeys a year. Producers under the order would be those who produce 3,600 pounds or more live weight turkeys a year.

Producers who slaughter their own birds would be excluded from volume regulations, providing they do not handle more than 100,000 pounds live weight of turkey during the marketing year and do not buy or sell more than 5,000 pounds of live tur-

keys during a marketing year. Jackson county has 16 turkey breeders - people who raise eggs for the hatcheries to convert into poults. As the poultry business goes, it is comparatively stable. It takes skill to get into it so there are not many people jumping in and out of it as the market fluctuates.

Also, people in the business have indicated there is a good future for this type of agricultural development in the Rogue valley.

Everybody should be watching the market referendum very closely. The possibility of a strong new agricultural industry here may depend on it.

Rogue Valley Has Small Run, Steady Market

Phoenix—The Rogue Valley Auction reported a small run of cattle on a steady market during Saturday's regular sale in Phoenix. A total of 143 head of cattle were sold.

Five head of whiteface cross baby calves sold at \$37 to \$43 per head.

One Guernsey bull sold at \$17 per head.

Whiteface steer calves sold at steady prices. One pen of 520 pound steers sold at \$28 per hundredweight. Other singles sold at \$24.70 to \$26.30 per hundredweight. A heifer calf sold at \$23.50 to \$25.50 per hundredweight. Yearling steers sold at \$22.89 to \$24.10 per hundredweight.

One pen of 620 pound steers sold at \$24.60. Whiteface cows and calves sold at \$180 to \$200 per pair. Eight head of yearling registered Hereford bulls sold at \$257 to \$280 per head.

Holstein steers sold at \$22.75 to \$23.50 for the light 300 to 500 pound kind and heavy Holsteins sold at \$19 to \$20 per hundredweight in the 750 to 900 pound class.

Veal calves sold strong. Heavy veal sold at \$24.50 to \$26.50 per hundredweight, with the 300 pound light calves selling at \$27.25 to a top of \$28.75.

Slaughter cows sold at steady prices with utility grades selling at \$16.20 to \$17.80 per hundred weight. Canner and cutter cows sold at \$11.50 to \$13.70 per hundredweight. A few shelly cows sold down to \$10 per hundredweight.

Alfalfa Weevil Hinders Alfalfa Second Cutting

By GENE WINTERS
County Extension Agent

Alfalfa fields having a whitish or dull gray appearance are showing the effects of a heavy infestation of alfalfa weevil larvae says Gene Winters, Jackson County extension agent.

When the first cutting is made in the bud stage, many of the larvae are destroyed. In some seasons this is all the control needed.

Continued feeding of the larvae on stubble after the first cutting is removed delays the second crop. This delay is most serious if the water supply is short or the second crop is grown for seed.

Alfalfa weevil larvae are nearly white when first hatched, but soon turn to a dirty yellow and have a black head. As they grow their color changes to a bright green. There is a distinct white line down the middle of the back. At maturity they are about a quarter of an inch long. Generally they feed for several days in the stem or on the branch bud before migrating to the terminal buds or leaves. Here they strip the leaves leaving only the veins and woody fibers.

Wasp Preys

As true of most insects, the alfalfa weevil is preyed on by another insect. In about 1938 Dr. L. G. Gentner, Entomologist, Southern Oregon Branch Experiment station in cooperation with the U.S.D.A. introduced from Europe a small black wasp. The wasp emerges from its overwintering pupa in late spring after the weevil larvae are feeding on the alfalfa leaves. The female wasp lays an egg inside the weevil larvae and on hatching the wasp larva lives inside the weevil larva.

Adult alfalfa weevils may be killed in early spring before the females have laid their eggs. This is a dormant season application made prior to new growth. Dieldrin or Heptachlor are the insecticides suggested for this application.

