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NEW SOUTH WALES
STATE MARKETING BUREAU
DIVISION OF MARKETING
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

DECEMBER, 1942

Vol. 9 No. 4

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE
PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF MARKETING,
SYDNEY

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MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

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

Released during the Second Week of each Month.

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

DECEMBER, 1942.

Vol. 9 No. 4

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HIGHLIGHTS

It is reported that a recommendation has been made by the Australian Meat Industry Commission to the Prices Commissioner that prices for pig meats should be fixed. Provision is to be made for the establishment of wholesale margins and close control of retail prices will be exercised.

It is announced that the newly appointed Federal Director of Agriculture will conduct a nation-wide drive to increase vegetable production coupled with an extension in vegetable dehydration.

A poll of growers of ginger held on 4th December under the Marketing of Primary Products Act resulted in an affirmative vote on question of constituting a Ginger Marketing Board for the State of New South Wales.

Federal Government has suspended the operations of the Apple and Pear Board in all States with the exception of Tasmania and Western Australia. Growers in four States are thus enabled to market their crops through ordinary trade channels.

The New South Wales wheat crop has been finally officially forecast at 50 million bushels, representing an increase of 2 million bushels on the preliminary forecast issued during October.

Order No. 27 issued by Premier of New South Wales under National Security (General) Regulations provides for control of the sale and use of certain types of second-hand fruit cases which comprise Apple Dumps, Canadian, Gins, Half-Bushel Dumps, Flat Half-Bushels (with or without hinged lids) and Orange and Melon Crates.

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

LICENSING OF WHOLESALE TRADERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Official Secretary, New South Wales Government Offices, London, has advised that the British Minister for Food has made the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (Restriction on Dealings) Order, 1942. This Order applies only to dealings otherwise than by retail in fresh fruit and vegetables (excluding potatoes and carrots) in the United Kingdom. It requires that wholesalers, selling agents (commission salesmen) and buying agents (commission buyers) are to be licensed on an appointed day, prescribes the wholesale channels through which controlled and uncontrolled produce may be marketed, and also prescribes the records of transactions in fresh fruit and vegetables, other than retail transactions, which are to be kept by growers and distributors.

The following are not required to be licensed under this Order:- Growers who sell produce of their own production - but they must obtain a licence under the Order to buy from other growers for resale: Traders who sell only to catering establishments or to consumers: Retailers whose sales otherwise than by retail are limited to sales to other retailers, provided that both buyer and seller hold retail licences to deal in fresh fruit and vegetables and that the seller carries on a retail trade as his principal business.

The Order reads as follows:-

" 1. In this Order -

"The Minister means the Minister of Food.

"Buy" includes offer or agree to buy, and "sell" includes offer or agree to sell or expose for sale.

"Catering business" includes the business or undertaking of an inn, public house, hotel, restaurant, buffet, coffee stall or of any place of refreshment open to the public, or of any club, boarding house, refreshment contractor or canteen, and the expression "caterer" shall be construed accordingly.

"Fruit" and "vegetables" means respectively fresh fruit and fresh vegetables (other than potatoes and carrots).

"Grower" in relation to any fruit or vegetables includes any person in whom the property in the fruit or vegetables is vested prior to the severence thereof from the land.

"Licensed wholesaler", "licensed selling agent" and "licensed buying agent" mean respectively persons for the time being licensed as such under this Order.

"Manufacturer" means any person who for the purposes of his trade or business, other than a catering business, processes or preserves fruit or vegetables or uses fruit or vegetables in the composition, manufacture or preparation of any article.

/"Maximum ....

"Maximum prices Order" means in respect of any fruit or vegetables any Order of the Minister prescribing maximum prices for such fruit or vegetables for the time being in force.

"Sale by retail" means any sale to a person buying otherwise than for the purpose of resale and includes any sale to a person for the purposes of a catering business carried on by him, but, except where the context otherwise requires, does not include

(a) in the case of any specified fruit or vegetables, any such sale as aforesaid by the grower except it be a sale under any provision of a maximum prices Order or any licence or authorisation granted thereunder authorising the fruit or vegetables to be sold by retail at a price exceeding the maximum price on a sale by the grower which would otherwise be applicable under such Order; or

(b) a sale to a manufacturer for the purposes of his manufacturing business;

and the expression "retailer" shall be construed accordingly.

"Sale by wholesale" means any sale other than a sale by retail or a sale by the grower and the expressions "buy by wholesale", "sell by wholesale" and "wholesale" shall be construed accordingly.

"Specified fruit or vegetables" means any fruit or vegetables in respect of which there is a maximum prices Order for the time being in force, and the expression "non-specified fruit or vegetables" shall be construed accordingly.

2. (1) Except under and in accordance with the terms of a licence (hereinafter referred to as "a wholesaler's licence") granted for the purposes of this Article by or on behalf of the Minister, no person shall sell by wholesale any fruit or vegetables and no person shall buy by wholesale any fruit or vegetables except from a person duly licensed under this Article.

(2) Nothing in this Article shall prohibit any person who is the holder of a licence to sell fruit or vegetables by retail granted under the Food Control Committees (Local Distribution) Order, 1939, as amended, from selling such fruit or vegetables to any other person who is the holder of such a licence, for sale by that person in the course of his retail business, provided that the seller carries on a retail trade in fruit or vegetables as his principal business.

3. (1) Except under and in accordance with the terms of a licence (hereinafter referred to as a "buying agent's licence" or a "selling agent's licence" as the case may be) granted for the purposes of this Article by or on behalf of the Minister, no person (whether or not he is the holder of a licence granted under Article 2 of this Order) shall buy or sell fruit or vegetables as an agent on commission, and no person shall buy or sell fruit or vegetables through any agent on commission who is not duly licensed under this Article.

/(2) .....

(2) Nothing in this Article shall prohibit the sale of fruit or vegetables by a servant on behalf of his employer, by whom he is solely employed, by reason of such servant being wholly or partly remunerated on a commission basis.

4. (1) Any reference to a selling agent in any maximum prices Order in respect of any fruit or vegetables shall be construed as a reference to a licensed selling agent, and any such Order shall have effect accordingly.

