WINTER WHEAT SIGNUPS

On October 10 the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that the Nation's farmers had placed slightly over 3.8 million acres of winter wheat "allotment" land in the 1958 Acreage Reserve Program through the close of the signup period on October 4. Participating farmers will be eligible for payments amounting to $76.8 million if they comply with the terms of their agreements. At the close of the 1957 Winter Wheat Acreage Reserve Program signup last year, 10.7 million acres had been placed in the Program. Maximum payments on this acreage totaled approximately $198.8 million.

In New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas (the principal wheat-producing states of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District), 1,403,556 acres were placed in the 1958 Winter Wheat Acreage Reserve Program through the October 4 deadline. Maximum payments for this acreage can amount to $18,904,976. As of the close of the signup period last fall, 2,639,057 acres were placed under the 1957 Program in these states.

Programs for other "basic" crops included in the 1958 Acreage Reserve Program will be announced before planting time next spring.

COTTON

U.S. cotton production this year is estimated, as of October 1, at 12.4 million bales, or about 3% below the month-earlier forecast and 7% less than the 1956 output, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service. The indicated per acre yield is a record 435 lbs. In the Eleventh District states - Arizona, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas - the 1957 cotton crop is placed at 5,945,000 bales, compared with the September 1 forecast of 5,920,000 bales and the 1956 outturn of 5,587,000 bales.

On October 11 the Secretary of Agriculture proclaimed a national marketing quota of 11,920,290 bales and a national acreage allotment of 17,391,304 acres for the 1958 crop of upland cotton. The national acreage allotment is the same as for both the 1956 and 1957 crops, and the marketing quota has been set at the number of bales required to provide an acreage allotment of this size. The Secretary also proclaimed a national marketing quota of 79,022 bales and a national acreage allotment of 83,286 acres for the 1958 crop of extra-long staple cotton. The marketing quota for 1957-crop extra-long staple cotton was 76,565 bales, and the acreage allotment was 89,357 acres. Separate referendums for the 1958 crops of upland and extra-long staple cotton have been set for December 10, 1957. At least two-thirds of the farmers voting in each of the referendums must approve marketing quotas if they are to be effective.

POULTRY

The major Texas commercial broiler markets were steady during the week ended Friday, October 11, reports the State Department of Agriculture. Closing prices - which were unchanged to 1¢ per lb. higher than a week earlier - were mostly 16¢ in all areas. During the corresponding period in 1956, the following closing prices were quoted: South Texas, 17¢; east Texas, 17¢ to 19¢; and Waco, 18¢.

On Monday, October 14, broiler markets were steady to firm in south Texas and were steady in east Texas and Waco. Prices per lb. were: South Texas, 17¢, with a very few at 16¢; east Texas, 16¢ to 17¢, mostly 16¢; and Waco, 16¢.
BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Week ended October 5, 1957</th>
<th>Percentage change from Previous week 1956</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1,828,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>378,000</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 states</td>
<td>24,560,000</td>
<td>2</td>
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LIVESTOCK

Marketings of all classes of livestock except calves were curtailed sharply at Fort Worth on Monday, October 14, probably as a result of heavy rains over much of Texas during the past week end, according to the AMS. The cattle supply totaled an estimated 2,000 - the smallest for any Monday since April. Prices for slaughter steers and heifers were about steady, while those for stocker and feeder cattle were stronger than in the preceding week. Good slaughter steers and heifers (most of which weighed under 750 lbs.) brought $19 to $21; most Utility cows, $13.50 to $14.50; and Good 550- to 700-lb. stocker and feeder steers, $18.50 to $20.50.

In contrast to the limited cattle receipts, Monday's calf offerings, at an estimated 1,300, were 450 above the week-earlier level and were about equal to the year-ago marketings. Trading on slaughter calves was active, and prices were strong to 50¢ per cwt. higher than in the previous week. Most Good grades of killing calves cleared at $19 to $21, and stocker and feeder steer calves sold at $20 to $22.

Hog supplies are placed at 500, or only two-thirds of the week-earlier offerings and less than half of those on the corresponding date in 1956. Demand was broad for the limited supplies, and butchers sold at prices which were steady to 25¢ per cwt. lower than in the latter part of the past week. U. S. mixed No. 1 through No. 3 Grades of 195- to 255-lb. barrows and gilts were quoted at $17.75 and $18.

Sheep and lamb receipts totaled approximately 800, compared with 1,100 a week ago and 6,150 a year earlier. Trading was fairly active, and all classes brought steady prices. Good and Choice 80- to 95-lb. wooled and shorn slaughter lambs sold at $21 and $21.50.

TEXAS CITRUS OUTPUT

The 1957-58 citrus crop in Texas is forecast at 6.2 million boxes, reports the AMS. Grapefruit production is placed at 4.0 million boxes - up 40% from the 2.8 million boxes harvested during the preceding season. The prospective orange outturn, at 2.2 million boxes, is 33% above the output in 1956-57. Indications are that a higher percentage of this year's citrus fruit will be suitable for fresh market utilization than in any season since groves were destroyed by freezes in 1951.

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