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NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE MARKETING BUREAU

DIVISION OF MARKETING

AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW



JULY, 1944.

Vol. 11

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CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF MARKETING
AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
SYDNEY

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

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

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

JULY, 1944.

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HIGHLIGHTS.

Separate price tickets must now be exhibited by retailers for each display of "declared" fruit and vegetables. The notices must be readily discernible and placed to make clear to the buyer the type and grade to which the price applies.

It has been announced that when final payments are made at the end of July, Australian wool-growers will have received £78,871,748 for their season's clip.

Almost half of the Commonwealth's vegetable goal for season 1944-45 has been allotted to this State. Of the total required, viz., 246,340 acres, New South Wales growers have been allocated 104,850 acres. The acreage decided upon by the Production Executive is approximately that sown during the current season.

It is understood that greatly increased quantities of wheatmeal are to be made available for stock feeding in the near future. The Minister for Agriculture has stated that up to 1,000 tons extra a week may be expected, and if it were used judiciously it would help materially to ease the present shortages of concentrates, especially for dairy cattle and fowls.

The Production Executive Committee has fixed the Commonwealth's maize production target at 297,500 acres, of which New South Wales is expected to plant 115,000 acres. Queensland and Victoria are expected to plant 175,000 and 7,500 acres, respectively.

The Commonwealth Food Controller announces that of 10,000 tractors being imported to assist agricultural production, 6,000 should arrive by the end of 1944, and the balance early next year.

Following the fixation of new "ceiling" rates for pome fruits by the Prices Commissioner, new maximum retail prices came into operation on 2nd July, such prices in New South Wales being 72d and 8d per lb. for apples and pears, respectively.

CITRUS FRUITS ORDER, 1944.

An Order, which was issued under the National (Security (Food Control) Regulations and gazetted on 27th June, 1944, brings under control citrus fruits grown in the States of New South Wales, victoria and South Australia. This action was taken in order that supplies of citrus fruits and citrus fruit products to meet the requirements of Defence Forces and the civil population might be maintained.

In the first instance it should be noted that, for the purposes of the Order, that part of New South Wales lying between the boundary between those States and a continuous line twentyfive miles northerly from and parallel to that boundary shall be deemed to form part of the State of Victoria and shall also be deemed not to form part of the State of New South Wales.

The main provisions of the Order are as follow:-

Restrictions on disposal of sweet oranges or lomons.

- 5. (1) A grower, not being a grower in a reserved area or a grower-packer, shall not dispose of any sweet oranges or lemons produced, gathered or harvested by him during the period commencing on the date of publication of this Order in the Gazette and ending on the fifteenth day of April, 1945, except -
 - (a) to a packer, or
 - (b) as directed by an authorised officer.
 - (2) Unless otherwise directed by an authorised officer -
 - (a) a grower in a reserved area may dispose of, at any time or place or in any manner, not more than seventy-five per centum (in bushels) of any variety of sweet oranges, or fifty per centum (in bushels) of any variety of lemons produced, gathered or harvested by him innthat area;

(b) a grower-packer may dispose of, at any time or place or in any manner, not more than seventy-five per centum (in bushels) of any variety of sweet oranges; or fifty per centum (in bushels) of any variety of lemons produced, gathered or harvested by him; and

- (c) a packer may dispose of at any time or place or in any manner, not more than seventy-five per centum (in bushels) of any variety of awart granges, or fifty per centum (in bushels) of any variety of lemons, delivered to him in any one delivery.
- (3) The reference in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph to sweet oranges or lemons produced during the period specified in that sub-paragraph shall be deemed to include a reference to sweet oranges or lemons grown partly within and partly outside that period.

(Note: There are no "reserved" areas in New South Wales).

Prohibition of sale or purchase of citrus fruits.

- 6. (1) A person shall not, except with the consent in writing of an authorised officer, sell, or agree or offer to sell, or buy or agree or offer to buy any sweet oranges or lemons (other than oranges and lemons produced in a reserved area) which have not been packed by a grower-packer or packer.
 - (2) The last preceding sub-paragraph shall not apply to sales or purchases by retail of less than one half of a bushel of any sweet oranges or lemons.
 - (3) A person other than a distributor shall not sell, or agree or offer to sell, or buy, or agree or offer to buy any grapefruit pomeloes, sevilles, or poormans except with the consent of, or in accordance with the directions of an authorised officer.
- (4) Except with the previous approval in writing of an authorised officer, a distributor shall not buy, sell or dispose of, or offer to buy, sell or dispose of, any sweet oranges or lemons other than sweet oranges or lemons grown in a reserved area.

