

Weekly Farm Market Review

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PRICES LOWER ON MOST FARM PRODUCTS

Producers of farm products in Oregon and around the nation had a good year in 1966, but 1967 started out with mixed trends. Livestock and barley growers aren't doing as well in the market place as they did last winter, but dairymen are earning higher pay for their milk. Potato and onion growers are also faring better.

Farmers closed their January ledgers feeling the cost-price squeeze more than they have in a long time. Prices are lower than a year ago on agricultural commodities like cattle, hogs, lambs, eggs and barley and price tags on things farmers buy to produce food have gone up. Thus, farm product purchasing power has dropped to the lowest level in nearly two years.

In current markets, there are few farm commodities enjoying a buoyant market condition. Favored products are milk and onions. Lower market prices for most commodities this winter were caused by production responses to more favorable prices the previous 18 months or so.

STILL MORE POULTRY PLANNED

Abundance is not confined to red meat. Poultry meat is also more plentiful than ever and American poultry producers are planning a further increase this year.

The USDA annual survey of turkey growers shows they plan to raise 125 million turkeys in 1967. A crop this size would be 8 percent larger than the record one produced last year.

Oregon turkey growers are following the national trend upward but at a more moderate pace. The indicated 6 percent increase would result in 1,835,000 turkeys. This is 1.4 percent of the U.S. total, but Oregon has only 1 percent of the nation's consumers. So, turkey growers continue to face the challenge of finding out-of-state markets.

Broiler growers trimmed their operations when prices dropped sharply last fall. But now that prices have recovered, expansion is likely to be resumed.

FEWER POTATOES IN STORAGE

Potatoes have been more expensive for consumers to buy this winter, but growers have been enjoying one of the few profitable seasons. Potato prices dropped since mid-January but they are still higher than they were last winter.

The supply of Russet potatoes is 11 percent smaller in western storage cellars this year. Oregon has more, but Idaho, the principal supplier, has 2 percent less.

WHEAT LACKS DEMAND

Wheat markets continued in the doldrums during the first 10 days of February for lack of much new

export business and light buyer interest. White wheat prices eased toward the current season's previous low point but still held 5 to 6 cents a bushel above a year ago.

Sizable new export business in white wheat appears eminent, however. India has been allocated another 1.2 million tons of wheat. As soon as purchase authorizations are issued, wheat prices are expected to recover at least part of the recent decline.

EGG PRICES WELL UNDER 1966

Egg producers have more layers now than they did in many years and they are producing more eggs than the market can bear without a decrease in prices. Prices to Portland area egg producers are down around 9 cents a dozen from a year ago on the medium and large sizes and the small size is 5 to 6 cents lower.

Lower egg prices and higher feed costs mean less favorable egg-feed price ratios. Usually this is a signal for a slow-down in flock expansion. Some producers will be forced to quit but no quick turn-around in egg production is likely because of the heavy investments in commercial egg producing operations.

LIVESTOCK MARKETS REACT TO SUPPLY BUILDUP

In livestock markets, fed cattle prices were trimmed some more the past week as more cattle from the record large feedlot inventories were moved into slaughter plants. There has been some decrease in fed cattle numbers during January but California feedlot operators still have 10 percent more than last winter and there are 12 percent more in Arizona and 6 percent more in Colorado.

The increase in marketings of grain-fed cattle and beef output is not the sole factor behind lower cattle prices this winter. Pork, beef's biggest competitor, is being produced in considerably larger volume than a year ago. Weekly hog marketings this winter have been ranging from 25 to 45 percent greater than last winter. These are mostly pigs that were born last summer but included also is a larger volume of sows.

Lambs are also being slaughtered in larger numbers this winter. In recent weeks, the kill has been fully a fifth greater than a year earlier. Slaughter livestock weigh more, too, this winter. Combining this factor with the increase in marketings, total tonnage of red meat has been running around 15 percent greater than last winter.