More timely for controlling larvae now retarding new growth are applications of one of the following Parathion, Phosdrin, Methoxychlor, Sevin and Diazinon. Parathion and Phosdrin should be applied only by experienced operators. Intervals to be observed between application and cutting are seven days for Methoxychlor and Diazinon, 15 days for Parathion, one day for Phosdrin and 0 days for Sevin.

Protect pollinating insects - do not apply Sevin within one week of bloom. Do not apply Diazinon when the field is in bloom. Apply Parathion in late evening only. Apply Methoxychlor during early morning or late evening.

Feeder Cattle Rated Steady In Weekly Sale

Ninety consignors sold 237 cattle, 75 sheep and 22 hogs during the regular Friday, June 8 sale at Midway auction yard.

"The market was very active. Feeder cattle and stockers were steady. Utility and commercial cows were about a dollar lower but moved well at the price," Owner-Manager Bill Bray said.

Stocker steer calves sold at \$24 to \$28.80. Heifer calves sold for \$22 to \$24.60. Yearling steers brought \$22 to \$25.10. Most 550 to 650 pound steers sold for \$23.50 to \$24.70. Yearling heifers brought \$21 to \$23.85.

Holstein steer calves sold for \$22 to \$23.75. Holsteins weighing 500 to 700 pounds sold for \$20 to \$21.80, and 800 pound steers sold for \$19 to \$20.20.

Feeder Cows
Feeder cows sold for \$14 to \$17.50. Most sold for around \$15. Cows with calves brought \$17.50 to \$19.50 a pair.

Veals went out at \$24 to \$27.75. All choice calves brought more than \$26. Bulls sold for \$19 to \$20.80. Most heavy bulls were above \$20.

One outstanding five-year-old Angus bull sold for \$520. Commercial to standard cows sold for \$16.50 to \$18.50. Utility cows sold for \$15 to \$16.20.

Cutters sold for \$13 to \$15 and canners brought \$10 to \$12.50.

Feeder hogs sold for \$17.50. Feeder hogs brought \$20.25 to \$22.75. Weaners sold for \$10 to \$13.50 per head.

Modern farming equipment like hay balers and baler-throwers enable today's farmer to do the work of a two- or three-man team - and do it faster.



PRINCESS AND COACH—Miss Connie McDonough, Sams Valley, alighted from a replica of a Wells Fargo stage coach at the opening of the C. C. Beekman home in Jacksonville recently. Handing her down is George McUne, owner and operator of the stage line tourist attraction in Jacksonville and Pioneer Village on its outskirts. Friday, Miss McDonough was named Jackson County Dairy Princess. She and other dairy princess contestants dressed in old-fashioned costume for the opening of the pioneer banker's home.

Farm & Garden Weedy Farm Loss To Farmer, Area

"The banker who has looked into the problem at all appreciates the fact that a weedy farm is not profitable," Wesley R. Dickerson, vice president, First Security Bank of Utah, wrote for the Oregon Farmer.

"He knows that the farmers' main collateral, productive land, declines in value when the soil washes or blows away, or the land's productivity goes down as a result of weed infestation or for some other reason. This means a loss of reserves that are so important to the security of a farm loan," the banker continued.

Low producing farms reflect their condition through-out a community—in less business of all kinds, in reduced tax revenue, and in curtailed community essentials such as roads, schools, churches and recreational facilities.

These are the banker's bread and butter, too, so he is very much concerned with productive, prosperous lands.

Dr. Beagle Gives Cholera Report

Salem - Oregon and other western states with a low incidence of hog cholera, and therefore no vaccination program, will not be penalized under indemnity provisions of the national hog cholera eradication program.

This is the impression of Dr. A. G. Beagle, federal veterinarian in charge in Oregon, gained at a recent meeting in Chicago to review regulations now up for adoption under this program. He was the only representative from the western states and participated as a member of the U.S. Livestock Sanitary association's eradication committee.

The regulation, published in the federal register May 10, is under review for a 40-day period prior to adoption. Because of Oregon's low incidence of this disease, swine growers here are not immediately concerned - except from the information angle - with the federal program. Oregon will not become a cooperator until the federal program achieves the progress already made in Oregon, and then only if the Oregon industry so urges.

