

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search
http://ageconsearch.umn.edu
aesearch@umn.edu

Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.

604

NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE MARKETING BUREAU

DIVISION OF MARKETING
AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW



NOVEMBER, 1944.

Vol. 12

No. 3.

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF MARKETING AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SYDNEY

A. H. PETTIFER, ACTING GOVT. PRINTER. St 6949

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

A MISCELLANY OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE MARKETING.
OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF MARKETING AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.

NOVEMBER, 1944

Table of Contents.

1	o est la este estr Tomos volvented es és en Sa. Volvels on al social este en la est social des	I No.
THE HOLE	ha restriction an expert	Page
	Highlights	12W-J41 :
	Possibilities of Future Pastoral Settlement in the Western Division of N.S.W.	42
	Sheep, Cattle and Pig Sales at Homebush	
	Fruit and Vegetable Sales at City Municipal Markets, Sydney	53
W. W. W.	Alexandria Railway Goods Yard and Sussex Street Sales	57
	Commodity Prices in Sydney	61
	Graph: Roceivals of Eggs by N.S.W. Egg Board	firem 62d

Articles or other matter appearing herein may be reproduced subject to due acknowledgment being made of the source.

HIGHLIGHTS

Payment of £1,500,000 in drought relief to growers of cereal crops is authorised by the State Grants (Drought Relief) Bill recently introduced in the House of Representative A condition of payment by the Commonwealth is that the State Governments concerned shall contribute an equal amount.

An increase of a halfpenny a pound in the maximum retail prices for apples and pears announced by the Prices Commissioner brings the price in Sydney for best quality lines to 10d per 1b.

The Minister for Customs states that as part of the Commonwealth's plans for post-war export trade, the list of controlled goods is being reviewed. The aim of the review is to abolish control in cases where there is no longer any reason for restriction on export. A committee has been formed to develop Australia's export trade in preparation for the post-war period.

The Prices Commissioner has announced an increase of ld per dozen in the price of first grade hen eggs, the new pri of 1/8 per dozen being operative from 20th November, 1944.

The selection of the se

the shor Hestern seed of

and the control of the state of

The establishment of a Wool Consultative Council within the Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction is included in plans for encouraging wool research and publicity announced by the Prime Minister. It is also proposed to reconstitute the membership of the Australian Wool Board and to spend about £600,000 per annum to be raised by a tax of 2/- per bale on wool and a contribution of 2/- a bale by the Governmen

The maximum wholesale ceiling price for tomatoes has been reduced from 24/- to 20/- per half-case. The new price came into effect on 13th November, 1944.

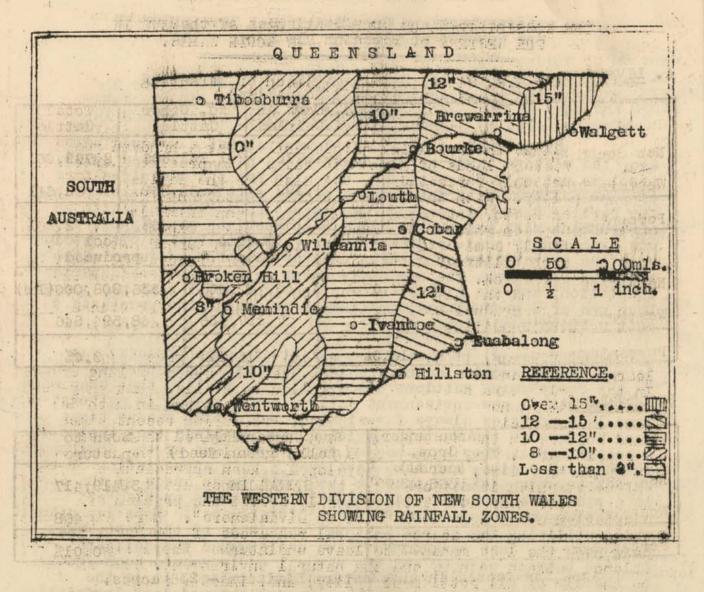
THE POSSIBILITIES OF FUTURE PASTORAL SETTLEMENT IN THE WESTERN DIVISION OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

(By N.R. Wills, B.Sc., Division of Marketing and Agricultural Economics).

Since their initial settlement almost a hundred years ago, the western lands of New South Wales have presented special problems not only for settlers, but also for the administrators of land policy. With the advance of the settlement frontier into the Darling Basin, intending "squatters" found themselves in an environment with which they had had no previous experience. It was essentially semi-arid, where every problem turned ultimately was essentially semi-arid, where every problem turned ultimately upon the probability of drought and the need for adequate water and feed for stock. The new environment called for considerable and feed for stock. The new environment called for considerable adaptation, and the history of western land settlement has largely been one of a gradual modification of standards and practices to meet western conditions.

sed and selection However, it has been a relatively slow process; man learns slowly and ist loath to change customs inbred by long usage. In the early years settlers often failed to realise that they were dealing with a new environment calling for a change in mothods; nor were land policies always far-sighted, but during recent times many land-holders in the Western Division have realised that theirs is a special area. They have become fully conscious of the environment in which they live, and have developed a keen appreciation of the extent to which it differs from the humid inner areas of the east. As a result, many have satisfactorily solved the problem of adaptation and become good "Western Divisioners". More important, while utilising the scarce pastoral resources of the West, they have none the less managed to leave undisturbed the delicate balance between economy and the natural environment. Such should be the aim of all settlement policy; and, indeed, it is the general direction pointed by the more enlightened land legislation of recent years.

By proclaiming the Western Division a separate land administrative unit in 1888, the State recognised its special characteristics and since then land policy has been directed towards emphasising the need for a sufficient area for holdings in the West. While the policy of the Crown has not favoured holdings of an excessive size, it has, nevertheless, been equally opposed to granting inadequate "living areas". Despite recent advances, however, much positive legislation has yet to be added to the Statute Book before it can be claimed that full recognition has been given to the special problems of the Far West.