Delivery of sweet oranges or lemons.

7. A grower-packer or packer shall not sell, distribute, dispose of or deliver any sweet oranges or lemons to any person other than a manufacturer except in cases, crates or boxes of a description, and with the identifying marks, directed by an authorised officer.

Restriction on packing of citrus fruits.

8. Except with the previous approval in writing of an authorised officer, a grower-packer or a packer shall not pack citrus fruits, other than citrus fruits grown in a reserved area.

Application for approval by a grower-packer or packer.

- 9. An application by a grower-packer or a packer for the approval of an authorised person under the last preceding paragraph shall be made in writing and shall include -
 - (a) an estimate of the quantities (in bushels) of each variety of citrus fruit expected to be packed during the period from and including the first day of April, 1944, to and including the fifteenth day of April, 1945; and
 - (b) in the case of an application by a packer the names and addresses of the growers for whom each variety of citrus fruit is expected to be packed

Prohibition regarding certain sweet oranges and lemons.

10. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Order, a growerpacker or a packer, or, in a reserved area, a grower or a packer,
shall not move, transport, distribute, sell, dispose of, use or
consume (except by way of domestic consumption) any sweet oranges
of a diameter of 3½ inches or greater or any lemons of a diameter
of 2½ inches or greater except in accordance with the directions
of an authorised officer.

Returns and information.

- 11. (1) A grower shall, within fourteen days after the date of publication of this Order in the Gazette, furnish to an authorised officer -
 - (a) in respect of the period from and including the first day of April, 1944, to and including the fifteenth day of April, 1945, an estimate of the yield in bushels of citrus fruits from each variety of citrus tree grown by him; and
 - (b) particulars of the number of such variety or varieties of citrus trees grown by him and producing citrus fruits together with a statement -
 - (1) whether he will forward sweet oranges or lemons produced from citrus trees grown by him to any packer and, if so, the name and address of the packer; or
 - (11) whether he will pack such sweet oranges or lemons.
 - (2) In relation to any business carried on in the State of Victoria or South Australia, in respect of the fortnightly period ended on the fifteenth day of April, 1944, and in respect of each subsequent fortnightly period, and in relation to any business carried on in the State of New South Wales, in respect of the calendar month which commenced on the first day of April, 1944, and in respect of each subsequent calendar month -
 - (a) a grower-packer shall furnish to an authorised officer a return setting out -
 - (i) the quantities (in bushels) of sweet oranges and lemons respectively forwarded, delivered or disposed of by him;
 - (ii) the quantities (in bushels) of any grapefruit, pomeloes, sevilles and poormans respectively forwarded, delivered or disposed of by him with the consent of or in accordance with the direction of an authorised officer;

- (iii) the name and address of each manufacturer to whom any citrus fruits were forwarded, delivered or disposed of in accordance with any direction given by an authorised officer and the quantities (in bushels) of each variety of those citrus fruits; and
- (iv) the name and address of each distributor to whom any sweet oranges or lemons were forwarded, delivered or disposed of and the quantities (in bushels) of each variety of those citrus fruits;
 - (b) a packer shall furnish to an authorised officer a return setting out -
 - (i) the quantities (in bushels) of sweet oranges and lemons respectively forwarded, delivered or disposed of by him and the name and address of each grower from whom those sweet oranges and lemons were received by him;
 - (ii) the quantities (in bushels) of any grapefruit, pomeloes, sevilles and poormans forwarded, delivered or disposed of by him with the consent of or in accordance with the directions of an authorised officer and the name and address of each grower from whom those grapefruit, pomeloes, sevilles and poormans were received by him;
 - (iii) the name and address of each manufacturer to whom any citrus fruits were forwarded, delivered or disposed of in accordance with any direction given by an authorised officer and the quantities (in bushels) of each variety of those citrus fruits; and
- (iv) the name and address of each distributor to whom any sweet oranges or lemons were forwarded, delivered or disposed of and the quantities (in bushels) of each variety of those citrus fruits.
- (3) A return required by this paragraph to be furnished shall be furnished within seven days after the end of the period or month to which the return relates.
 - (4) An authorised officer may, by notice in writing served on any person, require that person to furnish such returns, or supply such information, relating to citrus fruits as is specified in the notice.
 - (5) A person who has been required under the last preceding subparagraph to furnish a return or supply information shall not refuse or fail to furnish the return or to supply the information, on or before the date specified in the notice, to the authorised officer making the requirement.

