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

# MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW



JULY, 1943

Vol.10

No. 3

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

SYDNEY

#### MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

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

#### Released during the Second Wook 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.

#### JULY, 1943

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#### MEGHLIGHTS

The value of wool appraised during the past season reached £73,525,280, constituting an all-time record for the Australian clip.

New food control regulations issued recently vest the Controller-General of Food with wide powers. He is enabled to direct growers as to what they shall or shall not grow, how much and when they shall grow and to ac uisition food, fert lisers or fodder for the Commonwealth. He is also empowered to prohibit, regulate or restrict processing, distribution and consumption of food, fertilisers and fodder and determine the terms and conditions of food control.

Under a recent order no person is permitted to sell, supply or distribute cannod vegetables, except in accordance with a permit issued by the Controller of Defence Foodstuffs. Manufacturers may only can vegetables in accordance with instructions issued by the Controller, who is authorised to issue instructions concerning the disposal of all cannod vegetables.

The Prime Manister has announced a substantial reduction in prices of tea and potatoes.

On 25rd June, 1943, a Fricos Regulation Order was issued by the Prices Commissioner fixing the maximum price at which various kinds of second-hand fruit cases (which had proviously been brought under control) may be sold.

The Commonwealth Prices Commissioner has issued an order bringing under control the prices of all field peas, approved prices for provers being 15/- per bushel at growers' siding for blue field peas and 9/6 per bushel at Capital Cities for all other kinds of field peas. Tholesalers' margin has been fixed at 1/- per bushel.

## MARKETING OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

TATHONE TO

Tead :

In our June issue Clauses (1) to (9) inclusive of Statutory Rules and Orders issued by the British Government relating to the marketing of fruit and vegetables was published. The remaining Clauses are now set out below:-

- (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 rotail, such record to include in the case of each purchase and sale the following particulars :-

(i) the date of the purchase or sale;

(11) the name and address of the person from whom he purchased or to whom he sold the fruit or vegetables, provided that such name and address need not be included in respect of a cash sale in a market established by virtue of Crown grant, prescription or statute;

(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) the price, and where there is any variation in the price the description and quantity of fruit or vogetables 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 ouch 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 tho 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.
  - 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: Provided that the foregoing provisions of this Article shall not apply in respect of any cash sale of fruit or vegetables.
    - (12) 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 paragraph (1) of Article 10 of this Order, or to furnish invoices as required by Article 11 of this Order but such records shall be kept and such invoices shall be furnished by the selling agent.
      - (13) 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 submarks) used in relation thereto as will enable the same to be identified.
        - (14) (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 ...

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 each 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.
- Where the amount of any costs in respect of the transport of fruit or vegetables has to be shown or included in any item shown on any document required by any provision of this Order to be furnished by any any provision of this Order to be furnished by any person within a specified period, and such amount cannot be so shown or included within such period by reason of the road or rail carrier not having furnished particulars of the relevant charges, such provision shall be sufficiently complied with if particulars of such costs are furnished by such person as soon as reasonably practicable after such particulars have been received by him from the carrier.
- (16) 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 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.

(17)Every person who is required by any provision of this STALLOISTE Order to keep any record or retain any document shall keep or retain the same -

(a) on the premises at which he carries on trade or

business in fruit or vegetables; (b) 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.

- (18)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.
- (19) 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.
- (20) 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 not weight):

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

- (21) (1) The provisions of this Order shall not apply to the sale of vegetables for use or resale for feeding to animals.
- (2) Where any porson has, pursuant to paragraph (1) of this Articlo, bought vegetables for use or resale for feeding to animals in circumstances in which but for the provisions of that paragraph it would have been unlawful for him to buy them for any other purpose, he shall not use or resell such vegetables except for use or resale for feeding to animals.