The Western Division of New South Wales covers an area of 80,319,318 acres, representing forty percent. of the total area of the State. About ninety-five per cent. of this vast area receives an average annual rainfall of less than fifteen inches, three-quarters receiving less than twelve. Agriculture as a major use to which western lands might be put is thus ruled out, and with one exception (the Hillston district) only in small irrigated patches is crop farming of any significance. This account purports only to deal with land settlement for dominantly pastoral purposes; it may well be that there are limited areas in the Division suitable for irrigation settlement.

Livestock and Crop Statistics of the Western Division, 1940/41.

A. LIVESTOCK

and the second of the second o						
Jojano 1	No. Horses	No. Cows in Regd.Dairies		No. Other Cattle		Total
New South Wales	531,776			1,141,866		2,769,061
Western Division	16,703	1,392		61,269		62,661
Percentage	2.14%	0.13%		5.36%		IANT 2.26%
THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	No. Sheep		THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE	MANUFACTURE OF THE	The state of the s	oduced
New South Wales	大学 / 伊罗斯·斯里斯		43,72	7,601	536,	908,000(lbs)
Western Division			7,197,156		48,594,546	
Percentage	13.3%		16.5%		9.0%	
	New South Wales Western Division Percentage New South Wales Western Division	New South Wales 531,776 Western Division 16,703 Percentage 2.14% No. Sheer New South Wales 55,567, Western Division 7,369,	New South Wales 531,776 1,054 Western Division 16,703 1 Percentage 2.14% 0 No. Sheep New South Wales 55,567,675 Western Division 7,369,567	Horses Regd.Dairies	Horses Regd.Dairies Catter	Horses Regd.Dairies Cattle New South Wales 531,776 1,054,770 1,141,866 Western Division 16,703 1,392 61,269 Percentage 2.14% 0.13% 5.36% No. Merino Sheep property New South Wales 55,567,675 43,727,601 536, Western Division 7,369,567 7,197,156 48,

B. CROPPING.

Target and the control of the	Area under Crop.	Area under Hay, (grain, green feed)	Sown to pasture
The state of the s	(acres) 6,365,435	6,150,166	3,419,417
Western Division	14,745	9,626	468
Percentage	0.23%	0.15%	0.01%

Area irrigated in the Western Division - 236 acres.

C. HOLDINGS.

REPORT FOR	Holdings devoted to agriculture	Holdings devoted to dairying	devoted to	Mixed dairying and grazing	Others	Total
N.S.W.	No. 9,938	No. 14,098	No. 20,897	No. 1,252 101	No. 10,446	No. 74,495
West.Div.	317	19	1,500	7	30	1,912
Percentage	3.18%	0.13%	7.17%	0.55%	0.28%	2.56%

Ninety-seven per cent. of the Western Division has been occupied under one tenure or another and of the total occupied area some 48 million acres are held under perpetual lease from the Crown The holdings comprising this area may be regarded as having fulfill the home-maintenance requirements of various parts of the Division, in return for which the State has guaranteed their occupiers perpetual security of tenure. In this connection it is important to remember that freehold tenure does not exist in the Western Division. The Crown Lands Act of 1884, and the Western Lands Act of 1901, established and re-affirmed the principle of Crown owner ship. Western lands were henceforth to be held under conditions of leasehold for which a nominal rental had to be paid.

Since the beginning of this century, the main trend of land policy has been towards establishing home-maintenance standard throughout the Division, and subsequent legislation has been directed towards this end. In 1934 an important amendment to the 1901 Act aimed at expediting the evolution of living areas. The 1934 amendment, amongst other things, set out clearly the way in which the Crown was to achieve its goal. By a system of penalties and compensations, large leaseholders were persuaded voluntarily to subdivide their holdings before their legal claim to the land expired. Large areas of land in the Division accordingly reverted to the Crown during the ensuing years and as a result of an amendment by the present State legislature 15 million acres will become available during the next four years.

Recent closer settlement discussions in the Western
Division largely turn upon these 15 million acres and their
importance has been heightened by considerations of money cost.
The Crown has regained direct title to a very large area at
negligible cost to itself. In the normal course of events,
resumptions of an equivalent area elsewhere would have involved
the Government of the day in an enormous money outlay. In the West,
however, there has been no question of resumptions at a fair market
value and the present situation in the Division thus represents
one of those few occasions when the State finds itself in a positio
to dispense largesse without an equivalent call upon its revenue.

The question may well be asked what the State intends to do with its 15 million acres of resumed western lands. Is it to be ear-marked for new settlers, or should it be allocated, where possible, to existing land-holders whose areas are below homemaintenance standard?

Since 1901, the policy of the State has been consistently directed towards achieving home-maintenance standards throughout the Division. Such a policy required, firstly, the adaptation of certain principles upon which to base the concept of a home maintenance or "living area", and, secondly, an administrative programme whereby it was possible gradually to transfer land from large to small holdings. In many cases subdivision of large holding was followed by new settlement, since it has not always been possible to allocate resumed land to existing below-standard lesses

However, where such a transfer was geographically possible, existing settlers were given first preference, and home maintenance standards thereby gradually extended throughout the Division. On the occasion of almost every major subdivision, some new settlement has thus been possible, but much more significant on such occasions was the transfer of land from large to small holdings.

Home-maintenance standards differ, of course, in various parts of the Division, depending upon long-term carrying capacities and distance of holding from railhead, etc. Estimates are based and distance of holding from railhead, etc. Estimates are based chiefly upon the sustenance capacity of the country for sheep; during recent years cattle numbers in the West have steadily during recent years cattle numbers in the West have steadily during and the industry is now of minor importance. Home maintendeclined and the industry is now of minor importance. Home maintendeclined are essentially areas capable of running an adequate flock of sheep.