(6) A person required by this paragraph to furnish any estimate, particulars, return or information shall not furnish any estimate, particulars, return or information which is incomplete or false or misleading in any way.

Records to be kept.

- 12. In respect of the period from and including the date of publication of this Order in the Gazette to and including the fifteenth day of April, 1945 -
 - (a) a grower shall keep true records of the quantity (in bushels) of each variety of citrus fruits produced by him and of the quantities (in bushels) of -
 - (i) each variety of sweet oranges and lemons delivered or sold to any packer or, if the grower is producing in a reserved area, to a packer, manufacturer or distributor; and
 - (ii) grapefruit, pomeloes, sevilles and poormans delivered, sold or disposed of with the consent, or in accordance with the directions of an authorised officer.
 - (b) a grower-packer shall keep true records of the total quantity (in bushels) of each variety of citrus fruits produced by him and a daily record of the quantities (in bushels) of each such variety moved, transported, distributed, sold or disposed of;
 - (c) a packer shall keep true daily records of the total quantity (in bushels) of each variety of citrus fruits received by him from each grower and of the quantities in bushels of each such variety moved, transported, distributed, sold or disposed of; and
 - (d) a distributor shall keep true daily records of the total quantity (in bushels) of each variety of citrus fruits received by him from each grower-packer and packer and of the quantities in bushels of each such variety so received.

Entry and inspection.

13. An authorised officer may, at all reasonable times, enter upon the premises of a grower, grower-packer, packer, or distributor, and inspect any citrus fruits, or any books for documents relating to citrus fruits, which are on those premises.

SALES OF LIVESTOCK AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

Substantial decline in numbers of sheep and lambs penned.

The number of sheep and lambs penned for sale showed a fairly large reduction when compared with the previous month's total. Actually, 263,951 head was offered or approximately 52,0 head less than during May. The most noticeable decline occurred the lamb pennings, the lowest daily total being 7,958 head.

Present indications point to a continuance of the light supplies and it is not expected that any marked improvement will occur before the advent of the new season's suckers.

Quality only fair.

For the most part, quality of the grown sheep coming forward was only fair, medium trade wethers and ewes comprising a fairly large proportion of the supplies. Moderate numbers of good light trade sheep were yarded but the supply of prime heavy descriptions was relatively light. The decline in sheep numbers was not so pronounced as with lambs, actual yardings for the peribeing 170,136 head, or about 13,000 less than the aggregate for 1

Market very irregular.

The market was most irregular, values fluctuating considerably. At the opening sale, all classes of sheep were chear by from 2/- to 5/- per head but values recovered at the two follows ales and reached the high levels ruling at the end of May. About mid-June, however, values again were lower and practically lost timprovement previously in evidence. Subsequently, rates showed a further advance, more particularly for wethers, although market rates did not reach the extreme level previously ruling.

At the closing auctions, prices were not maintained and although odd lots of extra prime sheep showed little change, realisations for most classes were lower, the decline ranging fro 1/- to 4/- per head, plain and medium grades showing the most fall

Some indication of the variable state of the market may be gained from the following record of actual sales:-

Opening Sales

Good trade 46 lb. wethers (skin 9/-) made 35/4 each or 7d per lb " 45 lb. ewes (" 8/6) " 27/1 " " 5d " "

First Week

Good trade 44 lb. wethers (skin 10/6) made 37/9 each or 72d per " 41 lb. ewes (" 9/6) " 30/3 " " 6d "

/Second ...

Second Week

Good trade 42 lb. wethers (skin 9/-) made 33/4 each or 7d per lb. " heavy 48 lb. " " 12/-) " 39/- " " 64 d " " trade 46 lb. ewes (" 9/-) " 30/7 " " 54 d " "

Third Week

Good heavy 48 lb. wethers (skin 4/-) made 32/4 each or 7d per lb. " trade 46 lb. " (skin 4/-) made 32/4 each or 7d per lb. " $\frac{28}{7}$ " " $\frac{7\frac{1}{4}d}{6d}$ " " $\frac{1}{6}$ " $\frac{28}{10}$ " " $\frac{1}{6}$ " $\frac{1}{6}$ " " $\frac{1}{6}$

Fourth Week

Good trade 46 lb. wethers (skin 10/-) made 35/10 each or $6\frac{3}{4}$ d per 1b. " 7/6" 28/3 " " $5\frac{1}{2}$ d " "

High cost per 1b.