- (22) The Home Grown Apples (Northern Ireland) (Control) Order, 1941, and the Frosh Fruit and Vegetables (Restriction on Dealings) Order, 1942, are hereby revoked and the Orders specified in the first column of the Schedule hereto shall be amended to the extent specified in the second column of the said Schedule, but without projudice to any proceedings in respect of any contravention thereof.
- (23) Until the 18th day of January, 1943, for the purposes of the Green Vegetables (Maximum Prices) Order, 1942, the expression "selling agent" shall mean a person who in the ordinary course of his business sells green vegetables on commission on behalf of the grower thereof.
- (24) (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.
- (25) Infringements of this Order are offences against the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.
- (26) (1) This Order shall come into force as follows:
  - (a) the provisions hereof other than paragraph (1) of Article 6 and Article 23, on the 18th day of January, 1943;
  - (b) paragraph (1) of Article 6 horoof, on the 1st day of March, 1943;
  - (c) Article 23 on the 11th day of January, 1943.
  - (2) This Order may be cited as the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (Restriction on Dealings) Order, 1943.
  - (3) Any licence or other document granted or issued for the purposes of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (Restriction on Dealings) Order, 1942, shall have effect as if the same had been granted or issued for the purposes of this Order. Any reference to that Order in any such document or in any Order or direction of the Minister shall be deemed to be a reference to this Order.

#### SALES OF LIVESTOCK AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

(In the REDUCED SUPPLIES OF CATTLE, SHEEP AND LAMBS: S) MORE PIGS ON OFFER.

#### Smaller number of sheep and lambs offered.

The number of sheep and lambs yarded was somewhat below the previous month's aggregate. The total supplies available amounted to 263,956 head or about 55,000 less than in May. It is of special interest to note that in the 12 months ended 30th June, 1943, a grand total of 4,166,902 head of sheep and lambs passed through the Homebush Yards, this number constituting an all-time record.

#### Quality improves.

Some improvement in the general quality of the sheep offering was manifest and although medium and plain descriptions continued to arrive in fairly substantial numbers, there was a greater number of good to prime grades offering, particularly ewes.

#### Valuos ease.

The extreme rates for sheep ruling during May were not sustained and values for all classes of wethers and ewes eased considerably. At opening sales the market improved but at the following auction a full of from 2/- to 3/- per head occurred. Subsequently prices were fairly stable but at the closing sales good quality wethers showed some improvement in values. Some sales indicating market trends are given below:-

#### First Week

Good trade 46 lb. wethers (skin 2/6) made 25/9 each or 6d per lb. " 40 lb. ewes ( " 5/6) " 22/2 " " 5d " "

#### Socond Week

Good trade 44 lb. wethers (skin 9/-) made 24/10 each or 41/4 per 1b. " 44 lb. ewes (" 9/-) " 24/- " " 4d " "

#### Third Wook

Good heavy 52 lb. wethers (skin 13/6) " 31/10 " "  $4\frac{1}{4}$ d " trade 40 lb. ewes (" 9/-) " 23/2 " "  $4\frac{1}{4}$ d "

#### . Fourth Week

/Closing...

#### Closing Sales

Good trade 42 lb. wethers (skin 8/6) made 24/11 each or  $4\frac{3}{4}$ d per 1b. " 46 lb. ewes ("10/6)" 27/7 " "  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d " "

#### Rates for wethers generally lower.

Although at the opening sales good light wether mutton realised to 6d and heavy 5½d per lb., which was about ¼d per lb. higher than the peak price in May, values did not hold and wether mutton became much cheaper. On the average, and having due consideration for fluctuations, good light wethers were worth from 4d to 4¾d, and heavy from 4d to 4½d per lb. Ewes made up to 5d per lb. but mostly were obtained at 3¾d to 4½d for light, while heavy descriptions were worth from 3½d to 3¾d per lb. Generally speaking, the cost of ewe mutton was higher than during the previous month.

#### Lamb supplies decline.

The aggregate penning of lambs for the period was 107,332 head. Summer lambs comprised the bulk of the supplies, only odd lines of suckers offering. Quality ranged from very fair to good but very few lines of really prime light descriptions were available.

#### Good inquiry for lambs.

The relatively small supplies of lambs created a generally strong demand and a dearer market was evident at the opening sales. The market for the most part remained firm and at the closing sales rates advanced by 1/- per head. Medium to plain lambs, however, did not participate in the improvement in realisations.

