



AGRICULTURAL NEWS OF THE WEEK

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

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LIVESTOCK FEED DONATED IN TEXAS COUNTIES

Six Texas counties that were severely affected by Hurricane Carla have been made eligible for donation of feed grains from Commodity Credit Corporation-owned stocks for emergency livestock feeding, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. These counties - which have been designated as "major disaster" areas - are Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Jackson, and Matagorda.

The free feed grains will be distributed under direction of the State Civil Defense Director and will be limited to (1) flood-stranded livestock, unidentified or commingled, for which feed and pasture are not available, and (2) livestock for which producers have been unable to arrange feed or pasture.

Secretary of Agriculture Freeman has announced that temporary grazing of livestock will be permitted in Jackson and Matagorda Counties on acreages diverted to conservation uses. Grazing will be permitted in both counties on lands diverted under the 1961 feed grain program and in Jackson County on lands placed in the Conservation Reserve Program. No acreage in Matagorda County is under the Conservation Reserve Program.

MEXICAN FRUIT FLY AREA EXTENDED

For the first time since 1939, the USDA has found it necessary to extend the Mexican fruit fly federally regulated area in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, where pests could cause heavy damage to citrus fruit. The extension is limited to Starr County, Texas, and was scheduled to become effective on September 30. The area already regulated includes the Texas counties of Brooks, Cameron, Dimmit, Hidalgo, La Salle, Webb, and Willacy, and the southern part of Jim Wells County.

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK AUTHORIZED

On September 26, President Kennedy approved legislation which authorizes the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week. The purpose of the proclamation is to help call attention to the dangers of accidental poisoning.

FALL FARROWINGS LARGER

The number of sows farrowing this fall in the 10 Corn Belt states is estimated at nearly 4.5 million head, or 2% more than in 1960, the same as in 1959, and 16% above the 1950-59 average. These 10 states (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin) accounted for three-fourths of the total U. S. pig crop in 1960, according to the Statistical Reporting Service.

WORLD TRADE IN POULTRY MEAT UP

World trade in poultry meat, as indicated by imports of the eight principal markets (West Germany, Switzerland, Canada, Austria, the United Kingdom, Italy, Hong Kong, and Trinidad), totaled 416 million lbs. in 1960, points out the Foreign Agricultural Service. The volume represented a 26% increase over the preceding year and was almost 80% larger than in 1958. West Germany imported 305 million lbs. of poultry meat in 1960, accounting for nearly three-fourths of the 8-country total. The Netherlands, the largest supplier, exported 104 million lbs. to West Germany. The United

States, second largest supplier, shipped 80 million lbs. of poultry meat to the West German market in 1960, compared with 47 million lbs. in 1959.

L I V E S T O C K

Fort Worth marketings of all classes of livestock during the week ended Thursday, September 28, were below those in the preceding week, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service. Cattle receipts are placed at 9,800, compared with 10,100 a week ago and 8,200 during the corresponding period of 1960. Slaughter steers and heifers sold at prices which were steady with the previous Thursday's market. Good and Choice 930- to 1,050-lb. slaughter steers brought \$24 per cwt., and Utility and Commercial cows sold at \$14.50 to \$17.25. Trading on stockers and feeders was fairly active, and quotations were mainly steady. Good and Choice 500- to 700-lb. stocker steers cleared at \$22.50 to \$25.80.

Calf offerings of approximately 1,100 reflected decreases of 15% from a week earlier and 21% from a year ago. Prices of slaughter calves were about steady with the preceding week's close. Good killing calves brought \$22.50 to \$24, and Good and Choice 300- to 500-lb. stocker steer calves sold at \$23.50 to \$28.

A total of 1,400 hogs was received at Fort Worth during the week ended September 28, which was 200 fewer than in the previous week and 900 below the year ago figure. Trading was fairly active, and closing quotations on barrows and gilts were steady to 50¢ higher than the week-earlier level. The bulk of the mixed U. S. No. 1 through No. 3 Grades of 200- to 250-lb. butchers cleared at \$18.25 to \$18.75.

Sheep and lamb supplies amounted to 5,400, or 21% less than a week earlier and 8% below a year ago. Trading was moderately active, and Thursday prices for slaughter spring lambs were mostly steady. Mixed Good and Choice 75- to 96-lb. slaughter spring lambs sold at \$15.50 to \$16.

P O U L T R Y

During the week ended Friday, September 29, the major Texas commercial broiler markets opened stronger and then became steady on Wednesday, reports the State Department of Agriculture. The market in south Texas remained steady through the close, while that in east Texas weakened slightly. Compared with the corresponding period in 1960, trading volumes were 20% larger in south Texas but were 20% smaller in east Texas. Closing quotations in south Texas were 13.5¢ per lb., and the weighted average price in east Texas was 12.6¢. During the corresponding period last year, closing prices in south Texas were 15.5¢; the weighted average in east Texas was 15.4¢.

Texas commercial broiler markets were weaker on Monday, October 2, with the following prices quoted: South Texas, 12.5¢, and east Texas, 10.4¢ to 12¢ (32% of the sales in the latter area were at undetermined levels).

On October 2, the Southwest Poultry Exchange offered 208,900 broilers. Of this total, 109,500 brought 10.4¢ to 11.8¢ (farm producers absorbed all rejected birds). No offerings were reported under contracts by which buyers absorbed all rejects.

	Area	Week ended September 23, 1961	Percent change from	
			Previous week	Comparable week, 1960
BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS				
	Texas.....	1,816,000	-6	8
	Louisiana..	382,000	4	18
	22 states..	28,966,000	-5	1