On the average, mutton cost considerably more per pound during June but actually rates did not quite reach the extreme levels ruling at the end of last month. During May light wethers were worth from 44d to 84d per lb., while in June they cost from 6d to 8d per lb.

A comparison of prices of heavy wethers disclosed that this class made from 4½d to 8d during the previous month but in the period under review similar mutton sold at from 5¾d to 7¾d per 1b. Reference to the prices for ewe mutton shows that in May 3¼d to 6d Reference to 7d was paid for heavy and light, respectively, but and 3¾d to 7d was paid for heavy and light, respectively, but comparable rates for June were ¼½d to 5½d for heavy, with light selling at from 4¾d to 6¼d per 1b.

Lambs in short supply.

Lambs were again in short supply, pennings for the month amounting to 93,815 head or a falling off of about 38,000 on last month's total. Very few suckers were included, summer lambs preponderating, and offerings chiefly comprised medium trade lines. The proportion of good to prime light lambs was relatively small the proportion of good to prime light lambs was relatively small but good to prime heavy grades were fairly well in evidence at times.

Variable lamb market.

The market for lambs generally was most irregular, the trend in values closely following those for grown sheep. Prices, however, were consistently high, the short supplies creating very active competition. The following sales indicate generally the movement of prices throughout June:-

Opening Sales

Good trade 34 lb. lambs (skin 5/-) made 35/7 each or 103d per lb. heavy 42 lb. " (skin 5/6) " 41/7 " " 104d " " /First...

First Week

Good trade 31 lb. lambs (skin 4/-) made 30/11 each or 101/4 per lb. " 32 lb. lambs (" 5/-) " 36/- " " 112d " "

Second Week

Good trade 35 lb. lambs (skin 3/6) made 35/- each or $10\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb.

Third Week

Good trade 28 lb. lambs (skin 3/6) made 28/4 each or 10gd per lb. " (" 6/-) " 36/9 " " 10gd per lb.

Fourth Week

Good trade 34 lb. lambs (skin 5/6) made 34/4 each or 101/4 per lb.

" heavy 40 lb. lambs (" 8/-) " 38/9 " " 91/4 " "
heavy 44 lb. lambs (" 8/6) " 41/10 " " 9d " "

Average cost of lamb advances.

Owing to the continued high prices ruling for lambs, despite the variable state of the market, the average cost per pound of the carcase was higher than in May when rates ranged from 7½d to 1/- and 6½d to 1½d per 1b. for light and heavy grades, respectively. During the period reviewed, rates for light lambs ranged from 9d to 1/- per 1b., while heavy grades were worth from 8½d to 1½d per 1b. Hoggets, of which only fairly small numbers were offered, made from 7½d to 9½d per 1b.

Reduced cattle supplies.

Consignments of cattle during June continued to fluctuate but average truckings were lighter than those of May. The aggregate for the month was 13,923 head, of which 2,343 were auctioned in the store section.

The general quality again varied considerably and, on the whole, it was only fair. Prime descriptions were usually in very limited supply.

The May rains were not followed by any appreciable falls in June and the pastoral position at the close of the period was mostly very unsatisfactory, particularly in the Western areas where drought conditions have prevailed for some considerable time.

Weighty bullocks realise extreme prices.

Bullocks generally were in limited supply and for the most part comprised light and medium weight descriptions of fair to good trade standard. Heavy bullocks were noticed chiefly in odd lots.

/The...

The shortage in supplies coupled with a very strong but varying demand from sources outside the Metropolitan Area created a market which showed a considerable amount of fluctuation. Prices at times rose and fell by from £2 to £3 per head from sale to sale, rates of weighty bullocks showing the greatest variation. For the most part values were high. The market was strongest during the third week of June when heavy bullocks realised to 57/-, medium weights to 63/- and light to 59/- per 100 lb. In odd instances these rates were exceeded. On the final sale day, heavy bullocks were still dearer and a pen of prime Shorthorns weighing about 850 lb. realised £25.0.0 per head, or 59/- per 100 lb.

Extreme prices for steers.