(2) Where under any maximum prices Order in respect of any fruit or vegetables, a maximum addition to the maximum price is prescribed in respect of the commission paid or payable to a selling agent, no selling agent shall charge and no person shall pay or agree to pay to a selling agent a rate of commission in respect of such fruit or vegetables in excess of such a maximum addition.

5. (1) No person shall -

(a) sell any specified fruit or vegetables of which he is the grower except to a licensed wholesaler, or through the agency of a licensed selling agent to a retailer, or

(b) sell otherwise than by retail any non-specified fruit or vegetables of which he is the grower except to a licensed wholesaler, a manufacturer or a retailer;

and no person other than a person to whom a grower is authorised under this paragraph to sell fruit or vegetables shall buy fruit or vegetables from a grower.

(2) The foregoing provisions of this Article shall not apply to the sale of specified fruit or vegetables by the grower thereof to a retailer or by retail if the grower is authorised under any provision of a maximum prices Order or any licence or authorisation granted thereunder to charge on such sale a price exceeding the maximum price on a sale by the grower which would otherwise be applicable under such Order.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article, any grower may sell and any person may buy from a grower, otherwise than by retail, a growing crop of fruit or vegetables where the property therein is transferred under such sale before severance from the land or where the price is to be calculated otherwise than by reference to the quantity or weight of the crop, provided that every buyer on any such sale shall for the purposes of this Order be deemed to be the grower.

6. (1) Every person holding a licence under this Order shall indicate in legible characters upon all circulars, business letters, invoices, statements of account and other documents relating to his business as a trader in fruit or vegetables otherwise than by retail and sent by him to any other person in the course of that business, the description of such licence together with the number thereof. Such indication shall be in the following form or such

/other ....

other form as the Minister may authorise:

"Holder of Ministry of Food Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Licence No. .....(a)..... as a .....(b)....."

such indication being completed by inserting at (a) the number specified on the licence and by inserting at (b) the expression "Wholesaler", "Selling Agent", or "Buying Agent", as the case may b

(2) No person not duly licensed under this Order shall sen to any other person any document bearing any words or marking calculated to lead the recipient to believe that the sender is licensed under this Order.

7. The holder of a wholesaler's licence shall not be entitled by virtue thereof to sell fruit or vegetables except to other licensed wholesalers, to manufacturers or to retailers.

8. (1) The holder of a selling agent's licence shall not be entitled by virtue thereof to sell fruit or vegetables,

(a) except as an agent on commission; or
(b) except where his principal is authorised under this Order or the Food Control Committees (Local Distribution) Order, 1939, as amended, to sell to the buyer.

9. The holder of a buying agent's licence shall not be entitled by virtue thereof to buy fruit or vegetables,

(a) except as an agent on commission;
(b) except where his principal is authorised under this Order to buy from the seller;
(c) unless he shall have been previously authorised by such principal to buy the fruit or vegetables on his behalf and shall have previously disclosed to the seller the identity of the principal by whom he has been so authorised.

10. (1) Every person who sells fruit or vegetables otherwise than by retail shall -

(a) keep or cause to be kept an accurate record of all purchases and sales by him of fruit and vegetables otherwise than by retail, such record to include in the case of each purchase and sale the following particulars:-

(i) the date of the purchase or sale;
(ii) the name and address of the person from whom he purchased or to whom he sold the fruit or vegetables;
(iii) the description of fruit or vegetables sold or bought and the quantity of each such description, and such particulars of any marks (including sub-marks) used in relation thereto as will enable the same to be identified;

/(iv) ....

(iv) the price, and where there is any variation in the price the description and quantity of fruit or vegetables sold or agreed to be sold at each price, and any other sum paid or payable in respect of any service in connection with the purchase or sale rendered to him by the person from whom he purchased the fruit or vegetables, or, as the case may be, rendered by him to the person to whom he sold the fruit or vegetables, with particulars of the nature of such service;

(v) in the case of the purchase or sale of any specified fruit or vegetables, particulars of each and every addition to the maximum price charged in accordance with the provisions of a maximum prices Order, including any charge by way of deposit in respect of a returnable package or container, and particulars of the repayment or crediting of any such charge by way of deposit.

(b) keep or cause to be kept an accurate record of all stocks of fruit and vegetables held by him from time to time other than fruit or vegetables grown by him.

(2) Every person who buys or sells fruit or vegetables as an agent on commission shall with respect to each purchase or sale keep or cause to be kept an accurate record showing the name and address of his principal, and the amount of the commission, and any other sum payable to him for any service rendered by him to the principal in connection with the sale, with particulars of the nature of such service.

(3) Where fruit or vegetables are sold through the agency of a licensed selling agent the principal shall not be obliged to keep any of the records required to be kept under sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (1) of this Article, but such records shall be kept by the selling agent.

11. Every person who sells fruit or vegetables otherwise than by retail shall within 7 days of the delivery of the fruit or vegetables to the buyer furnish to him an invoice clearly stating the date of the sale, the descriptions of fruit or vegetables sold and the quantity of each such description, the prices charged and where there is any variation in the price the description and quantity of fruit or vegetables sold or agreed to be sold at each price, and any other sums paid or payable by the buyer for any service rendered in connection with the sale, with particulars of the nature of such service.

12. Every person who sells fruit or vegetables through the agency of a licensed selling agent shall furnish to such selling agent on or before the delivery to him of the fruit or vegetables, a statement in writing specifying the description of such fruit or vegetables and the quantity of each such description, together with such particulars of any marks (including sub-marks) used in relation thereto as will enable the same to be identified.

/13. ...

13. (1) Every licensed selling agent and every licensed buying agent shall in respect of each purchase or sale entered into by him as such an agent, furnish to his principal an account specifying the following particulars:-

(a) the date of the purchase or sale;
(b) the price paid or payable on such purchase or sale, and where there is any variation in the price the description and quantity of fruit or vegetables sold or agreed to be sold at each price;
(c) the amount of the commission and any other sum payable to him for any service rendered by him to the principal in connection with the purchase or sale, with particulars of the nature of such service; and
(d) the amount of any expenses paid or payable by him on behalf of his principal in connection with the purchase or sale and repayable to him by the principal, with particulars of each item thereof, provided that where the Minister shall so authorise in writing it shall be a sufficient compliance with the requirements of this sub-paragraph to specify on the account such sum or a sum calculated at such rate as may be agreed between the parties to cover all such expenses.