Some representative sales are shown hereunder:-

#### First Wook

Good trade 28 lb. suckers (skin 3/-) made 24/2 each or 9d per lb. heavy 38 lb. lambs (" 7/6) " 34/- " " 8½d " "

#### Second Wock

Good trade 32 lb. lambs (skin 4/-) made 26/3 each or 8\frac{1}{4}d per lb.

"heavy 46 lb. " (skin 4/-) made 26/3 each or 8\frac{1}{4}d per lb.
" 5/-) " 34/8 " " 7\frac{1}{4}d " "

#### Third Week

Good trade 30 lb. lambs (skin 3/6) made 25/- each or 82d per lb. heavy 40 lb. " (skin 3/6) made 25/- each or 82d per lb. " 72d " "

#### Fourth Week

Good trade 36 lb. lambs (skin 3/6) made 28/1 each or 81/4 per lb. heavy 44 lb. " (skin 3/6) " 29/4 " " 71/4 " " /Closing...

#### Closing Sales

Good trade 36 lb. lambs (skin 5/6) made 30/11 each or 81/2 per lb. " heavy 40 lb. " (" 6/6) " 31/3 " " 72d " "

#### Lamb prices reach high levels.

Generally the cost per pound of lambs was higher in June than in May, prime light reaching 9d per lb. and heavy grades to  $8\frac{1}{4}$ d. For the most part good light lambs and suckers were worth from  $7\frac{3}{2}$ d to  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d with odd lines to  $8\frac{3}{4}$ d; prime heavy descriptions mostly were disposed of at prices ranging from  $7\frac{1}{4}$ d to  $7\frac{3}{4}$ d and occasionally 8d per lb. Plain and medium quality lamb was obtaine at relatively lower levels.

#### Supplies of cattle decline.

Average cattle consignments during June, 1943, showed a small reduction, the aggregate for the month being 14,348 head, of which 1,958 were auctioned in the store section. There were only seven sale days during the period. The total yarding for the year ended 30th June, 1943, was 201,578 compared with 191,586 marketed during the previous twelve months.

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Pastoral conditions are only moderate as the May rains came too late to promote any material growth of herbage while the month of June was particularly frosty. Quality of the consignment as a consequence was, for the most part, only fair, although on a few occasions prime beasts made an improved showing. Lightweight stock greatly predominated and only on some sale days were moderate numbers of grown beasts available.

#### Values of bullocks reach high level.

Consignments of bullocks were for the most part limited. Good trade lightweights were mostly in evidence although on occasions fair numbers of medium weights of prime grade were submitted. Heavy descriptions were available, chiefly in odd lots Demand was particularly strong and the market advanced considerabl On the opening sale day prime light bullocks realised to 53/- per 100 lb. and values were maintained throughout the greater part of the month. During the final week both light and medium weights were quoted to 54/- with heavy descriptions on one occasion making to 55/- per 100 lb., the latter being the highest price paid since January, 1941. That heavy beef should be worth more per 100 1b. than lightweights is of course excuptional. The position was caused by strong competition amongst outside buyers for the limits supplies available. These outside operators have had their killing quota reduced and are seeking heavier beasts in order to maintain supplies. Prices of weighty beasts frequently exceeded £20.0.0 per head, reaching to £24 on some occasions.

#### Prime steers in strong request.

As usual truckings of steers were well maintained and quality during the early part of the period was fairly good. The position later, however, was not so satisfactory and many of the consignments were of fair trade description only. Values of steers also showed improvement and on most sale days prime lightweights realised to 56/- per 100 lb., reaching to 58/- during the final week. During the latter period values of prime medium weights also reached a high level and the equivalent of 58/- per 100 lb. was realised.

#### High prices for cows.

Cows were mostly in light supply, especially beef breeds and prime sorts were obtainable chiefly in odd lots. During the final week, however, the position improved and quite a number of prime heavy drafts was noticed. The demand for cows was remarkably good and enhanced rates were obtained even for dairy breeds. One heavy beast realised as much as £19.0.0, while prices of £14.0.0 to £16.0.0 were common. Quotations per 100 lb. ranged to 48/- for light and 47/- for heavy.