Steers as usual were well supplied throughout the period. Generally, good trade light and medium weights predominated. Values of steers also showed a marked variation and during the third week quotations reached the extreme level of 70/- per 100 lb. Rates per 100 lb. for weighty steers were usually higher than those for lighter sorts. Quotations during the final week ranged from 55/- to 62/- per 100 lb.

Supplies of cows fairly well maintained.

Cows continued to make a good showing on most sale days, although the percentage of heavy sorts was lower than that of the previous month. The standard of quality was not maintained as on several sale days very few good trade to prime beasts were noticed.

The market for cows fluctuated to a lesser degree than it did for most other classes of cattle. Values, however, showed a progressive upward trend and, by the final week, rates for both light and heavy sorts ranged to 52/- per 100 lb.

Strong demand for helfers.

Heifers were fairly well in evidence and although quality was variable the proportion of good trade sorts submitted was satisfactory. Demand was particularly strong and enhanced prices were paid to secure beasts of suitable quality. During the third week quotations ranged to the high level of 63/- per 100 lb.

Vealers in shorter supply.

Supplies of vealers were somewhat limited and general quality was only fair, prime descriptions generally being difficult to secure. On occasions, when pennings were heavier they included many small beasts in more or less store condition.

The market fluctuated considerably but values for the most part were at a very high level. On one occasion quotations reached 76/- per 100 lb., although closing rates ranged from 58/- to 68/- per 100 lb.

Generally high prices rule.

During August, 1943, values of many lines of cattle reached the highest peak for twenty-three years. The following schedule gives a comparison of the highest quotations for each class of beast noted during August, 1943, and June, 1944:

Aug	ust, 1943	June, 1944		
Bullocks: Heavy Medium weight Light	64/- 68/- 65/-	59/ - 63/ - 59/ -		
Steers Cows Heifers Vealers	65/- 53/- 60/- 75/-	70/- 52/- 63/- 76/-		

Irregular consignments of pigs.

The number of pigs arriving during June fluctuated considerably, although compared with the previous month, supplies were fairly well maintained. Pennings aggregated 8,438 head, of which 6,047 were received by rail. An additional 430 were sold privately.

Export operations curtailed.

During the period the export of pigs became limited to those dressing between 80 and 103 lb. and 180 lb. to 204 lb. It is understood that operations in respect of pigs in these categories have been postponed indefinitely. As would be expected, this action had the effect of reducing the demand for baconer pigs generally, especially those dressing less than 180 lb.

Weaker inquiry for baconers.

Baconers were well represented throughout the period, particularly light and medium weights of good trade standard. The percentage of extra heavy baconers available was variable, while a noticeable proportion of the pennings comprised medium to fair trade quality only.

As previously indicated, competition during June was somewhat restricted and values declined progressively. Only in respect of odd sales at opening was the equivalent of lod per 1b. realised. By the final sale day, it was difficult to secure more than 9½d per 1b., while a large proportion was sold for less than 9d. On this occasion, heavy to extra heavy baconers which, for the most part, had maintained their values better than other grades of baconers declined sharply in price. On a per head basis prices ranged to £7.5.6, mostly to about £6.10.0 at closing.

Backfatters in moderate supply.

Pennings of backfatters, although moderate, generally included all grades of weight and quality with good trade medium weights predominating.

The market was fairly steady and most sales were effected at rates equivalent to from 5d to 6d per 1b. On the final sale day, however, it was difficult to secure 54d while a substantial number sold for less than 5d per 1b. The highest price per head noted was £12.18.6.

Irregular values of porkers.

Porkers were fairly well supplied, especially good trade quality heavy descriptions. As has been the case of late, demand fluctuated considerably, even during the progress of the auctions. On one occasion, lightweights realised only 6d per lb. Values, however, were usually higher, as much as logd per lb. being noted in respect of some small pigs. Prices for heavier porkers also exceeded lod per lb. on occasions, when competition amongst store buyers was strong.

G.C. & J.W.

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The Chairman of the Production Executive (Mr. Dedman) has announced that plans have been developed for the formation of fishermen's co-operative societies to stabilise the industry and improve production and conditions.