(2) Such account shall in the case of a licensed selling agent be furnished by him to his principal as soon as reasonably practicable after such sale, and in the case of a licensed buying agent shall be furnished or despatched by him to his principal within 24 hours of each purchase.

14. Every person who sells fruit or vegetables otherwise than by retail shall retain -

(a) every invoice, consignment note or similar document furnished to him by any person from whom he has purchased fruit or vegetables or on whose behalf he has sold fruit or vegetables as an agent on commission;
(b) a copy of every invoice, consignment note or similar document furnished by him to any person to whom he has sold fruit or vegetables whether as a principal or as an agent on commission;
(c) where he has bought or sold fruit or vegetables as an agent on commission, a copy of every account furnished by him to his principal and every receipt for expenses paid by him on behalf of his principal.

15. Every person who is required by this Order to keep any record or retain any document shall keep or retain the same for a period of one year from the date of the transaction to which it relates, or in the case of a record of stocks from the date when he took delivery thereof.

16. Where a person is required by this Order to keep a record of any particular, the retention by him of an invoice, consignment note or other document, or a copy thereof, which contains such particular, shall be a sufficient compliance with such requirement.

/17. ...

17. Where under the provisions of this Order any price, charge or other sum paid or payable is required to be specified in any record or in any invoice, account or other document, the amount specified shall be the actual amount paid or payable and if any addition to or deduction from that amount is subsequently made the record shall be corrected, or as the case may be, the invoice, account or other document shall be duly amended by a statement in writing.

18. Where under the provisions of this Order the quantity of any fruit or vegetables is required to be specified in any record or in any invoice, account or other document, such quantity shall in the case of any specified fruit or vegetables be expressed in terms of the net weight thereof (subject to the provisions of any maximum prices Order relating to the method of calculating such net weight):

Provided that where under a maximum prices Order the maximum price of the specified fruit or vegetables is prescribed by reference to packages or containers containing a specified weight or quantity, the quantity of such fruit or vegetables may be specified by showing the number of each description of such packages or containers.

19. The Home Grown Apples (Northern Ireland) (Control) Order, 1941, is hereby revoked and the Orders specified in column 1 of the Schedule hereto shall be amended to the extent specified in column 2 of the said Schedule, but without prejudice to any proceedings in respect of any contravention thereof.

20. (1) The provisions of this Order are subject to any directions which may at any time be given by or on behalf of the Minister, and to any licence or authorisation which may be granted by or on behalf of the Minister under this Order.

(2) Every person holding a licence or authorisation granted under this Order shall comply with every condition imposed by such licence or authorisation.

21. Infringements of this Order are offences against the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

22. (1) The provisions of this Order shall come into force on such day or days as the Minister may by order appoint.

(2) This Order may be cited as the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (Restriction on Dealings) Order, 1942.

----oooOooo----

SALES OF LIVESTOCK AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

HEAVY SUPPLIES OF SHEEP AND LAMBS BUT PIGS SCARCE AND DEAR: CATTLE VALUES UNCHANGED.

Heavier yardings of sheep and lambs.

A relatively high total of 456,756 head of sheep and lambs was disposed of at November auctions, the number available representing an increase on the previous month's aggregate. Average pennings at each sale approximated 50,000 head, while more than half of the total supplies comprised lambs and suckers.

Good sheep scarce.

The general quality of the sheep yarded was mostly very fair. Good heavy wethers were in relatively short supply but a moderate number of nice light trade sorts was included. Heavy ewes were fairly well in evidence but by far the greater proportion of the grown sheep was of fair to medium trade standard only. Shorn descriptions predominated, only occasional drafts of woolly sheep being penned.

Irregular sheep market.

Prices of wethers and ewes fluctuated somewhat but not to such a marked extent as during the previous month. The market at opening was practically unchanged for wethers but values of ewes advanced 1/- per head. At the following sale all classes sold at lower levels, a decline of from 1/- to 2/- per head being evident. Although the market varied somewhat from sale to sale there were no extreme rises or falls in prices and rates at closing were substantially the same as those ruling at the opening sale in November.

Some representative sales are indicated below:-

				First Week						
Good trade	42 lb. wethers	(skin 5/-)	made	17/3	per	head	or	3½d	per	lb.
" "	46 lb. ewes	(" 2/-)	"	13/4	"	"	"	3d	"	"
				Second Week						
Good heavy	50 lb. wethers	(skin 1/3)	made	14/4	per	head	or	3⅛d	per	lb.
" trade	46 lb. ewes	(" 1/9)	"	11/2	"	"	"	2½d	"	"
				Third Week						
Good trade	42 lb. wethers	(skin 1/6)	made	12/9	per	head	or	3¼d	per	lb.
" "	44 lb. ewes	(" 1/3)	"	11/1	"	"	"	2¾d	"	"
				Fourth Week						
Good trade	45 lb. wethers	(skin 2/6)	made	15/7	per	head	or	3½d	per	lb.
" "	40 lb. ewes	(" 1/6)	"	12/5	"	"	"	3¼d	"	"

/Closing....

Closing auctions

Good trade	40 lb.wethers	(skin 1/-)	made	12/6	per	head	or	3¾d	per	lb.
" "	42 lb.ewes	(" 1/6)	"	13/7	"	"	"	3½d	"	"

Cheaper mutton.

The average cost of mutton per pound was not so high in November, 3¾d per lb. being reached compared with 4¼d per lb. during October. For the most part prime heavy ewes were worth from 2d to 2½d per lb. and occasionally 2¾d per lb; prime light ewes in the main cost from 2½d to 3¼d but on one occasion 3½d per lb. was obtained. The average values of good heavy wethers ranged from 2½d to 3¼d per lb. but odd lots of extra prime sheep realised 3½d to 3¾d per lb. Good light trade wethers were obtained at from 2¾d to 3½d per lb. but at times prime light wethers realised 3¾d per lb.

