

Common Market Policies Pose Poultry Export Problem

By GAYLORD P. GODWIN
Washington—The trade policies of the common market pose a big question mark about export prospects of U. S. poultry and eggs to Western Europe.

In an effort to become self-sufficient in agriculture, the common market countries have raised trade barriers in the form of increased duties and import fees. These barriers could keep a lot of chicken and turkey and eggs out of western Europe.

Because the common market is so new, Agriculture Department economists are not yet sure what should be done to combat the trade barriers tossed up against U. S. poultry and eggs. About all the economists can do now in speculating on the future of exports is to look at what has made them successful in the past.

The poultry and egg industry is the third largest cash farm income earner in the United States. It ranks behind livestock and dairying. Yet only in recent years have poultry products become im-

portant in export trade. In becoming important, the industry picked up western Europe as its principal overseas customer.

Exports Increase Steadily
The average annual value of U. S. poultry and egg exports in 1951-55 was about \$33.8 million. Since 1955, there has been a steady annual increase, and in 1961 a record \$93.8 million worth was shipped abroad. The largest share of this was commercial sales through regular trade channels without gov-

ernment aid. For the increase in popularity of U. S. poultry meat has been primarily responsible. In 1957, it made up about 40 per cent of total exports; in 1961, about 70 per cent.

The department said the popularity of U. S. poultry abroad can be attributed to the industry's ability to provide an excellent product that can be priced competitively in foreign markets. Other reasons: The convenience of preparation offered by fully eviscerated, ready-to-

cook birds; increasing attention abroad to low-fat, high-protein diets; and the excellent finish of frozen U. S. poultry.

Fresh frozen U. S. poultry was introduced to West Germany in 1956 through sales for local currency under a public law 480, or surplus disposal, agreement. Since then the main U. S. market for frozen chickens has been western Europe. Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands imported 152.8 million pounds of U. S. frozen chick-

ens in 1961—almost two-thirds of the total fresh and frozen chicken exports.

There are other important market areas where U. S. poultry sales have been growing even faster. The British West Indies have shown a steady increase in takings and have topped Canada as this country's chicken-meat market in North America. Hong Kong, a price-conscious market, is this country's largest frozen-poultry customer outside Western Europe, taking principally poultry parts.

Ghana, Liberia, and Nigeria now constitute a million-pound market in west Africa.

Exports of U. S. turkey meat have shown a similar increase. Exports of shell eggs for consumption have shown a marked decline recently. Venezuela, still this country's primary market, is rapidly approaching self-sufficiency in egg production. U. S. shipments there have fallen from 9.8 million dozen in 1960 to less than 3.4 million dozen in 1961. This meant a 46 per-

cent decline in the total value of these egg exports.

The top market for U. S. dried eggs is Western Europe. The United Kingdom and West Germany take about three-fourths of U. S. annual exports. This product, which requires no refrigeration, has acquired a firm commercial footing abroad. However, total U. S. exports in 1961—about five million pounds—were down somewhat from the year before and less than half as large as in the early 1950's. Frozen eggs, on the other hand, have shown a gradual export increase each year.

NOW REASSIGNED
Second Lt. James K. Korth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Korth, route 1, Talent, left this week for Portland where he has been reassigned to the 142nd unit of the Oregon Air National Guard. He had been home on leave since graduating last month from navigator training at Connally Air Force base, Tex.

Lieutenant Korth was awarded the silver wings of a USAF navigator upon graduation and also received the Commander's trophy. The trophy is given to the distinguished graduate who is also first in his class.

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FROM THE GROUND UP
By BART BARTLETT

This is the final column that will be devoted to organic as compared to inorganic agriculture. Any problems or unanswered questions that remain after this series of articles will be commented upon by request or perhaps treated in a routine manner as future columns appear.

There is no special character or quality given to any nutritive factor in the growth of economic plants by the elements of nutrition having been supplied to the soil from any particular source. That is, from an inland sea or lake when an inland sea or lake has evaporated and disappeared. The nitrogen derived from a thundershower is no different when utilized by higher green plants than that from a manufacturing plant.

Many necessary plant nutrients are almost never organic in origin in the sense that they were ever a necessary part of the living molecules of plants. Some of these nutrients are very necessary for good plant growth. Such elements as calcium, potassium and sodium are rarely ever incorporated in the living protoplasm of plants. They are in plants as conditioners or as energy exchangers and as such can even be leached from living plants by rain and irrigation water. This discussion of the elements of plant nutrition as related to their source could go on and on. It is desirable that nutrition from any source be utilized to feed the world's people.

