

Exports Show Decline

Exports from the U.S. in 1952, valued at \$11,476,484,000 compared with \$10,836,882,000 in 1951. Last year agricultural products constituted 23 per cent of the total value of all U.S. exports, compared with 25 per cent in 1951—an all-time high. For comparison, agricultural exports in the five-year period 1948-52 averaged 763 million annually, or 29 percent of the nation's total exports.

In 1952 leading U.S. agricultural exports were wheat and wheat flour valued at \$841,151,000; cotton, \$262,189,000 and leaf tobacco, \$25,102,000.

Several agricultural exports took a drop last year including: dried eggs, lard, cotton, apples, pears, grain sorghums, wheat, wheaten, peanuts, soybean oil, field and garden seeds, tobacco and dried peas.

Agricultural production represented 42 per cent of the total of all 1952 imports compared with 48 per cent in 1951. On the dollar basis, last year agricultural imports totaled \$4,519,154,000, down 13 per cent from the all-time high of \$5,165,065,000 in 1951. As usual, the leading agricultural imports were coffee, rubber, sugar, wool, cocoa, bananas, spices, tobacco, sisal and hides and skins.

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FARM NEWS



Sprinklers Said Inefficient

Many sprinkler irrigation systems in the Willamette Valley are operating below peak efficiency according to a recent survey of 111 farm systems conducted recently by Oregon State College. M. H. Becker, OSU agricultural economist reports the findings in experiment station bulletin 832, "Sprinkler Irrigation Costs and Practices."

Only 14 of the 111 systems were properly designed in all respects. Many could be improved with slight changes, Becker pointed out. Initial investment in sprinkler systems, cost studies and use on various kinds of crops are discussed in the bulletin. Copies are available from county extension agents or OEC.

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Clover Type Demand High

Heavy demands and low production of Kenland red clover seed in 1952 brought premium prices and have stimulated interest in larger plantings, says Ray Teal, Oregon State College extension economist.

Kenland production in Oregon last year was one-half that of 1951. Declines were also noted in Washington, Idaho and California. A special USDA survey showed total production down one-third in the four states which produce the bulk of the nation's Kenland seed.

Kenland accounted for less than two per cent of the red clover seed produced in the U.S. in 1952, although this strain is well-adapted to the nation's red clover hay.

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