While the abundance of meat is welcomed by consumers, producers are paying dearly by feeding to heavy weights. The heavier an animal becomes, the more expensive it is to put on additional pounds. The rub comes when producers have to take a discount in the market place.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO MINING CLAIMANTS

Published pursuant to section 5 of the act of July 23, 1955 (69 Stat. 367).

To Whomever It May Concern:
PROCEEDING NO. BLM 67-6 (OR654).

Notice is hereby given in pursuance of a proper Request for Publication heretofore filed in accordance with section 5 of the act of July 23, 1955 (69 Stat. 367), and the regulations thereunder 43 CFR 3512.2 - 3512.6.

1. That on November 25, 1966, the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, whose address is 729 N.E. Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208, filed in the Land Office of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, at 729 N.E. Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208, a request for publication of notice to all mineral locators or any person claiming under them involving a mining claim or claims located on all lands belonging to the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in the County of Malheur, State of Oregon, described as follows to wit:

Willamette Meridian—Oregon

T. 26 S., R. 46 E., secs. 3 to 8 incl., 10, 17 to 21 incl., 25 to 35 incl. T. 27 S., R. 46 E., secs. 1 to 36 incl. T. 28 S., R. 46 E., sec. 34. T. 29 S., R. 46 E., secs. 3 to 10 incl., 12, 13, 34. T. 30 S., R. 46 E., secs. 2, 8, 14, 25, 32 to 34 incl.

2. That if any person claiming or asserting under, or by virtue of any unpatented mining claim located prior to July 23, 1955, any right, title, or interest in the vegetative surface resources and other surface resources, under such mining claim, contrary to or in conflict with the limitations or restrictions specified in section 4 of said act, as to the above-described lands or any part thereof, shall fail to file in the Land Office of the Bureau of Land Management at 729 N.E. Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208, and within 150 days from the below-stated date of first publication of this Notice, a verified statement which shall set forth as to such mining claims:

- (1) The date of location;
- (2) The book and page of recordation of the Notice or certificate of location;
- (3) The section or sections of the public land surveys which embrace such mining claims; or if such lands are unsurveyed either the section or sections which would probably embrace such mining claim when the public land surveys are extended to such lands or a tie by courses and distances to an approved United States mineral monument;
- (4) Whether such claimant is a locator or purchaser under such location; and
- (5) The name and address of such claimant and names and addresses so far as known to the claimant of any other person or

persons claiming any interest or interests in or under such unpatented mining claim;

Such failure shall be conclusively deemed (i) to constitute a waiver and relinquishment by such mining claimant of any right, title, or interest under such mining claim contrary to or in conflict with the limitations or restrictions specified in section 4 of the act of July 23, 1955 (69 Stat. 367), as to unpatented claims located after that date, and (ii) to constitute a consent by such mining claimant that such unpatented mining claim shall be subject to said limitations and restrictions, and (iii) to preclude thereafter, prior to issuance of patent, any assertion by such mining claimant of any right or title to or interest in or under such mining claim contrary to or in conflict with said limitations or restrictions.

Section 4 provides, generally, that unpatented mining claims located after July 23, 1955 shall not be used for purposes other than prospecting, mining, or processing operations, or uses reasonably incident thereto; that such claims will be subject to the right of the United States to manage and dispose of the vegetative surface resources thereof, and to manage other surface resources thereof; and that, except to the extent required for mining operations or uses reasonably incident thereto or to provide clearance for such operations or uses, claimants of such claims shall not use or dispose of vegetative or other surface resources thereof; and that, except for clearance for such purposes, any permitted severance or removal of timber must be in accordance with sound principles of forest management.

Said section 4 also provides that any use of the surface of any such mining claim by the United States, its permittees or licensees, shall be such as not to endanger or materially interfere with the prospecting, mining, processing or reasonably incident uses by the mining claimant.

The date of first publication of this Notice shall be Feb. 2, 1967.

Dated: Jan. 19, 1967.
M. M. GORECKI
Chief, Minerals
Adjudication Section
Final publication: March 30, 1967.

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