#### Steady market for heifers.

Only small numbers of heifers came to hand during the greater part of the period but, as in the case of cows, the position improved towards the close of June when light and medium weights made a fairly good showing. Quality descriptions were in keen request and the market was steady at a higher level than during the provious month. Quotations for good to prime quality ranged generally from 46/- to 56/- per 100 lb.

#### Vealers sell very well.

Voalors were in moderate to fairly heavy supply and all grades of weight and quality were represented. Prime descriptions, however, were somewhat scarce at times. On the opening sale day prices advanced sharply and prime descriptions were quoted to 68/per 100 lb. Values showed little material alteration during the remainder of the month. Prices per 100 lb. showed some variation but quality rather than market trends was mainly responsible.

#### Improved pig supplies.

一戸で生血

Consignments of pigs during June, 1943, showed a further increase, the yardings for the five sale days aggregating 7,204 head, including 5,148 received by rail. In addition to those sold by auction, 2,227 were disposed of by private treaty. Total number sold in the Metropolitan Area during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1943, was 100,660 compared with 162,220 disposed of the previous year. The latter figure was a record. The outbreak of Swine Fover in the Metropolitan Area largely accounted for the docline in the number sold during the past twelve months.

/Improved...

#### Improved market for porkers.

Moderate numbers of porkers were forward, the bulk comprising medium to heavy descriptions of good trade quality. Prime porkers, however, made a good showing. Lightweights were generally scarce. The market continued firm during the first week when prime pigs dressing 60 lb. sold to 55/6 and those dressing 90 lb. to 73/6. Values subsequently showed some improvement when lightweights sold to 58/6. At closing, however, 52/6 was the highest price. The market for heavy porkers was more steady, closing quotations ranging to 74/6 per head. On a carcase equivalent basis the highest price per Ib. for prime extra lightweights was 12½d. The fixed ceiling levels for pork sold wholesale were further amended during the menth and at present the rate is 10d per 1b. for all weight grades up to 100 lb.

#### Baconers well supplied.

Except on the final sale day baconers were well in evidence. The percentage of extra heavy baconers, however, showed a decline. The general quality of the pennings was very satisfactory, many prime lets being received from country centres. Baconers continued to meet a very keen inquiry and during the latter part of June values of heavy descriptions advanced. Prices generally for good to prime lines dressing from 100 lb. upwards ranged from £3.17.6 to £6.7.6, with odd sales higher. On a per lb. basis practically all prime pigs dressing 100-140 lb. realised 10d during the greater part of the period and in odd instances this rate was exceeded. At times, however, the market was somewhat irregular and lower prices ruled.

#### Supplies of backfatters vary.

Backfatters made a good showing during the first half of the period when many prime pigs were included in the offcrings. Later consignments, however, were smaller and the general quality only fair. The early markets were very firm and both light and heavy weights realised 62d per 1b. Values then declined a little, lightweights being quoted to 64d and heavy to 53d. Prices at subsequent markets were very irregular. The highest price paid per head during the period was £11.11.0.

G.C. & J.W.

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#### FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SAIES AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

#### Citrus market easier but showing improvement.

The exceptionally wet weather throughout the coastal belt during late May restricted harvesting of citrus fruits. With only limited supplies available the ceiling rate of 21/- per bushel for Navel oranges was obtained. Subsequently fine conditions enabled growers to harvest freely and as a result fairly large consignments of Navels were placed on the market. These increased supplies caused a sharp fall in values and at one stage it was difficult to obtain above 14/- per bushel. With a falling-off in supplies, however, prices firmed to 16/-, with a few specially selected lots higher and the market appeared likely to improve further. Consignments from the Murrumbidgeo Irrigation Area were mostly light and rates were maintained at higher levels than those ruling for coastal packs.