A properly installed farm drainage system can increase crop yields considerably. Ohio State university extension agricultural engineers point out. Soil testing is the first step toward a sound fertility program.

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Federal Reclamation Act Major Water Program Step

Washington - UPI - The Federal Reclamation Act is now 60 years old. The signing of the act marked one of the most significant milestones in the history of water development.

The legislation started an orderly program of water-resource development in the western United States. It was the first truly national expression of concern with water, along with land, as the most basic of all resources.

The act was signed into law by President Theodore Roosevelt. It covered 16 western states. Later Texas was added to the original list. Today, the bureau of reclamation also is authorized to function in Hawaii and Alaska.

Created in 1902

This year on its anniversary, the bureau, created as the reclamation service under the act of 1902 counts among its accomplishments the construction of dams and reservoirs providing dependable water supplies for more than eight million acres of fertile land producing a variety of high-demand crops valued at more than \$1 billion annually; 42 power plants with an installed capacity of 5.2 million kilowatts-sufficient to

serve the normal needs of about seven million persons; municipal and industrial water supplies to 200 communities; and 25 million days per year of recreational use at reservoirs; plus flood control, river regulation, and other continuing services.

Irrigation water supplied by reclamation projects has helped make small farms in arid areas efficient and productive. In many parts of the west, without a dependable water supply, only large-scale operations would be feasible, and often in crops not responsive to market demand.

Cover 128,000 Farms

There are now more than 128,000 farms on reclamation projects, according to reports received from farmers and water user organizations. The area in these project farms amounted to about 21 percent of the irrigated land in the reclamation states. These farms provided a full or part-time occupation sustaining about \$25,000 persons living on them in 1960.

The 1960 value of crops grown on irrigated farms totaled \$1.15 billion. The average gross crop return per irrigated acre was \$167. From 1906 to 1960, the cumulative value of all reclamation harvests amounted to \$16.5 billion. (The first reclamation project was completed in 1906).

Vegetable crops and fruits and nuts amounted to 37 percent of the value of the reclamation harvest in 1960, produced on only about 14 per-

cent of the irrigated cropland. About 1.9 million tons of fruits and nuts were grown on reclamation farms in 1960. All these crops, some of them produced during the winter in the southwest, add variety to dinner tables all over the nation and are necessary to a healthy diet.

The bureau of reclamation often has been recognized for its technical achievements over the past 60 years. Two of its undertakings, Hoover Dam, on the Colorado river between Nevada and Arizona, and the Columbia Basin project which includes Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia river, were chosen by the American Society of Civil Engineers as two of the seven modern engineering wonders.

Among the Bureau's many major projects are the Central Valley, California; Colorado-Big Thompson, Colorado; Colorado river storage, Arizona - New Mexico - Utah-Colorado-Wyoming; Columbia Basin, Washington; and the 10-state Missouri River basin.

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Hatchery Group Meets Friday

Corvallis-Feed grain prices and federal marketing orders - two major concerns of Oregon's poultry industry - are among main topics for the Oregon Poultry and Hatchery association's annual meeting, June 15 at Oregon State university.

The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. (Daylight Saving Time) in Withycombe Hall.

M. D. Thomas, OSU extension agricultural economist, will review the feed grain situation and outlook for the Pacific Northwest, including status of the feed wheat program and the 1962 farm bill.

Marketing orders will be treated in a panel discussion led by Clayton Wills, Clackamas county extension agent. Panel members are Cornelius Bateson Sr., Salem member of the USDA Broker Advisory Committee; Ben Mitchell, Newberg, USDA Market Egg Advisory Committee member; Robert Gray, Oregon City egg handler; and Barry Brownell, Oregon City hatcheryman.

The panel will discuss pros and cons of the controversial marketing orders and will conduct a question and answer session with the audience.

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