On Insecticides

It is not wise to find a good insecticide for a pest and use it all season. This is the manner in which pest resistance is obtained. It is far wiser to use the best insecticide obtainable very early in the growing season to reduce the pest population to near nothing as possible. Following the accomplishment of this, substitute materials should be used and even combinations and/or alterations of these substitute materials by application should be used to discourage pesticide resistance.

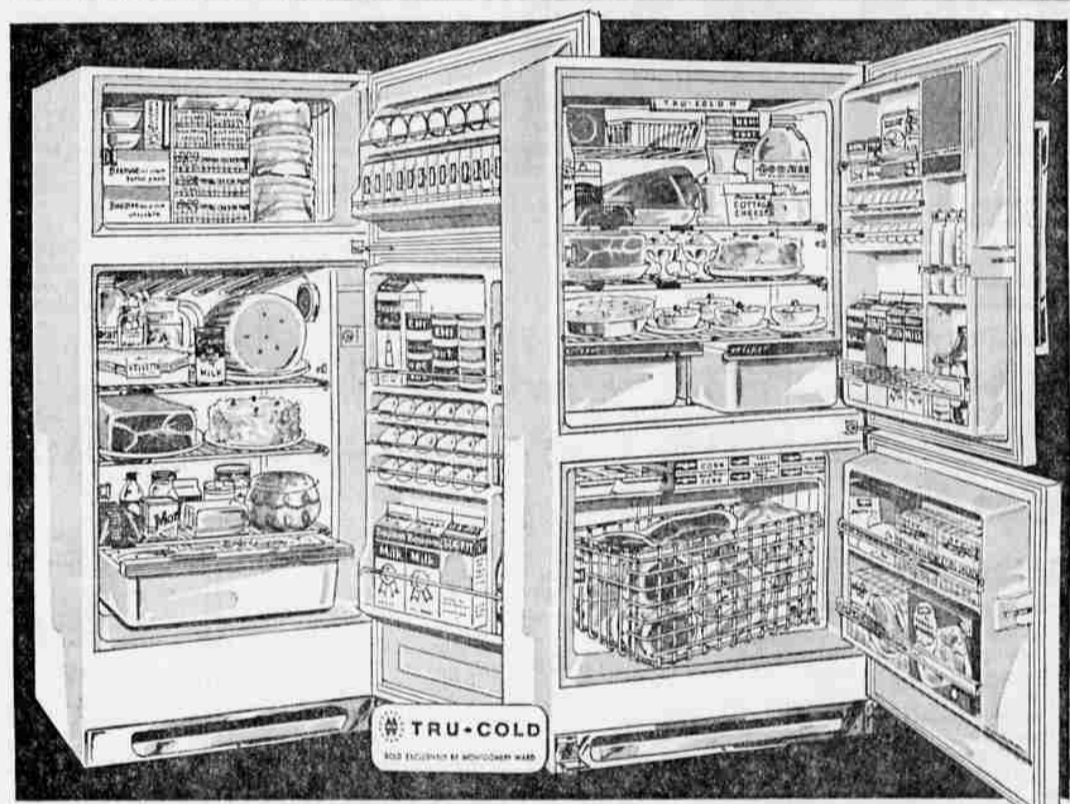
By and large the Bosc pear crop has a peculiar spot on a large percentage of the fruits. It may not be as big a mystery as it seems to be at the moment.

Now is the time for an application of a good control material to the trunks of peach and certain other stone fruit trees for the control of the trunk borer. This pest is not a root borer, in our opinion, as it has been termed recently. It is a borer that may girdle the trunks of stone fruit trees. Unless the orchard is very weedy and grassy, one application made now of a good control chemical in liberal quantity to the soil, trunks of trees, and weeds will control this pest. Consult your chemical spray salesman for materials and advice.

Now is an excellent time to do some summer budding of all types of woody plants.

Bart Bartlett is not highly in favor of dispersing the flowers only after someone has passed away. However the passing of W. B. (Bud) Radey from our local society is hereby mentioned. We knew, liked and will miss "Bud" Radey.

More than one-half (55 per cent) of employed women in the United States are married.



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