Specific functions which the societies would undertake include:

- (1) Communal fishing the taking of fish in a particular area on a common plan for the benefit of all in the area who had organised for the purpose.
- (2) Collective buying societies could purchase fishing equipment, fuel, etc., on behalf of their members.
- (3) Co-operative processing and marketing the societies could own and operate handling and processing equipment, including sheds, freezers, "snap-freezing" plant, canneries, meal and oil plants, and trucks in the way that butter factories are owned and operated by dairymen.
- (4) Education and representation the societies would carry out educational programmes on all phases of the industry, including information on fish, methods of fishing, handling and processing, and benefits of co-operation.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SAIES AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Apples meet ready sale.

Good inquiry ruled for all varieties of apples, but the quantities on offer were relatively light and towards the close of the month stocks were limited. Consignments from local sources were small and comprised mainly Granny Smith and Rome Beauty, although some Jonathans were available early in June. There was a scarcity of large Delicious, this variety being practically unobtainable late in June. Fancy grade Granny Smiths were scarce, supplies comprising mostly good grade.

Demand for Romes was very satisfactory owing to the lack of competition from other red dessert varieties. Rates for all fancy lines of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch and larger were very firm and the maximum of 18/- per bushel was readily obtained. A few local Democrats were on the market and as the ceiling price of this variety was 15/- compared with 18/- for Rome Beauty, sales were readily effected.

Interstate apples comprised the bulk of the offerings which included Jonathan, Rome Beauty, Cleopatra, Crofton, Delicious Granny Smith and Democrat. Values for these packs showed a decided upward trend as the month progressed and the maximum of 18/- per bushel was obtained for best sizes of Delicious, Jonathan Rome Beauty and Granny Smith.

Prior to the close of June, the Prices Branch announced that the wholesale selling price would be 19/- per bushel as from 1st July and that all varieties could be sold to this level. Previously, the maximum for certain varieties, e.g., Granny Smith, Delicious and Jonathan, was fixed at 18/- and others for 15/- per bushel.

Pears meet a brisk demand.

The market was mainly dependent on Victorian supplies as consignments from within New South Wales were very light. Request for Packham's Triumph was keen, the supplies of this variety being insufficient to meet buyers' requirements. Winter Cole and Beurre Bosc also sold particularly well, and little difficulty was experienced in obtaining the ceiling price of 18/- per bushel for all lines, excepting very small fruit.

Shipments from Tasmania mainly constituted Winter Coles, although occasional lots of Doyenne du Comice were available. Good demand also ruled for these lines and prompt clearances were effected. The wholesale selling rate for pears was to be increased by 2/- to 20/- per bushel on 1st July.

/Large

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Large Navel oranges in request.

Harvesting of Navel oranges was more general. Larger consignments were received from coastal groves, while M.I.A. fruit was commencing to arrive on the market in larger quantities. Inquiry generally was good for large fruit of counts up to 100 but demand for counts above 150 was somewhat restricted at times and values had to be reduced slightly.

Rates for lemons ease.

coastal groves during early June but subsequently there was a falling-off in supplies. Demand, however, was quiet and rates were lower. Purchases for factory purposes assisted materially in clearing stocks which were relatively light at the close of the month and values were inclined to firm.

Glon Retreat mandarins in domand.

There was brisk inquiry for Queensland Glen Retreat mandarins which arrived at bi-weekly intervals and for the best trade sizes 30/+ per bushel was paid. Some Emperors and Scarlets were also included in consignments but request for these varieties was only moderate and disposals had to be made at lower levels.

Supplies of Emperors from the coastal growing areas of New South Wales were moderate; choice large fruit met a steady sale but small sizes were slow to clear. Owing to competition from Queensland fruit, particularly Glen Retreats, which in most instances were very attractive, realisations mainly ranged to 22/per bushel, although higher prices were paid early in the month.

The maximum price of 14/- per bushel was paid for good quality grapefruit, but other grades sold from 10/-.

Bananas scarce.

Consignments of bananas from the North Coast and Queensland were very light and buyers found difficulty in securing sufficient to meet their requirements. Values were firm at the maximum of 7d per 1b.

Fixed selling rates for pineapples altered.

There was an active demand for pineapples during the first three weeks of June but with the arrival of larger supplies a falling off in request occurred. The fixed selling rate of this fruit which was formerly by way of counts per case was altered to a weight basis as from 19th June.

Sales up to the date mentioned were made at rates ranging /to ...

to the maximum of 24/- per case. The wholesale price being limited to 1/4 per pineapple, it happened that a case containing 12 could not be sold above 16/- and the retail price ceiling was 1/9 each of 21/- per case. The new maximum wholesale rate was fixed at 25/per case of 60 lb. or fivepence per lb. and the retail selling price was thus 62d per lb. Following the introduction of the selling by weight, there was a marked slackening in request and values tended downward.