Demand for Emperor mandarins was somewhat quiet early in the month, small fruit proving difficult to sell. The position was much brighter subsequently, choice fruit meeting a good inquiry and prices advanced to 18/-, whilst occasionally 20/- per bushel was obtained. Fair quantities of Queensland Glen Retreats were forward. Choice lots sold well and at times realised 35/- per bushel. Broakdown was apparent in some packs about mid-June. Marketing of this variety had practically ceased at the close of the month.

Supplies of lemons were received from coastal groves, the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and Queensland but the quantities were only light to moderate. Prices of choice, coloured packs realised the ceiling rate of 20/- early in the month, but with a slackening in request subsequently values could not be maintained and sales generally were effected at lower levels.

#### Apples continue to realise high prices.

The market for apples opened firm and values showed only slight fluctuations. Supplies from cool stores within the State were light. The principal varieties offering were Delicious and Granny Smith; the former sold up to 38/- and Granny Smiths to 28/- per bushel. Small stocks of Rome Beauty, Democrat and Buncombe were available at times and realisations for these varieties were above normal. The range of Tasmanian apples was fairly wide and included Jonathan, Delicious, Crofton, Scarlet Pearmain, Democrat, Granny' Smith, Cleopatra, Rome Beauty, and French Crab. Demand was satisfactory for all varieties; Crofton, Rome Beauty and Granny Smith sold to 25/-, Delicious to 26/- what are the supplies to 26/- what are the supplies were slightly lower.

Victorian pears predominate.

The bulk of the pears was from Victoria, supplies /comprising....

comprising Josephines, Packham's Triumph, Beurre Bosc and Comice. Consignments of Winter Nelis were received from Tasmania. Locally grown supplies were mainly Winter Coles, although small lots of Packhams and Beurre Bosc were forward. Inquiry was steady and prices were maintained at fairly high levels. Local Packhams sold to 25/- and Coles to 24/-. Rates for Victorian ranged to 18/-, while 23/- and occasionally more was paid for Packhams and Josephines For Tasmanian Winter Nelis 15/- to 19/- per bushel was obtained.

#### Banana supplies increase - prices ease slightly.

The high prices ruling for bananas at the commencement of the month were not maintained owing to a restricted demand and an improvement in supplies. Rates, however, did not suffer an appreciable setback and ranged to 48/- per case; a few specials realised slightly more.

#### Pineapple supplies lighter,

The bi-weekly consignments of pineapples from Queensland showed a marked decline towards the close of the month. Supplies approximated 5,000 cases early but the quantities forward on Thursday, 24th, and Monday, 28th June, totalled less than 2,000. Inquiry was somewhat slow and values were around the 20/- mark but with reduced supplies on offer rates rose sharply and up to 30/- was realised.

#### Other fruits.

Passionfruit were lightly stocked and up to 30/- per half-case was obtained for choice packs.

Good inquiry ruled for custard apples at rates runging to 14/- per case.

Small consignments of Queensland strawberries were received, and met a ready sale, trays selling to 14/- each.

#### Losses of vegetables occasioned by heavy rains.

Following the heavy rains of late May, many growers were forced to harvest crops subject to damage by excessive moisture. In some instances losses were occasioned by flood waters, particularly amongst cauliflower crops in low lying areas. The forced marketing of such lines as cabbages, cauliflowers and carrots had a depressing effect on values until the bulk of supplies was cleared. Following this period there was a considerable falling-off in the quantities arriving on the market and prices advanced to high levels.

#### Rain and frost affect quality of peas.

Consignments of peas reaching the market early in June were in many instances damaged by rain, while a fairly large

percentage of later supplies was showing frost injury. The quantities received were only moderate to light, the bulk coming from coastal districts, although consignments continued to come forward from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. Victorian lots were available at times. Demand was steady for choice lines and high prices were realised, particularly during the latter half of the month. Sales of damaged and frosted lots generally were effected at high rates.

#### Bean prices advance.

During the winter months the market for beans is dependent for the most part on North Coast and Queensland consignments which arrive at bi-weekly intervals. Small quantities also are received from the Gosford-Tuggerah area. The quantities received varied and showed a decline towards the end of the month. The quality of some consignments was very good but the presence of fungus in others affected values and prompt sales had to be made to prevent losses. Generally demand was brisk and rates showed an upward trend. Prices early in June were around 16/- per bushel while at the close 26/- and higher was paid for choice lots.