Good to prime shorn wethers generally sold at from 12/- to 20/- per head, while in odd instances wethers carrying heavier skins made up to 23/- per head. Ewes mostly realised from 10/- to 16/- per head for good to prime grades but in some instances up to 18/- per head was obtained. Medium trade wethers and ewes were worth from 5/- to 10/- per head.

Suckers and lambs in heavy supply.

Suckers and lambs continued to arrive in fairly substantial numbers, the total auctioned being 277,931 head. Suckers again predominated, summer lambs and hoggets being fairly scarce. Good to prime grades were well represented, a fair number of prime heavy lambs being included. In many instances, however, drafts of suckers showed a tendency to dry off and lose their bloom. Generally the yarding was of fair average quality.

Improved realisations for lambs.

The market, although fluctuating at times, remained fairly steady throughout the greater part of November. During the final week's operations, however, a strong demand was in evidence and rates for good to prime lambs and suckers advanced. Price trends of lambs and suckers are indicated in the following records of actual sales:-

First Week

Prime light	32 lb.suckers	(skin 3/3)	made	20/8	per	head	or	6½d	per	lb.
Good heavy	42 lb. "	(" 4/9)	"	24/5	"	"	"	5¼d	"	"
" "	38 lb.lambs	(" 7/6)	"	23/1	"	"	"	4¾d	"	"

Second Week

Good trade	30 lb.suckers	(skin 3/3)	made	18/9	each	or	6¼d	per	lb.	
" heavy	46 lb. "	(" 4/6)	"	25/3	"	"	5¾d	"	"	
" "	50 lb.lambs	(" 2/-)	"	21/10	"	"	4¾d	"	"	

/Third...

Third Week.

Good trade	34 lb. suckers	(skin 3/3)	made	20/10	per head	or	6¼d	per lb.
" heavy	46 lb. "	(" 5/9)	"	26/1	"	"	5½d	" "

Fourth Week

Good trade	32 lb. suckers	(skin 3/3)	made	20/7	per head	or	6¼d	per lb.
" heavy	44 lb. lambs	(" 5/6)	"	25/5	"	"	5½d	" "

Closing auctions.

Good trade	32 lb. suckers	(skin 3/3)	made	21/1	per head	or	6¾d	per lb.
" heavy	44 lb. "	(" 5/6)	"	27/8	"	"	6d	" "

Lamb prices increase.

The average price per lb. paid for suckers and lambs was slightly higher, up to 7d per lb. being obtained compared with 6¾d in October. For the most part, however, good to prime light suckers were worth from 5¾d to 6½d per lb., with odd drafts of extra prime making from 6¾d to 7d. Heavy suckers cost 5d to 5¾d per lb., with some lots of outstanding quality to 6d. Heavy lambs realised 4½d to 5¼d per lb. and in some instances 5½d, while light lambs when available made from 5d to 5½d with odd prime lines selling at from 5¾ to 6d. Rates for medium to plain lambs and suckers ranged from 4d to 5d per lb.

A draft of prime heavy suckers made 28/- per head but generally prices ranged from 18/- to 26/- for good to prime descriptions, while medium to good grades were disposed of at from 10/- to 18/- per head.

Cattle supplies maintained.

Cattle supplies were well maintained, and the total for the nine sale days (19,360 head) was the largest for some time. Auctions in the store section accounted for 1,024 head. Increased numbers of grown cattle were submitted and quality generally showed a considerable improvement, although a falling-off was noticed towards the close of the period. In view of the better pastoral position this decline in quality may only be temporary. Good rains were again experienced over the greater part of the State which further improved prospects.

Improved quality bullocks.

Bullocks made the best showing for some considerable time, moderate supplies coming to hand throughout the month. Good trade to prime lightweights predominated but many attractive medium weight drafts were noticed. Heavy descriptions, however, were scarce. The market was steady and values were about on par with those of the previous month. Light bullocks realised to 52/-, medium to 49/- and heavy to 46/- per 100 lb. Rates for lightweights declined slightly at closing.

/Steers....

Steers well in evidence.

Good trade steers were fairly plentiful while prime descriptions were well represented. On one or two occasions, however, a substantial proportion of the pennings was of fair trade standard only. For the most part quotations for good to prime quality ranged from 49/- to 56/- per 100 lb. Prime light-weights were a little cheaper when compared with the October rates.

Good cows more plentiful.

During the second half of the period cows made an excellent showing, many drafts of good trade to prime quality being forward. On one sale day a large consignment of speyed cows met a very keen demand. Price fluctuations were not marked and quotations for prime lines ranged from 43/- to 46/- per 100 lb. High prices were secured for prime heavy cows and one line of Shorthorns realised £15.8.0 per head, the estimated dressed weight being 700 lb., equivalent to 44/- per 100 lb.

Heifers well supplied.

Heifers were well supplied, especially good trade light and medium weights. Many prime lines also were noticed. Demand was steady and generally the equivalent of 52/- per 100 lb. was the highest quotation, although on odd occasions prime light weights realised to 54/- per 100 lb. These rates were a little lower than the best ruling during the previous month.

Steady market for vealers.

Truckings of vealers were moderate on most sale days and quality generally was very fair. Variations in price were not so marked as during the previous month and, for the most part, good to prime vealers ranged from 55/- to 63/- per 100 lb.

Cattle values unaltered.

The market for cattle generally was more even than for some time past with values for the most part fairly well maintained. Some recession in prices was noticed at the close and this has been attributed to the fact that insufficient labour is available at the Abattoirs to handle quickly the increased numbers of beasts now coming to hand.

Shortage of pigs.

The number of pigs submitted at auction was approximately equal to the October aggregate and totalled 6,922 head, including 3,506 received by rail. Sales by private treaty increased, 2,462 being disposed of in this fashion. Consignments were very uneven and those of the final sale day were the lightest for some time.

/Pigs....

