



# AGRICULTURAL NEWS OF THE WEEK

## FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

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### W I N T E R   W H E A T

Based on April 1 conditions, the 1962 national winter wheat crop is indicated at 921 million bu., or 14% below the 1961 outturn but 5% above the 1951-60 average. According to the Statistical Reporting Service, the expected yield per seeded acre of 23.6 bu. compares with 24.8 bu. in 1961 and the 10-year average of 18.8 bu. Estimates as of December 1, 1961, placed seedings for the 1962 winter wheat crop at one-tenth below those for the 1961 crop, mainly reflecting acreage diversion under the 1962 wheat program.

The following table shows the indicated production of winter wheat in 1962 for the states of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District and comparable data for 1961.

### WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION

Five Southwestern States

(In thousands of bushels)

<u>Area</u>	1962 <u>Indicated</u> <u>April 1</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>1951-60</u>
Arizona.....	1,044	1,118	1,567
Louisiana.....	624	840	1/750
New Mexico.....	5,092	8,004	1,917
Oklahoma.....	83,562	110,832	75,225
Texas.....	<u>57,920</u>	<u>84,870</u>	<u>38,874</u>
Five states.....	148,242	205,664	118,333

1/ Short-time average.

SOURCE: U. S. Department of Agriculture.

### U S D A   D O M E S T I C   F O O D   D O N A T I O N S   D O U B L E D

Food donations to domestic outlets by the USDA during the first half (July-December 1961) of the current fiscal year totaled nearly 970 million lbs., or about double the amount distributed in the same period of the 1960-61 fiscal year. The number of needy persons participating in the program increased from 4.1 million in January 1961 to 7 million in January 1962. Five new states, 449 new counties and cities, and four new Indian agencies were added to the program during this period.

The following are the numbers of needy persons in family units who received USDA-donated commodities in December 1961 in the states of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District: Arizona, 100,629; Louisiana, 129,434; New Mexico, 78,659; Oklahoma, 287,982; and Texas, 183,754.

## L I V E S T O C K

Adequate moisture and good grazing conditions throughout the marketing territory resulted in reduced cattle receipts at Fort Worth during the week ended Thursday, April 12, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service. The cattle run totaled about 3,100, compared with 3,800 a week earlier and 6,000 during the corresponding period of 1961. Trading on slaughter cattle was fairly active, and prices were 25¢ to mostly 50¢ per cwt. higher than at the previous week's close. Good 800- to 1,105-lb. slaughter steers brought \$23.75 to \$25.50 per cwt., and Utility and Commercial cows sold at \$14.50 to \$17.50. Demand was good for all classes of feeder cattle, and quotations were steady to \$1 higher than a week earlier. Good and Choice 500- to 700-lb. feeder steers cleared at \$23 to \$26.50.

At approximately 800, the calf supply was one-third larger than in the previous week but about the same as a year ago. Trading on slaughter calves was active, and prices were strong to 50¢ per cwt. higher than in the preceding week. Good grades of killing calves sold at \$24.25 to \$25.75 per cwt., and 275- to 500-lb. feeder steer calves brought \$23.50 to \$28.

Hog receipts totaled an estimated 1,800, reflecting decreases of 5% from the preceding week and 31% from a year earlier. Closing quotations for barrows and gilts were steady to 25¢ per cwt. lower than on the previous Thursday, with the majority of the U. S. No. 1 through No. 3 Grades of 180- to 260-lb. butchers quoted at \$15.50 to \$16.

Sheep and lamb marketings advanced seasonally during the week ended April 12. The supply was about one-fourth larger than a week ago and slightly above the year-earlier total. Trading was generally active, and prices were steady to 50¢ per cwt. higher than at the previous week's close. The bulk of the Good and Choice 74- to 95-lb. slaughter spring lambs brought \$18 to \$19.50 per cwt.

## P O U L T R Y

Commercial broiler markets opened steady in south Texas and stronger in east Texas during the week ended Friday, April 13, points out the State Department of Agriculture. Markets in both areas were fully steady throughout the trading period and closed with a firm undertone. Supplies were adequate for the fair to good demand. Closing prices were 14.5¢ per lb. in south Texas and 14.5¢ to 15¢ in east Texas. During the comparable week in 1961, closing quotes were 15¢ in south Texas, and the weighted average price in east Texas was 13.9¢.

Commercial broiler markets were slightly stronger in south Texas and steady in east Texas on Monday, April 16. Quotations per lb. were: South Texas, 15¢, with a few on previous commitments at 14.5¢; and east Texas, 14.4¢ to 15¢.

	Area	Week ended April 7, 1962	Percent change from	
			Previous week	Comparable week, 1961
BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS	Texas.....	3,188,000	1	-1
	Louisiana..	549,000	-5	-4
	22 states..	43,182,000	0	-5