It has been estimated that about 15 million acres of suitably-located land would be required to bring all existing below-standard holdings in the Division up to home maintenance level and this amount, curiously enough, is about equal to the total area which the Crown will have at its disposal for redistribution during which the Crown will have at its disposal for redistribution during the next few years. If western land policy remains unchanged in this period, no doubt every effort will be made to build existing this period, no doubt every effort will be made to build existing holdings up from this pool. Actual locations and the factor of distance will necessarily preclude a relationship between land available and land required in some cases but it has been established by investigation that most of the 15 million acres can be used as "additionals" to build up holdings in the various counties.

Only in those areas where such a relationship is out of the question will it be possible to establish new settlers. Such areas are thus a measure of the closer settlement potential of the Western Division and an estimate places its upper limit at a hundred. Western Division and an estimate places its upper limit at a hundred. That is to say, if the State uses its 15 million acres for the That is to say, if the State uses its 15 million acres for the purpose of establishing greater home-maintenance uniformity, it will be possible to place less than a hundred new graziers on Western Division blocks.

Many assumptions have, of course, been made in the report of which this article is 'a summary'. For instance, home-maintenance standards throughout the West have been accepted as a satisfactory basis upon which to build the settlement pattern. The wisdom of building up below-standard holdings before encouraging new settlement building up below-standard holdings before encouraging new settlement likewise has been accepted, and the prognosis of settlement potentialities worked out within that framework.

The conclusion to be drawn, then, given these assumptions, is explicit. From the standpoint of pastoral utilisation the Western Division must be regarded as already occupied to capacity and offering little or no opportunity for new settlement. Future and offering little or no opportunity for new settlement. Future policy will need to be directed towards conserving its very limited policy will need to be directed towards conserving a reduction, resources, a course of action which may well require a reduction, rather than an increase, of its pastoral population.

SALES OF LIVESTOCK AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

Sheep numbers decline.

The number of sheep and lambs available showed a reduction when compared with the previous month's aggregate. During the period, supplies totalled approximately 312,000 head or about 85,000 less than the September yardings. Only six sales were held in October, whilst Six Hour Day (a public holiday) and industrial disputes resulted in reduced numbers coming forward for sale. Early in the month (and prior to the industrial trouble referred to) yardings on each sale day were in excess of the 60,000 mark. One offering of 66,845 head represented the largest supply on any one sale day for many years.

Fair supplies of sheep.

Supplies of sheep were well maintained and although the total of approximately 131,000 head was about 16,000 below the September figure, the proportion of grown sheep to lambs in the actual pennings showed some improvement.

The general standard of quality was only fair, many lot showing the effects of drought conditions in certain parts of the State. Moderate numbers of medium to good trade wethers and ewes were included but while good to prime heavy ewes made a fair showing, very few prime heavy wethers were available.

Sheep market variable.

The market over the period was marked by considerable variation. Values progressively declined over the first three sales held early in the month, due to extremely heavy supplies. The industrial dispute had a very adverse effect on prices generally. Stock consigned for Monday's market were held over until Thursday and although no settlement had been reached in the dispute, agents endeavoured to sell the sheep on hand in order to avoid further losses. As a fair proportion of the better class of sheep had been disposed of privately, mainly to near country butchers, plain to medium sheep predominated and values reached relatively low levels, with plain descriptions very difficult to clear.

On the three regular auctions held subsequently, rates declined by from 5/- to 7/- per head and in places more for plain descriptions. Following on the settlement of the industrial troub the number of sheep offering was relatively light and values advanced considerably, increases generally ranging from 3/- to 5/- per head. At the closing auctions larger supplies caused a fall in prices ranging from 1/- to 2/- per head.

Sales listed hereunder will serve as a guide to market fluctuations.

First Teek.

Good trade 46 lb. wethers (skin 1/6) made 24/4 each or 6d per 1b.

" heavy 64 lb. " | 1/- | " 31/9 " " 54/4 " " | 4d " "

Second Week.

Good heavy 56 lb. wethers (skin 2/6) made 24/1 each or 45d per lb. " trade 46 lb. ewes (" 1/3) " 15/9 " " 35d " "

Third Week (period of industrial dispute).

Good trade 40 lb. ewes (skin 1/9) made 13/7 each or 32d per lb. Fair " 45 lb. " (skin 1/9) made 13/7 each or 32d per lb.

Fourth Week

Good heavy 52 lb. wethers (skin 3/6) made 27/10 each or 53/d per lb.

Closing Sales.

Good trade 46 lb. wethers (skin 1/6) made 22/- each or 51d per 1b. 38 lb. ewes (" 2/-) " 15/4 " " 42d " "

Mutton again cheaper.

The average cost of mutton was again lower, wethers reaching to 6d and ewes to 5d per lb. compared with 7td and 5td per lb., respectively, in September. For the most part good heavy wethers made from 4td to 5td per lb. with sales at times heavy wethers made from 4td to 5td per lb. with sales at times from 3td to 4td. Light wethers generally cost from 5d to 5td but on one occasion only 4td to 4td per lb. was obtained. At the sale held during the period of the dispute, wethers sold at from 1td to 4td and ewes at 1td to 5td per lb. according to quality.

Heavy ewes mostly realised from $2\frac{5}{4}$ d to $4\frac{5}{4}$ d and light descriptions from $3\frac{1}{4}$ d to $4\frac{5}{4}$ d per lb.

Lambs well supplied.