Pigs are now in extremely short supply but reports indicate that, following the improved conditions on the coast, farmers are turning their attention to pig raising on a larger scale than of late and it is reasonable to expect much of the shortage will be overcome in the future. In the Sydney Metropolitan Area, however, the position is somewhat uncertain and much will depend on the form the control of prices takes, the intention to control market levels having been recently announced.

Record prices for porkers.

Pennings of porkers were variable both as to quality and numbers and, on the whole, quality was a little below the standard of the previous month. Good trade medium and heavy weights, however, made a very fair showing. Most of the lightweights submitted were disposed of as stores. Values were somewhat lower at opening. The market then remained fairly steady until the final sale day when lighter supplies caused rates to exceed in most instances the peak level of recent years which was reached during the preceding month. In all probability this porker market was the dearest on record. Quotations on the occasion in question ranged to 60/6 for 50 lb. porkers; to 65/6 for 60 lb.; to 82/6 for 80 lb. and 88/6 for 90 lb. On a dressed weight basis some pigs were worth 1/3 per lb. on their feet.

Values of baconers decline.

Except on one occasion baconers were fairly well in evidence, all classes being well represented. The high level of values reached in October was maintained on the opening sale day except for fair trade descriptions which were a little cheaper. Extra heavy sorts sold to £7.4.6 per head and were worth 10d per lb. on a dressed weight basis, with lightweights quoted at 10½d per lb. Subsequently, however, the market declined progressively although rates for lightweights recovered at the close. During the month values of heavy baconers fell by nearly £1 per head. Good trade lightweights were quoted at from £4.3.6 per head.

Strong market for backfatters.

The number of backfatters forward varied but on the whole supplies were light. Quality, however, was mostly fairly good, prime heavy pigs making a very satisfactory showing. One of these dressed 570 lb. and realised £16.1.0 per head. A steady market prevailed at the high level of the previous month, lightweights being quoted to 7¾d per lb. and heavy chiefly to 7½d. At the close, rates for heavy backfatters advanced by from 10/- to 15/- per head, when both light and heavy sorts ranged to 7¾d.

G.C. & J.W.

----oooOooo----

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SALES AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Pome fruit stocks of 1941/42 season practically finished.

Supplies of apples declined rapidly and the only varieties offering at the close of the month were local Granny Smith and Democrats, while interstate lots comprised Yates from Victoria and Democrats from Tasmania. Inquiry was very keen for Granny Smiths, supplies being insufficient to meet requirements and all consignments were cleared promptly. As might be expected at this period of the year a good deal of breakdown was in evidence in Democrats. Most sizes of Granny Smiths realised the maximum rate of 25/- and late in November other varieties were selling at this figure.

Small consignments of Packham's Triumph pears were received from Victoria, early in the month. Subsequently the only varieties available were Josephine, Winter Cole, Winter Nelis and Madam Cole drawn from the State mentioned. All lines cleared well at up to the ceiling rate of 25/- per bushel and prior to closing a flat rate of 25/- per case ruled.

Market for Valencias shows easier trend.

Demand for Valencia oranges was somewhat quiet early and values were slightly lower. Heavy rains in the growing areas delayed harvesting operations subsequently and as a result only light supplies were available for a short period and prices advanced to 26/6 per bushel for counts up to 198. Towards the end of November request was restricted and prices generally were easier, only occasional special packs realising above 24/- per bushel. The quality of many lines was affected by the heavy rains and the high temperatures which followed. Larger quantities of grape fruit were released and best lines realised 30/- per bushel.

The market for lemons showed improvement, choice coloured lots selling to 25/- per bushel. Supplies of green fruit were fairly plentiful at times and towards the close of the month sales were slow and values displayed a downward trend.

Stone fruits sell well.

Receivals of cherries increased considerably but a large proportion of both Orange and Young district consignments opened up in poor condition owing to damage by rain. Demand generally was very satisfactory and rates of good quality lots were maintained at fairly high levels.

Only light supplies of peaches were available during the greater part of November, although there was a marked increase in quantities forward at closing. Rates were maintained at around 20/- per half-case for extra choice lots but a sharp fall in prices of all lines was recorded on the last day of the month.

/Glengarry....

Glengarry apricots from the Kurrajong district opened up in much better condition than usual and realised high prices. Heavy rains in this growing area damaged a portion of the crop and lower prices had to be accepted for affected fruit. Only small lots of later varieties were on offer and choice packs sold to 25/- per half-case. Small consignments were received from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and it was expected that general marketing would commence early in December.

Relatively few plums were available until after mid-November when supplies commenced to show a gradual increase. The quality mostly was good and very satisfactory prices were obtained as much as 18/- per half-case being paid for some extra choice lots.

Pineapples realise high prices.

Consignments of pineapples approximated 22,000 cases covering a period of four weeks. Supplies showed a marked decline towards the close of November when values reached the peak for the year, choice packs selling to 35/- and some special lines at still higher rates.

Supplies rule market for bananas.

There was a sharp advance in rates for bananas about mid-November owing to limited supplies, and up to 42/- per case and in some instances more, was paid for best quality lots. The position was not maintained due to receivals being much heavier subsequently and values had to be reduced considerably in order to facilitate clearances. At closing, selling rates generally ranged from 20/- to 28/-, with specials to 30/- per case.

Fairly large quantities of papaws were received from Queensland. Good demand ruled and prices advanced, up to 25/- per case being obtained for choice. Some rock melons were forward but a good deal of breakdown was in evidence and values were affected thereby. Apple mangoes sold well and high prices were realised, but common types met a limited inquiry.

All vegetables sell well.

Compared with the same month last year, rates for practically all vegetables were considerably higher. Despite improved seasonal conditions, supplies were well below normal and little difficulty was experienced by sellers in maintaining prices. Beans were oversupplied during November, 1941, and top rates were about 5/- per bushel but such was not the case this year when choicest lines realised to 26/- per bushel on a number of days and rarely did prices fall below 18/- per bushel. The position with regard to cabbages, peas and other vegetables was similar. It would thus appear that the high prices ruling were governed by the supply and until such time as there is a marked improvement in this direction it is unlikely that consumers will obtain much relief.

/Peas....

Peas realise high prices.