#### Cabbages sell well.

During the first week of June cabbages sold at up to 16/-. With a reduced supply on offer the following week best heads realised 24/- and higher prices were obtained for a few lots. Throughout the remainder of the month values fluctuated but they did not fall below 20/- per dozen for choice large heads. Local supplies were augmented by fairly large quantities from Victoria.

#### High prices for cauliflowers.

There was a keen demand for cauliflowers on practically all occasions. Prices were well above normal and for choice large heads as much as 40/- per dozen was paid. During the greater part of the month top rates generally ranged from 28/- to 36/- per dozen.

#### Market for tomatoes easier.

The greater proportion of tomatoes grown within the County of Cumberland suffered considerable damage from the May rains. Many packs opened up in poor condition owing to scald and cracking of the skin. The keeping quality was affected and much loss resulted. The few choice coloured packs on offer sold at higher levels, up to 35/-per half-case being paid. High prices ruled until late in the month when owing to a slow inquiry it was difficult to obtain above 18/-.

Consignments from Queensland provided the main supply and the weekly quantities received ranged from about 17,000 to over 20,000 half-cases. Rates were firm until about mid-June but were not maintained except for some coloured lines from Southern Queensland.

## ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

#### Substantial increase in potato supplies

Arrivals of local Factors at Alexandria Goods Yard totalled 5,337 bags compared with 2,051 bags in May. Demand was very keen at the unchanged rate of £16.0.0 per ton for choice, whilst No. 2 and Seed were disposed of at £14.0.0 with chats and stock feed £10.0.0 per ton. Consignments of Victorian Carmans were relatively heavy, 20,191 bags being available, as against 1,067 bags in May. Ready sales were effected at £16.0.0 for choice and at £14.0.0 per ton for No. 2. At Darling Harbour landing there were 82 trucks of Victorian Carmans available at the foregoing rates. Consignments of Tasmanian potatoes received in Sussex Street aggregated 68,554 bags. There was a very keen demand for the limited supplies made available for general trading purposes at the following rates:- Brownells, Bismarcks, Arranchiefs and Up-to-Date £13.0.0 per ton, No. 3 grade £10.0.0 to £12.0.0; Brownell and Bismarck seed £12.0.0; Up-to-Date and Arranchiefs seed £15.0.0 per ton. Stock feed was quoted at £10.0.0 per ton. Arrivals in Sussex Street from the North Coast totalled 748 bags of Factors which sold at £16.0.0 for choice and £14.0.0 per ton for Nr. 2 grade.

#### Local swedes more plentiful.

Consignments of swedes (mostly locally grown) to Alexandria amounted to 2,331 bags compared with 46 bags last month. Disposals of choice lines were effected at £13.0.0 to £16.0.0, with badly graded and soft lines selling at £8.0.0 to £10.0.0 per ton. At auction, soft lots realised £5.0.0, with a few inferior lines £2.0.0 to £2.10.0 per ton. About 170 bags of Victorian sold at £15.0.0 per ton. Supplies received in Susaex Street from Tasmania totalled 3,839 bags. Sales were effected at reduced rates, quality descriptions not being available owing to delay in transit. At Darling Harbour, 5 trucks were available from Victoria which realised £15.0.0 per ton.

#### Carrots and parsnips fairly well supplied.

Arrivals of local carrots at Alexandria were of very limited extent, but considerable quantities of Tasmanian were reconsigned from Darling Harbour for sale. The bulk of these supplies comprised inferior and medium lots. The former sold at from £1.15.0 to £3.10.0, while medium lines brought £3.15.0 to £6.5.0 per ton. In Sussex Street consignments from Tasmania totalled 5,446 bags, but very limited supplies were available for civilian use, the bulk being taken over by the Federal Authorities Supplies of parsnips at Alexandria comprised 3,233 bags (chiefly Tasmanian) reconsigned from Darling Harbour, of which inferior ar medium grades constituted a large percentage. Inferior sold at

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£3.0.0 to £3.0.0 with medium lines at £4.10.0 to £6.5.0 per ton, although £6.10.0 was secured for best quality lots. A small wantit of local offered at auction realised £5.0.0 per ton. Supplies in Sussex Street amounted to 4,256 bags but few were released for the open market.