Despite the fact that continuity of supplies was interrupted, suckers and lambs were generally well represented, a total of 181,000 head being yarded during the period. Actually a total of 181,000 head less than the previous month's this figure was about 70,000 head less than the previous month's total but under normal circumstances there was every possibility total but under normal circumstances there was every possibility of the September total being exceeded, as a total of 119,000 was of the September total being exceeded.

Suckers comprised the bulk of the pennings, summer lamb being available in moderate numbers only. Quality generally was very fair but there was a fair proportion of medium to plain descriptions, particularly suckers, included. Good to prime light grades made a fairly good showing while many lines of an exceptionally good to prime heavy description were also yarded.

Lamb values fluctuate. The market for lambs and suckers for the most part was irregular and values declined by from 5/- to 8/- per head early in the month, plain to medium grades showing the most fall. Price advanced by from 3/- to 5/- per head but the improved realisation did not continue and at the closing sales lambs and suckers again were 2/- to 3/- cheaper. On occasions throughout the month plain suckers were very dull of sale.

Price trends are indicated in the following actual sale First Week

Good trade 34 lb. suckers (skin 4/*) made 25/4 each or 7½d per lb " 6/-) " 30/8 " " 6½d " " 10/-) " 30/8 " " 6½d " " 10/-) " 30/8 " " 10/-) " 30/8 " " 10/->

Good trade 34 lb. suckers (skin 4/-) made 22/1 each or 62d per lt " beavy 38 lb. lambs (" 5/6) " 24/3 " " 6d " " beed red a mo additional formula to the same of the same of

Good trade 36 lb. lambs (skin 1/-) made 16/1 sach or 52d per lb.

Good trade 35 lb. suckers (skim 4/+) madev 29/7 each or 84d per li heavy 50 lb. " (" 6/-) moli 36/10 mil " 12d " "

Good trade 35 lb. suckers (skim 4/-) made 25/7 each or 72d per li made 25/

On the average, the cost of both lambs and suckers was substantially lower; the highest price paid for suckers was 834d per 1b. as against 91d in September. Generally, suckers cost fro 51d to 71d per 1b. with odd lets of prime making 71d to 74d. Heal lambs mostly realised from 52d to 64d with some making up to 8d per lb., and light descriptions were obtained at 53d to 7d. At times, prime light lambs made to 82d per lb. Values reached low levels during the week in which operations were disorganised and levels during the week in which operations were disorganised and suckers were worth from 3d to 52d and lambs 3d to 42d per 1b.

Cattle numbers increase but quality deteriorates.

Consignments of cattle were irregular in the extreme and while there were some fairly heavy yardings during October, 1944, industrial disputes at the Homebush Abattoirs were responsible for some very light supplies. One sale had to be cancelled. The aggregate for the seven sale days during the period was 10,822 head, including 1,587 auctioned in the store section. The number yarded represented an increase on that of the previous month.

The quality of the consignments was most variable and, on the whole, the general standard was very disappointing. Furthermore, small beasts comprised the great bulk of the pennings with heavy cattle in limited supply. On the final sale day more grown stock were offered and quality showed a marked improvement.

The pastoral position in New South Wales has deteriorated still further and the outlook at the close of the period was creating considerable concern. Drought conditions are spreading over wide areas of the State.

Bullocks scarce.

Except on the final sale day, supplies of bullocks were very limited and on two sale days none of this class was available. Pennings generally comprised fair to good trade light and medium weights, while on a few occasions, some heavy descriptions were available. Demand was very strong and values were maintained at a relatively high level throughout the period. Carcase equivalent prices ranged to 59/- per 100 lb. for both medium and heavy weights and to 57/- per 100 lb. for lightweights. On a per head basis heavy beasts realised to £26.12.0. These values were below the extreme rates of the previous period.

Inferior quality steers.

Steers were fairly well represented and on several occasions good to prime light and medium weights made a satisfactor; showing. During the latter half of the month, however, the general quality deteriorated and the pennings comprised chiefly lightweight of medium to fair trade descriptions only.

Good quality steers were in very keen request and the market showed an improvement on that of the previous month. Values were fairly steady throughout with quotations ranging to 62/- per 100 lb.

Dairy cows predominate.

Pennings of cows varied considerably, supplies being very light at times but fairly heavy on other occasions. Dairy breeds, however, greatly predominated. The market fluctuated somewhat but at times quotations for good to prime lines ranged /to ...

to about 50/- per 100 lb. Odd extra heavy cows were noticed and on one occasion £20.6.0 per head was realised.

Fair showing of heifers.

Heifers made a fair showing although lightweights greatly predominated. Good quality descriptions were in keen demand and at closing quotations ranged to 58/- per 100 lb.

Poor quality vealers.

Vealers were fairly plentiful on several sale-days but all grades of quality were represented and the general standard was disappointing. Good trade to prime sorts were noticeable amongst the heavier weights. Apart from a weak market during the industrial dispute values were maintained at a high level, quotations ranging to 67/- per 100 lb.

Darger supplies of pigs.

Supplies were the largest for some time, pennings for the five sale-days in October aggregating 12,835 head. Receivals by rail accounted for 9,665 and an additional 1,802 pigs were sold by private treaty. The yarding on the 10th of the month, 3,077 head, was the largest since February, 1942.

Carcase branding of choppers.

During the month arrangements were completed by the Controller of Meat Supplies for the full-length branding of pigs exceeding 200 lb. dressed weight and those dressing between 100 and 200 lb. which are deemed unsuitable for processing into bacon and hams. The branding will be done with a roller stamp and the pigs so treated will be regarded as choppers, the guaranteed price of which to the producer is 5d per 1b. The reason for this action is twofold. Firstly, it will prevent pigs being processed into bacon which, it is desired, should be dealt with otherwise. Secondly, it should be a material factor in bringing about a reduction in the weight of extra heavy baconers raised for marketing The guaranteed price will still be paid for pigs dressing to 200 1b. but with a view to establishing the industry along lines more suited to probable post-war requirements it is desired that pig farmers concentrate more in producing pigs not exceeding 180 1b. This action, is important in another direction in that it constitutes the first official step in this State to brand meat for the purpose of presenting deception. Persons will no longer be able to convert to bacon any carcase which has not been passed and graded for such purpose.