Consignments of peas generally were well below the 1,000 bag mark. Although on some days the quantity available exceeded that total, on others less than 300 bags were on offer. Heavy rains in the growing areas caused a good deal of damage early in the month and consignments from some districts opened up in a badly affected condition. These supplies proved difficult to sell, a number of lines being offered at 3/- per bushel. Choice peas, however, realised very satisfactory prices; the top range throughout the month was 22/- to 32/-, while on one occasion as much as 36/- per bushel was obtained.

Supplies of beans below expectations.

It was expected that supplies of beans would be much heavier and that prices would decline. Such was not the case, however, as the quantities with one exception were only moderate and at times insufficient to meet demand. The bulk of supplies came to hand from the Gosford-Terrigal area. Small consignments were received from the North Coast and towards the close of November local garden lots were coming forward more freely.

Prices generally were high and on many days choice lines realised above 20/- per bushel, as much as 28/- being paid when stocks were light.

Tomatoes in request - values reach peak levels for year.

There was a marked upward trend in the market for tomatoes; this could largely be attributed to the limited stocks on offer and the warmer weather which promoted a good inquiry. The market was dependent mainly on local glasshouse packs and North Coast consignments; supplies from Queensland approximated 8,400 half-cases during the first week in November but forwardings declined to less than 1,000 during the closing week. Small quantities from Menindie were on offer and late in the month some Victorian packs were forward.

Both Glasshouse and North Coast lines sold at high prices, the peak being reached on 27th November when 40/- per half-case was obtained for choice descriptions. The market was very firm at closing and unless considerably increased supplies are forthcoming values are likely to remain well above those considered normal in other years.

Rates for cabbages advance.

Choice cabbages were relatively scarce and very high prices were paid, as much as 24/- per dozen being realised on a number of days. Medium to low grade lines comprised the bulk of

/offerings....

offerings but as supplies were relatively light little difficulty was experienced in effecting daily clearances. Some small consignments of good quality heads came to hand from the Moss Vale district towards the end of November and these met a keen demand. It is expected that increasing quantities will come forward from this district.

Loose carrots were difficult to obtain, mainly owing to the Department of Supply freezing stocks for Army needs. Few bunched lots were on offer. Parsnips were more plentiful towards the end of November and values eased.

Supplies of spinach were only moderate and prices were well above normal at all times.

Lettuce met a good request generally and realised high rates. The increased quantities which arrived during the closing week caused values to ease but realisations were still very satisfactory from the growers' viewpoint.

R.M.

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ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

Heavy supplies of new season's potatoes.

Fairly large consignments of new season's Factor potatoes totalling 15,397 bags arrived at Alexandria from the North Coast during November; the bulk of the supplies were grown around Murwillumbah, Grafton and Raleigh. Approximately half of these stocks was made available for civilian requirements and demand was exceptionally keen at the fixed rate of £17.5.0 per ton. Included in the total was a small percentage of No. 2's and Chats which for the most part were disposed of at the same rates owing to the keen demand for potatoes.

In Sussex Street new Factor potatoes from the North Coast amounted to 8,962 bags. The bulk was taken over by the Federal Authorities, the balance being made available for general trading purposes at £17.5.0 per ton. Arrivals at Darling Harbour amounted to about 2,743 bags, but very few of these were offered for sale. Tasmanian potatoes were in exceptionally light supply, only 8,345 bags being received. The bulk was not placed on the open market.

Swedes in very light supply.

Only 380 bags of inferior quality swedes arrived from Tasmania and these were disposed of at undisclosed rates. A small quantity of local swedes sold in Sussex Street at £12.0.0 per ton.

/At ....

At Alexandria receivals totalled 1,870 bags; demand was good early but eased later, closing values ranging between £14.0.0 and £16.0.0 per ton.

Other root vegetables not available.

There were no supplies of carrots or parsnips available during the period.

Pumpkins sell at high rates.

Only small consignments arrived from Queensland and prices reached as much as £45.0.0 per ton at one stage.

Heavy stocks of onions.

Supplies of brown and white Queensland onions amounted to 15,745 bags which sold at considerably reduced rates. At opening, sales were effected at £21.0.0 per ton but later, owing to increased supplies, prices fell, White realising £12.10.0 to £15.0.0 and Brown £13.10.0 to £15.0.0. Prices recorded at auction were:- Brown and white inferior £7.10.0; White £10.0.0 to £12.5.0; Brown £9.0.0 to £11.10.0 per ton.

Local onions totalled 1,620 bags. White realised £14.0.0 and brown £15.0.0, with a few white pickling £15.10.0. At auction, inferior white brought £6.10.0, also £11.10.0 to £14.0.0 and brown £11.0.0 to £11.10.0. About 10 trucks were received at Darling Harbour and were offered at Sussex Street. £14.0.0 per ton for both brown and white was quoted at the close of the month.

Oaten chaff dearer.

Arrivals of oaten chaff at Alexandria comprised 115 trucks, including 21 from Victoria. Supplies were not sufficient for requirements and buyers paid higher prices which at closing were:- Prime £8.10.0 to £9.10.0; Choice £9.10.0 to £10.0.0; Extra Choice £10.10.0 per ton. During the period about 15 trucks of damaged chaff were submitted at auction, £4.11.8 to £7.10.0 per ton being realised.

Increased arrivals of wheaten chaff.

Consignments of wheaten chaff (77 trucks) were heavier than for some considerable time and towards the end of the period lower prices ruled. Closing rates were:- Good sound £5.15.0 to £6.10.0; Prime £6.5.0 to £7.0.0; a few old season's extra choice £8.0.0 per ton. A number of damaged consignments realised £5.0.0 to £8.0.0 per ton at auction.

/Lucerne....

Lucerne chaff plentiful and cheaper.

Arrivals of lucerne chaff were the heaviest since last February, the total quantity offered being 89½ trucks. In the first half of the period sales were made at from £5.0.0 to £13.10.0 per ton. Later, owing to increased supplies, prices were considerabl lower as follows:- Inferior £4.10.0 to £6.0.0, Good sound £6.5.0 to £7.0.0, Prime £7.5.0 to £8.5.0, Choice and Extra Choice £8.10.0 to £9.0.0 per ton. During the period auction sales were made at the following rates:- Grassy £4.10.0, inferior £5.1.8 to £6.15.0, medium £8.5.0, sound £7.10.0 to £8.0.0, damaged £6.15.0 to £7.11.8 per ton.