#### Reduced consignments of loc 1 pumpkins but usensland supplies increase.

Arrivals of local pumpkins totalled 45 trucks and 39 bags. Lucensland supplies showed an increase, 50 trucks being available. Values at the close of June ranged from £8.10.0 to £10.0.0 per ton. Consignments of "locals" (427 bags) received at Sussex Street from the North Coast were disposed of at £7.0.0 to £10.0.0 per ton. At Darlan Harbour 4 trucks were on offer at £8.10.0 per ton.

#### Exceptionally heavy supplies of Victorian onlons.

Receivals of Victor an brown onions comprised 21,270 bags, but despite these heavy supplies there was a good demand and rates continued firm at 217.10.0 to £18.0.0 per ton. A small consignment of Victorian brown pickling onions arrived and these sold at £10.0.0 to £10.10.0 per ton. At Darling Karbour, 32 trucks were on offer at £17.10.0 to £18.0.0 per ton.

#### . Oaten chaff sells at firm rates.

Arrivals of oaten chaff again showed an increase, 185, trucks being available. Notwithstanding larger stocks there was practically no alteration in prices which were as follows:Medium 27.0.0 to 27.10.0, good sound 28.0.0 to 28.15.0, prime 28.10.0 to 21.5.0: special lines 28.5.0 to 25.10.0 per ton. Sales by auction comprised 10 trucks, medium selling early in the month at 28.5.0 and £8.10.0 with good sound later at 27.10.0 to 28.0.0 and prime lots at £8.10.0 per ton.

#### Theaten chaff also more plent ful.

Supplies of wheaten chaff amounted to 32 trucks, sales being effected at the following prices: - Medium £8.10.0, good sound £8.2.6 to £9.0.0, prime £8.10.0 to £ .10.0; a few special lines £2.10.0 per ton.

#### Lucerne chaff sells at firm rates.

Arrivals of lucebne chaff showed a considerable increase, 70 trucks coming to hand. Demand, however, continued satisfactory, especially for vality line, clearances being recorded at: - Medium 27.0.0 to £10.10.0, good sound 21.10.0 to £11.10.0, prime £10.10.0 to £12.5.0, choice £12.0.0 to £13.10.0, extra choice £13.0.0 to £13.10.0 per ton.

#### Lucerne hay very heavily supplied.

There were 58 trucks of lucerne hay received from the Maitland district. New soft green brought £5.0.0 to £6.10.0 and dry lots £8.0.0 to £9.0.0 per ton. Cons inments from other centre were heavy, 130 trucks coming to hand. Closing rates were:—Grassy £4.0.0 to £5.5.0, medium £6.10.0 to £7.0.0, good sound £7.10.0 to £9.0.0, prime £6.0.0 to £10.0.0, choice £11.5.0 to £12.0.0, extra choice £11.7.6 to £12.10.0 per ton. Derrick press realised £5.5.0 to £8.5.0. Sales by auction ranged from £7.10.0 to £9.0.0 per ton.

### Oaten hay plentiful.

Supplies of oaten hav comprised 50 trucks and there als were 2 trucks of wheaten. Rates during the period were: Choice rack £10.10.0 to £11.0.0, prime rack £10.0.0 per ton. Derrick resed prime lots brought £7.0.0 to £8.10.0, good sound £6.0.0 and medium £5.5.0 to £6.0.0 per ton. Wheaten (prime derrick pressed) realised £6.0.0 to £7.0.0 per ton. At auction, stained oaten sold at £5.5.0 per ton.

