

State Livestock Price Outlook Good, Says OSU Agricultural Economist

Oregon livestock producers can look forward to another year of favorable prices during 1966, according to Stephen C. Marks, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State University.

In an article published in the new Oregon Farm and Market Outlook circular, Marks forecasts a broader demand for red meat during the coming year. Factors behind this increased demand include an increase in the number of U.S. consumers, greater employment and higher incomes and a willingness to eat more red meat even at higher prices. Supplies of red meat will probably be smaller in 1966, which also will help strengthen the market.

Domestic red meat production in 1966 will drop to around 165 pounds per person, down from 1965 levels and from the record 174.8 pounds consumed in 1964, according to Marks. Each person's share of pork will probably be the smallest in 29 years. Per capita supplies of beef may also be a little smaller in 1966.

Eight-Year Buildup Reversed
Changes in the red meat supply are a result of livestock production cycles. At the moment, production of hogs and sheep is on the upswing, so more animals are kept for breeding stock and fewer sent to market. On the other hand, there are more cattle being slaughtered, but at lighter weights, because more heifers are being sent to market instead of kept in the breeding herds. This means that an eight-year buildup of U.S. cattle numbers was reversed in 1965.

Cattlemen will be watching the number of cattle in feedlots closely, for some clue to future price prospects, the economist says.

Twin Cycle Develops
In the past, when more cattle went directly to market without going through feedlots, the cattle cycle consisted only of buildups and reductions in breeding herds. Now, the rapid growth of cattle feeding has meant a twin cycle—the feedlot numbers of cycle as well as the breeding herd numbers cycle.

There is a possibility of a large buildup of cattle in feedlots this year, with plenty of feeder cattle available in this country as well as in Canada and Mexico. Prospects of lower feed costs because of large feed supplies may encourage feedlot expansion in the corn belt, also.

Hog Prices to Remain High
Hog prices hit an 18-year fall high in 1965, reaching a \$30 per hundred pound top price at Portland. The 1965 spring pig crop was the smallest since 1937. Marks says hog prices will hold up well at least until the fall of 1966.

After that, the level of market prices will be influenced by rising production now underway. The higher prices will probably lead to a buildup in production that will put prices on a down skid again in 1967 and 1968.

Higher lamb prices are also expected in 1966, according to Marks. The five-year decline in sheep numbers may be at an end. As more ewes and ewe lambs are held off the market to produce more young, the shortage of lamb meat will help push prices up.

Copies of the latest Oregon Farm and Market Outlook are available at county extension service offices.

Journal Classifieds Bring Results!

R. Holmes Couple Reports Arrival Of Granddaughter
By Alberta Tyner
OREGON TRAIL—Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Holmes report the arrival of a granddaughter, Carolyn, born March 21 to Mr. and Mrs. Dean Holmes of Denio, Nev. Mrs. Holmes has been taking care of Doug while his mother was in the hospital. Dean Holmes arrived from Denio Sunday to take his family home.

Mrs. Frank Byers and Mrs. Rolland Holmes went to the Ontario nursing home last Thursday morning to take the latter's mother, Mrs. Linda Toll, to the hospital to see her new great-grandchild. The new daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Holmes is Mrs. Toll's 30th great-grandchild, 15 girls and 15 boys.

Sunday dinner guests at the Rolland Holmes residence were Mr. and Mrs. Don Roysse and family of Parma.

Mrs. Art Norland, Mrs. Elmer Omland, Mrs. Thurman Hill and daughters were Monday afternoon guests of Mrs. Loyd Adams.

Navyman Visits Grandparents
Brian Hendricks of North Carolina, enroute to Hawaii with the Navy, visited March 31 with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hendricks. His sister, Mrs. Pamela Moore of La Grande, visited her brother at their grandparents home.

Susan and Sally Holmes of Pendleton were Sunday visitors of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hendricks.

Mr. and Mrs. David Ballantyne entertained Saturday evening with dinner for Messrs. and Mrs. Dick Wettstein, Leslie Ballantyne and Melvin.

Ethel Lay and Frances Kratzberg were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Byers.

Mrs. Clifton Tully and children were March 30 visitors of Mrs. Marvin Udlinek. Mrs. Dave Savage and children called later in the day. Last Thursday callers in the Udlinek home were Mrs. Eugene Orr and children.

Trio Visits in Nampa
Mrs. Minard Hart, Mrs. Klaas Hart and Mrs. Nina Lowe visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Thomason in Nampa.

Mr. and Mrs. George Schweizer of Ontario were Sunday callers at the Vic Marshall home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smiley were Monday evening callers at the Glenn Brown residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Williamson of New Plymouth, Wilson Winter and Mary Jean were Sunday visitors at the Bob Adams home.

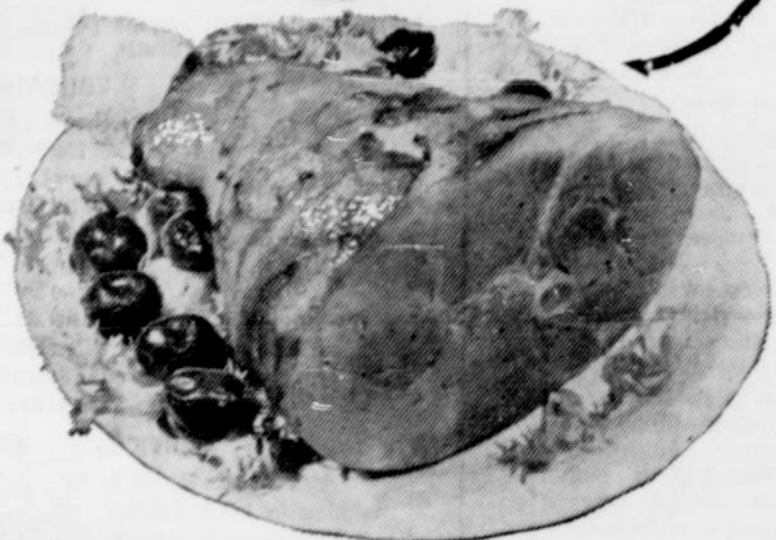
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Favinger were Monday evening callers in the Ed Tyner home. The Tyners were March 30 evening callers in the Bill Church residence.

Jim, Jeannie and Patty Neely attended a birthday supper in Ontario Friday night honoring Clarence Neely Jr.

Mrs. Jim Farmer spent Saturday afternoon visiting her mother, Mrs. Frank Byers.

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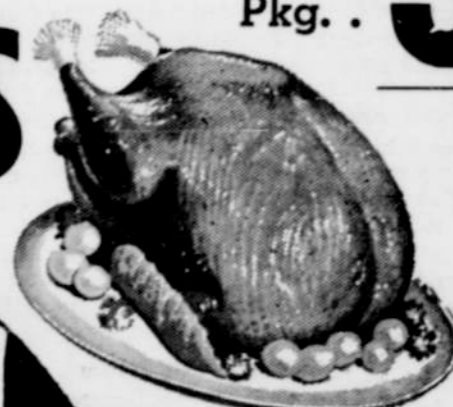


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