Irregular market for baconers.

Baconers comprised the bulk of the consignments which included all grades of weight. Heavy to extra heavy descriptions wer

were, for the most part, well represented. Good trade pigs predominated but the general standard on at least two occasions could only be described as fair.

The market again displayed an irregular tendency although values of the various weight grades did not fluctuate evenly. Rates were highest at opening when prices per head ranged from £3,15.0 to £7.8.6 and carcase equivalent values to 9gd per 1b. (95d for pigs estimated to dress 160/180 lb.). By the third week, however, only a relatively small percentage of the offerings however, only a relatively small percentage of the offerings realised more than 9d por lb., while many lines realised the equivalent of 81d per lb. The market generally improved on the equivalent of 81d per lb. The market generally weaker demand following sale day-but at closing a considerably weaker demand rollowing sale day but at closing a considerably weaker demand ruled for extra heavy descriptions and prices declined. Operators ruled for extra heavy descriptions and prices declined. Operators fears regarding the lower values of pigs exceeding 200 lb. apparently were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker request for animals in the 180/200 ly were responsible for the weaker

Keen demand for backfatters.

For the most part, backfatters were well supplied and the pennings included a fair proportion of prime heavy pigs.

Demand was very keer and. except on one sale day, rates per 1b.

At closing, practically all backranged to 62d per 1b.

fatters were worth the equivalent of at least 6d per 1b. The highest price per head noted during the month was £14.8.6.

Irregular market for porkers.

Consignments of porkers fluctuated considerably and on one occasion supplies were very limited. All grades of weight and quality were represented, although good trade medium to heavy weight descriptions constituted a large percentage of supplies. The market was very irregular but prices generally were fairly good when store buyers operated. On the final sale day, light-weights realised to 13 d per 1b. Lowest value noted was 6d per 1b.

G.C. & J.W. golden beginner man a

----0000000----

Most of the stands which will be harvested for grain and hay are expected to give moderate to good yields, but substantial areas have been utilised for grazing in many localities. In the bulk of the oat-growing districts in the west and south of the State there has been a continuance of the dry conditions which have prevailed throughout the greater part of the growing period. Based upon conditions existent at the 26th October, 1944, it would appear that the total yield of oat grain will approximate 2,660,000 bushes whilst the quantity of oaten hay cut is forecast at 135,000 tens. -----

AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS; SYDNEY.

Small Valencias difficult to sell.

An active demand ruled for Valencia oranges during the first half of October but the receipt of large quantities of small fruit subsequently had a somewhat depressing effect on trading. Only choice fruit of large size found ready sale during the latter half of the period and counts of 180 and higher had to be sold at much lower rates than those ruling earlier. It was possible, however, to obtain the ceiling price of 21/- per bushel for seme extra choice fruit. Late in the month there was an accumulation of very small fruit and breakdown was causing losses.

The mandarin season drawing to a close.

Choice, large mandarins continued to meet a good inquiry but supplies were limited towards the close of the month. Many packs of the Emperor variety had passed their best condition. This fruit was lacking in juice content and showing puffiness; this class and small sizes were difficult to sell, although offered at low prices. The small quantities of Ellendales forward met a good demand at up to 26/- per bushel and occasionally higher.

Generally demand for lemons was confined to purchases for the retail trade. Breakdown was apparent in many lines shortly after their receipt on the selling floors and a good deal of wastage resulted. Plain grades were very slow of sale.

Higher rates rule for choice apples.

The ceiling price for apples was advanced from 23/- to 25/- per bushel as from 1st October. This increased rate was readily obtained for choice fruit of selected varieties.

Supplies from inland coel stores in New South Wales were light and comprised Granny Smith, Delicious, Democrat and a few Rome Beauty. The quantities of Delicious available were sufficient to supply only a small portion of requirements and apart from a few very small sizes the ceiling price of 25/- ruled. Request for Granny Smiths was also brisk and stocks cleared quickly. Democrats were in steady request with best sizes selling to 23/- and occasionally higher.

Western Australian Granny Smiths sold well and rates advanced, the maximum being obtained for best packs. Democrats from that State were on offer at from 12/- to 15/- per bushel. Further consignments of Victorian Jonathan, Rome Beauty, Delicious Granny Smith and a few other kinds came to hand. For choice packs of the varieties mentioned up to 25/- per bushel was paid but for lines that reached an over-mature stage low prices were accepted.

Tasmanian Democrats were available at 10/- to 11/- per bushel early in the month but with the dwindling of supplies of other varieties subsequently, rates advanced to 12/- to 15/-. Best packs of Granny Smiths sold from 15/- to 21/- but owing to breakdown many lines had to be disposed of at low prices.

Pears sell at a higher level.

Victorian consignments of pears, which included Packham's Triumph, Winter Cele, Josephine and Winter Nelis, formed the main supplies. The ceiling level was advanced to 26/- per bushel and this price was obtained for good quality fruit of varieties, only small sizes and ripe lots being sold at a lower price.

Only small quantities of New South Wales Packham's Triumph and Winter Nelis were forward. The maximum of 25/- was also obtained for best sizes.

Pineapples in request.

Consignments of pineapples showed a decline. With the warmer weather prevailing demand improved approciably and little difficulty was experienced in effecting clearances of the greater proportion of supplies at the ceiling rate of 25/- per bushel.

The stone fruit season opens.