Lower prices for lucerne hay.

Lucerne hay consignments from Maitland comprised 65 trucks as compared with 100 trucks in October, but prices were lower owing to steady arrivals from other centres. At opening, sales of new soft green lines were effected at £5.10.0 to £7.10.0, with a few at £8.0.0. Later values were lower at £3.10.0 to £6.5.0 for new soft green and a few Dry lines at £7.10.0. From other centres, 111 trucks came to hand. Continued heavy supplies resulted in prices being reduced, clearances being effected as follows:- Grassy £4.0.0 to £5.0.0, Good sound £6.0.0 to £6.15.0, Prime £7.0.0 to £8.0.0, Extra choice £8.0.0 to £8.10.0 per ton. At auction, medium brought £5.10.0 to £7.18.4, good sound £6.1.8, prime £7.10.0 and Derrick-pressed inferior £3.0.0, medium £5.0.0 per ton.

Oaten and wheaten hay in very light supply.

Consignments totalled 7½ trucks of oaten and two of wheaten. Good oaten hay brought £5.10.0, good sound £6.0.0 to £6.10.0 and choice £10.0.0 to £10.10.0 per ton. Good new season's wheaten was on offer at £5.0.0 per ton.

Straw scarce.

Arrivals of oaten and wheaten straw were very light, only 25 trucks being received. Disposals were effected as follows:- Victorian oaten £8.0.0; local oaten £5.5.0 to £5.10.0. A number of trucks offered at auction, new season's wheaten bringing £4.0.0 to £4.10.0 and stained £3.15.0 per ton.

Maize more plentiful.

Consignments of yellow maize, totalling 5,575 bags, showed an increase. There was a very keen demand, however, rates for local being higher at 7/6 to 8/-. On the last day of November about 150 bags realised the high rate of 8/2 per bushel. At auction 7/3 was paid for weevily grain. Queensland small yellow sold privately at 7/7 and at auction pinched grain brought 7/-.

/Included....

Included in the supplies were 929 bags from the North Coast which sold in Sussex Street at 7/6 per bushel.

Wheat consignments increase.

Arrivals of wheat at Alexandria totalled 28 trucks. F.A.Q. standard was on offer at 3/9 per bushel. About 8 trucks of under quality were on offer and realised 2/7 to 3/7½d per bushel.

Oats realise lower prices.

Arrivals of oats at Alexandria increased considerably and amounted to 50 trucks. The bulk comprised new season's grain. About 20 trucks were offered at auction and prices were much lower, 2/- to 2/4 per bushel being obtained at auction.

C.F.

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RETURNABLE CONTAINERS FOR FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

The Acting Official Secretary, New South Wales Government Offices, London, has furnished the following advice under the above heading:-

"The British Minister of Food has made an Order - the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (Use of Containers) Order, 1942 - controlling the use of returnable containers for fresh fruit and vegetables.

The Order provides that without the permission of the owner, no one may use a returnable container except for the transport, storage or display of fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers; and that no one may retain returnable containers for an unreasonable time or deface markings on them. It will be an offence not to return when requested a returnable container to the person who supplied it. All persons in possession of returnable containers must take proper care of them.

A refundable deposit charge, as prescribed, must be paid by the receiver of a returnable container to the supplier, except where it has been issued to a grower for return to the person who supplied it.

Sacks, bags, containers made wholly or mainly of cardboard, and chip baskets which will not hold more than 11 lbs. of any soft fruit, are excluded from the Order.

The Order came into force on 8th June, 1942.

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WHOLESALE PRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES IN SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING NOVEMBER, 1942, 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 State Marketing Bureau in respect of various commodities for the periods indicated:-

Commodity	November, 1942 From	November, 1942 To	31st August, 1939
Wheat - Home Consumption:			
Bulk - per bushel	3/11¼d	(unchanged)	2/4d
Flour - per ton	£10.4.2 (plus £2.8.10 tax)	(")	£6.12.3 (plus £6.2.9 tax)
Bran - " "	£6.0.0	(unchanged)	£4.5.0
Pollard - " "	£6.0.0	(")	£4.5.0
Eggs (hen) - per dozen	1/6		1/-
Butter (choice) - per cwt.	169/4		161/2
Cheese:			
Loaf - per lb.	1/0½d		11d
Large - " "	1/-		10½d
Special Brands per lb.	1/1	1/3½d	1/2d

	November, 1942 From	November, 1942 To	29th August, 1939 From	29th August, 1939 To
Pigs (Abattoir Sales) Good to prime, per head:				
Porkers:-				
Extra light	35/6	60/6	31/6	40/6
Light	48/6	65/6	39/6	44/6
Medium weight	57/6	78/6	43/6	57/6
Heavy	75/6	88/6	50/6	54/6
Baconers	£4.0.6	£7.4.6	60/6	75/6
Backfatters	£6.10.0	£16.1.0	£4.5.0	£8.10.0

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

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RETURN OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IMPORTED INTO NEW SOUTH WALES
BY LAND AND SEA - SEPTEMBER, 1942.

FRUIT.

STATE	Pineapples tropical cases	Bananas tropical cases	Other Fruit cases	Tomatoes half-bushel cases	TOTALS cases
Queensland	28,213	3,216	8,341 *	75,324 X	115,094
Victoria	2	18	45,972	10	40,002
Tasmania	-	-	89,899	-	89,899
Sth. Aust.	-	-	4,513	1	4,514
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	28,215	3,234	148,725	75,335	255,509

Note: * 5,247 trays strawberries, also.
X 38 trays tomatoes, also.

VEGETABLES.