#### Oaten and wheaten straw sells well.

Arrivals of oaten straw amounted to 38 trucks and there were 9 trucks of wheaten. Medium oaten realised £6.0.0, prime £7.5.0 to £7.10.0, while choice lots moved out at £8.0.0 per ton. Prime wheaten chaff brought £7.10.0 and choice lines £8.0.0 per to

#### Wheat values unaltered.

Arrivals of wheat at Alexandria Goods Yard totalled 28 trucks. Rates were unchanged, f.a.q. selling at 3/8 to 3/9, with slightly under quality 3/6 to 3/7 per bushel. Nine trucks were offered at auction, damaged lots realisin 2/9 to 3/4 sweepings 2/- and inferior lines 3/- to 3/2 per bushel.

#### Maize realises higher rates - fairly heavy supplies.

Supplies of local maize at Alexandria comprised 4,877 bags of vellow and 852 base of white. Stocks met a good inquiry, buyers paying higher rates which ranged from 6/9 to 7/- per bushe for yellow. No sales of white were recorded. Arrivals from queensland totalled 1,848 bags of yellow and 360 bags of white. Clearances of yellow were made at 7/- per bushel. Consignments received in Sussex Street from the North Coast sold at the higher rates of 6/9 to 7/- per bushel.

#### Oats more plentiful.

Arrivals of oats were fairly heavy, supplies aggregating 35 trucks. A fairly large proportion was consigned direct to priviously and was not offered for sale. Seven trucks realised 2/11 to 3/12d per bushel at auction.

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## WHOLESALE FRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES IN SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING JUNE, 1943, AND CORRESPONDING FROURES 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 period indicated:-

	Commodity	June, 1943 From To	31st August, 1939 From To
	Wheat: Home consumption: Bulk - per bushel		2/4d
Mo.	Flour - per ton (1	£10.4.2 " plus £2.8.10 tax)	\$6.12.3 (plus £6.3.9 tax)
	Bran - " " Tollard " "	£5.0.0 (unchanged)	\$4.5.0 \$4.5.0
	Eggs - per dozen	2/- (unchanged)	1/-
	Butter (choice) per cwt.	. 169/4	161/2d
	Cheese: Loaf - per 1b. Large Special brands	1/0 <sub>E</sub> d " 1/- 1/1 1/5 <sub>E</sub> d	11d 102d 1/2d
200	Pigs (Abattoir sales): Good to prime per head	From To	From To
	Porkers - Extra light Light Medium weight Hoavy Baconers	2 /6 52/6 43/5 58/6 50/6 72/5 67/5 76/6 £5.15.6 £6.7.5 (odd higher)	31/6 40/6 30/6 44/6 43/6 57/6 50/6 54/8 60/6 75/6
	Backfatters	64.18.6 011.11.0	24.0.0

Note: The pig sales nearest to 31st August, 1930, were those held on 29th August, 1939.

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-	STATE	Pineapples tropical cases	Bananas tropical cases		Tomatoes half-bushel cases.	TOTALS pkges.
	Queensland Victoria Tasmania Sth. Aust. West Aust.	22,591	3,485 149 - -	11,328 <sup>X</sup> 72,298 60,095 16,946	32,933 13,585 207 491	70,337 86,036 60,302 17,437
	TOTALS	22,595	3,634	160,667	47,216	234,112

Note: - x Also one tray Strawberries.

#### VEGETABLES.

STATE	Potatoes bags	Onions bags	Swedes bags	Pumpkins bags	Cucs. & Chillies cases	Other Vegs. pkges.	TOTALS pkges.
Queensland Victoria Tasmania Sth. Aust. West Aust.	245 69,128, 89,096 1,208	46 37,872 261	7,980 7,519	10,891	2,634	3,950 27,148 10,471 5,429	17,766 142,263 107,086 6,898
TOTALS	159,677	38,179	15,499	11,026	2,634	46,998	274,013

Note:- Also 6 cases Potatoes for scientific purposes.

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## GRAPH SHOWING SOURCES OF PRICES SUPPLIED BY STATE MARKETING BUREAU FOR BROADCASTING FROM NEW SOUTH WALES "A" CLASS AND REGIONAL STATIONS.