The harvesting of cherries from the Young and Lakesland districts commenced towards the close of October. The fruit from the Young district was mostly small as a result of the adverse weather experienced during the growing season, Nevertheless, realisations were in the main very satisfactory. The Lakesland cherries were in better condition and sales were made at higher levels than those ruling for Young district packs.

New season's apricots from coastal orchards were available. Request was good and relatively high prices ruled, quarter case lots selling up to 14/-. of the single day and the first

Supplies of bananas increasing.

There was an upward trend in consignments of bananas towards the end of the month. Generally the maximum price of 7d per 1b. was realised for good quality fruit but values for medium and lower grade packs were easier while ripe fruit was offered at comparatively low levels. Decline in supplies of vegetables. Jan applicate and education of

With the generally dry conditions provailing throughout the greater part of the vegetable growing areas of the State, supplies were showing a marked decline towards the close of October. The pea-growing centres in the Central Tableland appear to have been seriously affected as only light consignments were coming forward and the quality of the produce generally was not of the best.

Supplies of peas decline and values advance.

Large quantities of peas reached the market from coastal areas early in October but supplies had declined to fairly low levels prior to the close. On Tuesday, 3rd October, following the holiday week-end, agents were confronted with the task of disposin of no less than 4,600 bags. Fortunately, request was very satisfactory for good quality lots and the bulk of this class was sold but clearances of discoloured and off-quality lines were not effected, over 1,000 bags remaining unsold. Choice descriptions realised to 12/- while lower grades sold from 5/-. Supplies continued heavy until about mid-October and the assistance of canneries had to be sought to clear carry-over stocks of offquality lines and sales were made at 4/- per bushel. Generally, the position with regard to choice quality offerings was much better as large purchases were made for Victorian and also for Defence requirements, thus enabling a reasonably satisfactory price to be maintained. During the period 19th to 25th October a good inquiry ruled for choice descriptions and up to 18/- per bushel was obtained but lower grade lots continued difficult to sell.

With considerably decreased consignments during the remainder of the month the market for good quality lines was very firm and little difficulty was experienced in obtaining the maximum of 23/4 per bushel for any choice descriptions. The maximum of 23/4 per bushel for any choice descriptions. The greater proportion of offerings, however, could only be classed as medium to inferior, much yellowing of pods being apparent as medium to inferior, and some had to be sold cheaply.

Choice beans sell to ceiling level.

There was a sharp decline in consignments of beans from the Far North Coast and Queensland after mid-October and by the close of the month supplies had practically ceased. Marketing of the new season's crop from the Gosford-Tuggerah area and Central North Coast (principally from around Port Macquarie) commenced at North Coast (principally For the earliest receivals from the supplies increased rapidly. For the earliest receivals from the Gosford-Tuggerah area the maximum of 25/- per bushel was obtained this rate was paid for extra choice lets on some days, but the This rate was paid for extra choice lets on some days, but the bulk of supplies sold at lower levels. On Tuesday, 24th October, the ceiling rate was reduced to 20/- per bushel. Large quantities of Central North Coast beans were purchased by Food Supply and this enabled values to be maintained. With the limited supplies of peas on offer during the last week of the month the demand for beans was brighter and good quality descriptions sold well at up to 20/- per bushel.

Choice tomatoes sell well.

There was an exceptionally good inquiry for tomatoes /during...

during the greater part of the month. Local glasshouse supplies were eagerly sought and the ceiling price of 24/- per half-case ruled for other than small or inferior fruit. Consignments from the North Coast also sold well but towards the close of October a number of packs from this area failed to pass inspection owing to immaturity and grub infestation, while some lines were only medium to lower grade and the high standard of values ruling early could not be maintained. There was a downward trend in consignments from Queensland and also an appreciable falling-off in quality, particularly supplies received during late October. While the ceiling price of 24/- per half-case was freely paid for good quality lines, only a small percentage of supplies reached this standard prior to the close of the month, some packs being unsaleable.

Rates for cabbages advance.

Only relatively small quantities of choice cabbages reached the market on some days and on these occasions values were firm. With reduced supplies of other "greens" on offer towards the close of the month, rates showed an upward movement and selected large "heads" brought up to 14/- per dozen.

Cauliflower season ends.

Only isolated lots of cauliflowers were available and some choice "heads" exceeded 30/- per dozen at times. The season for this vegetable ended prior to the close of the month.

Marrows from Queensland in request.

Fairly large quantities of vegetable marrows were received from Queensland and owing to the limited supplies of pumpkins on offer little difficulty was experienced in effecting disposals at satisfactory prices. Supplies from local sources were very light.

Sweet potatoes scarce. The fundament has further or the large and the

Sweet potatoes were in short supply and the ceiling of rate of 16/- per cwt. ruled.

Supplies of lettuce increase.

Lettuce were more plentiful after mid-October and the high prices ruling prior to that time could not be maintained, and values fell sharply. On some days clearances could not be effected even at very low prices.

R.M.

the A. Marke of T. Day til communication of the section of the sec

ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

New season's potatoes available.

Toron commission bas havery

Supplies of local potatoes at Alexandria totalled 11,025 bags compared with 2,890 bags in September. The first consignments of new season's local Factors, totalling 9,739 bags, reached the market. Other arrivals were 1,206 bags of old season's tubers, including Chats, and 80 bags of Factor seed. These supplies were received mostly from the Murwillumbah, Lismore, Grafton and Raleigh districts of the North Coast. The tubers opened up in very good condition and it was necessary to regrade only about 300 bags owing to grub infestation and faulty grading.

Supplies from Victoria showed a considerable falling-off, only 7,810 bags of Carmans and Snowflakes being received.