STATE	Potatoes bags	Onions bags	Swedes bags	Pumpkins bags	Cucs. & Chillies cases	Other Vegs. pkges.	TOTALS pkges.
Queensland	292	3,529	15	44,604 ø	2,173	10,306	60,919
Victoria	6,946 ø/	4,211	136	8	-	787	12,088
Tasmania	41,132	-	2,218	-	-	2,059	45,409
Sth. Aust.	295	167	-	-	-	6,019	6,481
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	48,665	7,907	2,369	44,612	2,173	19,171	124,897

Note: ø 1 case pumpkins, also.
ø/ 1 case potatoes, also.

RETURN OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IMPORTED INTO NEW SOUTH WALES
BY LAND AND SEA - OCTOBER, 1942.

FRUIT

STATE	Pineapples tropical cases	Bananas tropical cases	Other Fruit cases	Tomatoes half-bushel cases	Melons crates	TOTALS packages
Queensland	37,507	4,989	8,899[x]	66,043	545	117,983
Victoria	11	45	41,700	695	-	42,451
Tasmania	-	-	63,675	-	-	63,675
Sth. Aust.	-	-	2,697	-	-	2,697
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	37,518	5,034	116,971	66,738	545	226,806

Note: x Also 420 trays Strawberries.

VEGETABLES.

STATE	Potatoes bags	Onions bags	Swedes bags	Pumpkins pkges.	Cucs. & Chillies cases	Other Vegs. pkges.	TOTALS pkges.
Queensland	133	26,361	1,607	82,368	9,320	15,613	135,402
Victoria	8,543	3,745	-	-	1	638	12,927
Tasmania	22,903	-	1,245	-	-	88	24,236
Sth. Aust.	154	18	-	-	-	2,799	2,971
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	31,733	30,124	2,852	82,368	9,321	19,138	175,536

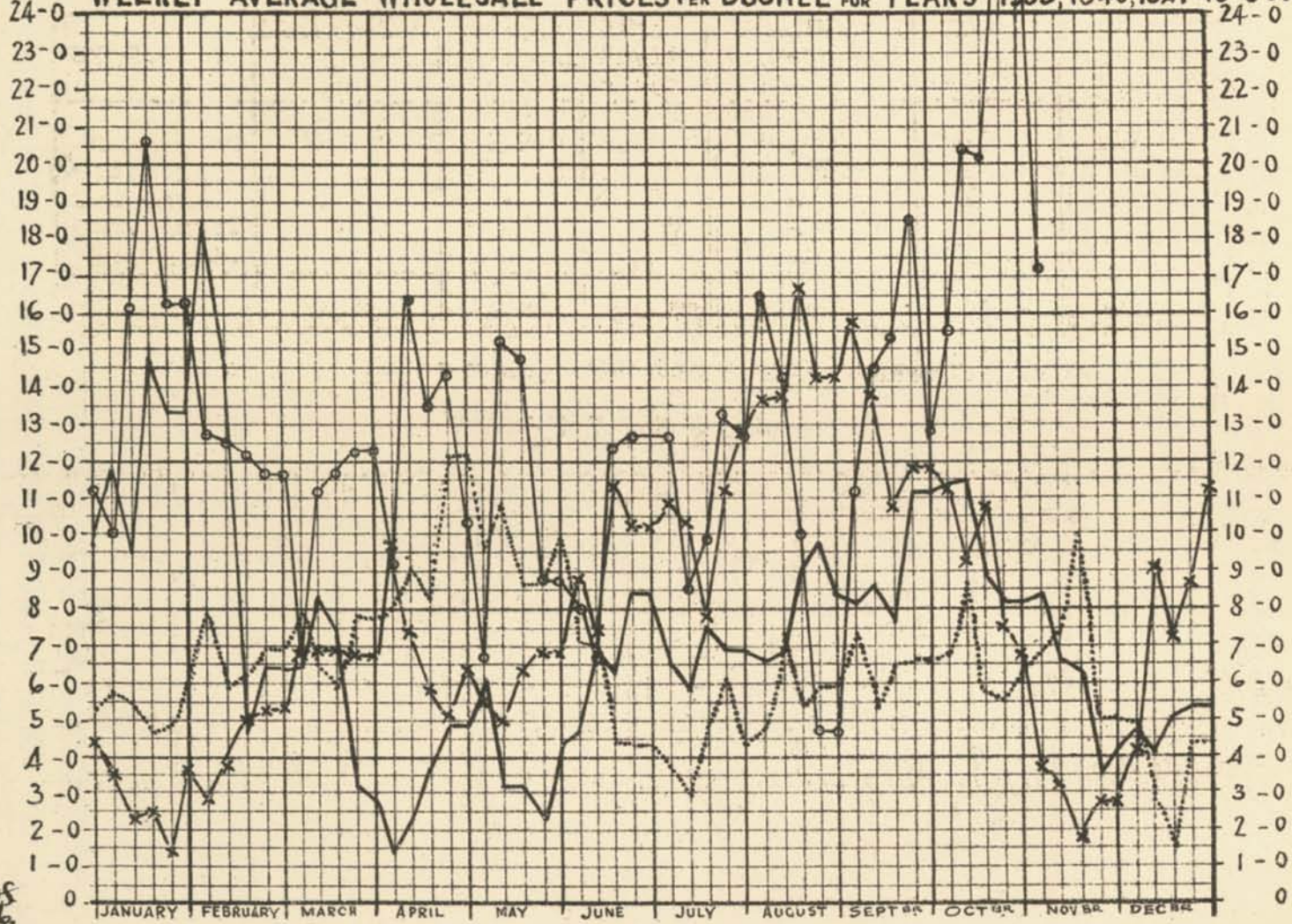
STATE MARKETING BUREAU - DIVISION OF MARKETING - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - NEW SOUTH WALES

B. 42.2

BEANS

42-1242

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICES PER BUSHEL FOR YEARS 1939, 1940, 1941 TO OCT. 1942



DRAWN: E.H.F.
CHECKED: J.G.

1939 SHEWN THUS: ——
1940 " " ·····
1941 SHEWN THUS: x——x
1942 " " ⊙——⊙

NOTE: FIGURES BASED ON S.M.B.'S PRICE COLLECTIONS.

E. F. WHITBREAD
Acting Chief, Division of Marketing.

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