There were also 2,938 bags of new grade Factors and a few Manhattans received from Queensland, but 1,450 bags were rejected owing to greening, grub, faulty grading and mechanical injuries.

There was a very keen demand and all local Wictorian and Queensland supplies were released for civilian consumption.

Receivals in Sussex Street from Tasmania showed a marked decline, 53,956 bags being received compared with 191,284 bags in the previous period. The supplies consisted mostly of Brownells, Snowflakes and Arranchiefs of No.1 grade. The bulk of the consignments was taken over by the Federal Authorities, consequently a very small percentage only was available for general trading purposes.

Rates for the month were unchanged with the exception of chats which sold at slightly reduced prices. Wholesalers' prices to retailers for new and No.1 grade were £7.17.6 for tubers of Tasmanian, Victorian and Queensland origin, while No.2 and No.3 grades sold at £7.5.0 with chats at £6.0.0 per ton. Rates for New South Wales potatoes for delivery to country areas are as quoted above, plus freight from loading station. Prices for Victorian potatoes to New South Wales country areas are as quoted, plus freight from Sydney or loading station, whichever is the lower. Primary merchants' prices to wholesalers are £1.5.0 per ton less than the figures mentioned.

Increased demand for swedes.

Arrivals of swedes at Alexandria increased slightly but supplies sold readily towards the end of the month. Stocks totalled 2,339 bags from local centres and 69 bags from Queensland. Opening sales were effected at £7.0.0 to £7.10.0 with a few /inferior...

inferior at £4.0.0 but later demand improved and clearances were made at £9.0.0 per ton. Queensland lines sold at £7.0.0 to £7.10.0 per ton.

Supplies of carrots again light.

Receivals of carrots at Alexandria from local centres totalled 656 bags, but quality varied considerably, sales being recorded at £12.0.0 to £18.0.0 with a few as low as £11.0.0 per ton.

Parsnips very scarce. Beetroot sells well.

or Sussex Street. Beetroot consignments from Queensland aggregating or Sussex Street. Beetroot consignments from Queensland aggregating 958 bags were in request at £14.0.0 to £17.0.0 per ton. There were 447 bags from local centres on offer. Opening sales were recorded at £12.0.0 and later sales were effected at the increased rate of £15.0.0 to £16.0.0 per ton.

Queensland sweet potatoes in domand.

Consignments which arrived at Alexandria from Queensland totalled 432 bags which sold at £15.0.0 per ton.

Pumpkins continue scarce.

There was a marked falling-off in stocks of pumpkins which were the lightest since last November. Only 2 trucks of old, in addition to 9 bags of new season's, were received. Sales of old season's were reported at £21 per ton but no rates were disclosed for the 9 bags of new season's. At Darling Harbour landing, supplies included la trucks from Queensland.

New onions from Queensland sell readily.

There was a considerable increase in the supplies of onions, 8,547 bags arriving from Queensland. These met a very keen demand and in most cases were rationed out to various buyers at approximately £21 per ton. A small consignment of white table onions was received from Victoria but those were not available for general trading.

At Darling Harbour, consignments were fairly heavy but . 26 these were disposed of at £21 and ex store at £22.10.0 per ton.

Oaten chaff exceptionally scarce.

Consignments of oaten chaff were again reduced and totalled 88 trucks. All lines on offer sold readily, medium lots clearing at £9.0.0 to £9.15.0, good sound at £9.10.0 to £10.0.0, with prime and choice at £10.5.0. Towards the latter end of the with prime and choice at £10.5.0. Towards the latter end of the with prime and choice at £10.5.0. Towards the latter end of £10.5.0, month the bulk of sales were made at the maximum rate of £10.5.0, with a few odd trucks of medium at £9.15.0 and good sound at £10.0.0 per ton.

Wheaten chaff sells at firm rates.

Receivals of wheaten chaff increased by 12 trucks and totalled 20 trucks. There was a keen demand and sales of medium and good sound lines were recorded at £9.10.0 with prime lots at £10.0.0 to £10.5.0 per ton. The first two trucks of new season's wheaten chaff were included in the above consignments.

Lucerne chaff more plentiful.

Supplies of lucerne chaff at Alexandria consisted of 512 trucks which included a few trucks from Queensland. There was no difficulty in effecting disposals of all lines, the bulk sellin at ceiling rates. Medium realised £10.0.0 to £11.0.0, good sound £11.10.0 to £12.0.0, prime £13.0.0 to £13.10.0 and choice £13.10.0 per ton.

域域等於於 "在京人也

Heavy supplies of lucerne hay.

The Maitland district has been the most favoured part of the State so far as forage production is concerned, and supplies again showed a marked improvement. Consignments of lucerne hay aggregating 140 trucks came to hand, this being the largest total at Alexandria since September, 1942. There was no difficulty in disposing of all lines on offer and during the period prices gradually increased. Early sales of new soft green were made at £4.0.0 to £7.10.0 with a few higher, while later £6.0.0 to £8.10.0 and occasionally higher was secured. Dry lines sold at £8.0.0 to £9.0.0, with a few dump baled special lots of new green at £8.10.0 to £11.0.0 per ton.

From other centres supplies also increased, 41 trucks being received compared with 22 last month. The bulk sold readily, medium at £7.0.0, good sound at £10.10.0, prime at £11.10.0 to £12.10.0 and choice at £12.10.0 per ton. Included were 3 trucks of derrick-pressed local and 7 trucks from Queensland. Local good sound and prime realised £10.0.0 and Queensland prime £11.10.0 to £12.0.0 per ton.

Oaten and wheaten hay very scarce.

Limited supplies came to hand, only 8 trucks being available. Sales of rack oaten were effected at the maximum of £9.0.0 with a few medium bales at £6.0.0, while good sound derrick pressed oaten brought £7.0.0. At auction prime wheaten derrick pressed realised £9.0.0 per ton.

Arrivals of straw increase.

Consignments of straw totalled 60 trucks, including 19½ trucks of oaten, 10½ of wheaten and 30 trucks of rice straw.

Oaten and wheaten lots were not sufficient to meet /requirements...

requirements; prime oaten sold at £7.5.0 to £7.10.0 per ton and wheaten at £7.5.0 to £7.10.0 with few lots of wheaten stained at £6.5.0 to £6.10.0 per ton. Rice straw was disposed of at £6.0.0 to £6.10.0 per ton. theaton charge words mealers all a ball

Wheat in request.

Consignments at Alexandria comprised 44 trucks. The supplies consisted of F.A.Q. lines which sold readily at 3/8 per a leru vicini in structural on bushel.

Maize sells at ceiling rates.

Receivals of maize continue relatively light, supplies totalling 5,802 bags. These included 2,326 yellow and 1,198 white from local centres, and 937 yellow and 1,341 bags of white from Queensland. A fairly large percentage was consigned to private buyers. All lines offering for general trading met with a good demand, sales of local yellow being recorded at 7/3 per bushel. Arrivals at Sussex Street from the North Coast were again very light and consisted of 351 bags of yellow which realised 7/3 per bushel. Also received were 41 bags of white but no rates were disclosed.

Oats very scarce.

Supplies of oats at Alexandria were again exceptionally light. The two trucks which arrived were consigned to private buyers.

New fixed prices for beef and mutton were the subject of a recent Order issued by the Prices Commissioner.

The Order reduces the prices of beef and mutton throughout New South Wales and came into operation on 13th November, 1944.

Details are:-

Retail Prices: Beef: fillet steak 3d a lb. reduction, rump ld, sirloin beef ad, topside ld. Mutton: Short loin chops ld, chump chops ld, shoulder ld.

Wholesale Prices: Beef reduced by 2/1 a 100 lb. on yearling light ox and light heifer, 1/- a 100 lb. on heavy ox and heavy heifer. New prices: Yearling boef 6td lb., ox not more than 650 lb. 5td, heifer not more than 650 lb. 5td, ox more than 650 lb. 5td, heifer more than 650 lb. 5ad.

Mutton: hogget and wethers 1d lb. reduction, ewes 1d.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES
IN SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING OCTOBER, 1944,
AND CORRESPONDING FIGURES AT 31st AUGUST, 1939.

The following table gives particulars of the range of prices in Sydney, as collected and recorded by the Division of Marketing and Agricultural Economics, in respect of various commodities for the period indicated:-

31st August, 1939

	Commodity	October, 1944	Sist August, 1000
77.74	Wheat: Home Consumption Bulk - per bushel	3/ 1140 (michange	
1 (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1	Flour - per ton	£10.4.2 " (plus £2.8.10 tax)	(plus £6.2.9 tax)
Trans.	Bran _ " "	£6.0.0 (unchange	ed) £4.5.0
	Pollard " "	£6.0.0	£4.5.0
	Eggs - per dozen		2000 - 20/2/2/2
1.4.4	Butter (choice) per cwt.	. 169/4 (unchange	ed) 161/2d
net extra		1/0½d " 1/- 1/1d to 1/3½d	11d 10gd 1/2d
200 38		October, 1944	29th August, 1909
rougho	Pigs (Abattoir Sales): Good to prime per head	Paragraph and San and	
्र च करती	te 39 to dalet	40/81 58/6	43/6 51/6
	Heavy Baconers Backfatters	50/6 76/6 £3.8.6 £7.8.6 £5.3.6 £14.8.6	50/6 54/6 60/6 75/6 £4.5.0 £8.10.0
		A COUNTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	

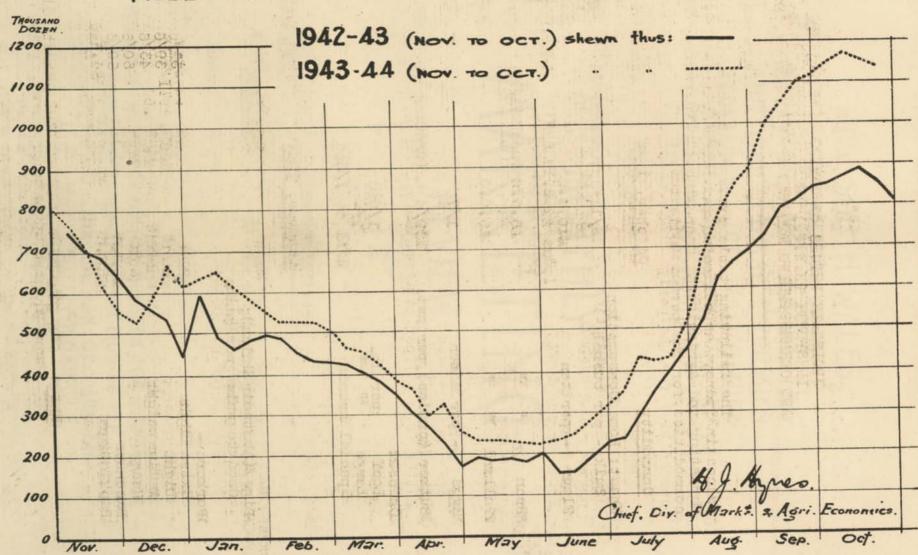
Note: The pig sales nearest 31st August, 1939, were those hold on 29th August, 1939.

DIVISION OF MARKETING AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS - DEPT OF AGRICULTURE - NEW SOUTH WALES

E. 44.1.

EGG PRODUCTION

RECEIVALS BY N.S.W. EGG BOARD : PRODUCERS ONLY.



Compiled: RBKMillen Drawn: ENShomen. Checked: Rtfffillen