Other tropical fruit on offer comprised papaws, custard apples and avocados but the quantities available were relatively light and values generally were maintained at fairly high levels.

Small consignments of Queensland strawberries were received in trays and packets. Realisations were above average.

Passionfruit scarce.

Passionfruit continued to be scarce and prices firm, choice packs selling to 40/- per half-case, while an occasional special was higher.

Supplies of peas insufficient to meet demand.

During the first week of June, fairly large quantities of peas were on offer, over 3,000 bags being available on Monday, 5th June. A large percentage was of low grade owing to water and frost damage and values covered a wide range.

During the remainder of the month, however, consignments declined appreciably; on some days less than 200 bags were forward and, except for badly frosted lots, the maximum price of 23/4 per bushel was obtained. Owing to the limited quantities received, many buyers were unable to secure even a portion of their requirements and sellers of this vegetable found it extremely difficult to apportion supplies that came to hand. The outlook at the close of the month did not appear bright for any marked improvement in supplies for some weeks to come. Constitute was a constitute of

Market for beans very firm.

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With the season for local beans finished, the market was dependent on consignments from the Central and Far North Coast and Queensland, the main volume of supplies from these areas being available on Mondays and Fridays of each week. Small quantities continued to come forward from the Gosford-Tuggerah localities.

Request was very satisfactory and values advanced to the ceiling of 20/- per bushel, practically all lines realising this figure late in the month. Here again, buyers were unable to secure the requisite supplies for their trade.

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Choice, coloured tomatoes sell at ceiling level.

The principal supplies of tomatoes were received from Northern and Southern Queensland, weekly consignments ranging from around 20,000 to 30,000 half-cases. Small quantities were forward from the North Coast, Menindee and from growing areas in the County of Cumberland, but the supplies from this latter source had declined appreciably prior to the close of the month.

Inquiry for Queensland packs was well maintained and some choice, coloured lots realised the maximum of 20/- per half-case, but as the bulk of supplies was green sales generally were made at rates ranging to 16/-, with occasional special lots higher. Coloured local and North Coast lots of choice quality also sold to 20/- per half-case, while Menindee supplies, which were mostly green, brought up to 16/-.

Choice cauliflowers realise high prices.

Cauliflowers were in moderate supply only throughout the month. Demand on most days was keen and choice, large heads realised to 40/- per dozen. Generally the market rate ranged to 30/- per dozen, although on a few occasions this figure was not reached. An increase in supplies was anticipated during July as fairly large areas under cauliflowers in the County of Cumberland were expected to be harvested.

Steady request for cabbages. . .

The limited supplies of peas and beans was a factor in maintaining a steady request for cabbages. Generally, values ranged up to 8/- per dozen but 12/- per dozen and higher was obtained on days when there was a shortage of other green vegetables.

Beetroot in demand.

Bunched beetroot was in light supply and clearances were effected promptly at maximum rates. Bagged lots, also, sold well, up to the ceiling price of 23/- per cwt. being secured.

Carrots and parsnips cheaper.

Loose carrots and parsnips were more plentiful. Fairly large quantities of interstate carrots grown for Defence Foodstuffs were available at 10/- per cwt. and were retailed to the public at 7 lbs. for one shilling following a publicity campaign in the press. Rates for local carrots and parsnips were lower.

Lettuce realise higher prices.

There was a marked decline in supplies of lettuce after mid-June and prices reached high levels, choice heads selling up to 25/- per case on some occasions. The quality generally was only medium while the greater proportion was of small size.

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Consignments of Victorian potatoes increase - Tasmanian decline.

Arrivals at Alexandria Goods Yard of potatoes from local centres were again very light, totalling 1,011 bags of Factors which arrived mostly from the Grafton and Dorrigo districts. Under the system instituted by the Potato Controller, the prices charged by primary merchants to wholesalers were £7,17.6 for No.1 grade and £7.5.0 for No. 2 grade and Chats, Wholesalers, however, are allowed a rebate of £1.5.0 per ton in respect of all potatoes sold wholesale, it being necessary for them to furnish returns showing wholesale sales where a rebute is claimed. There were also 304 bags of certified seed which included Factor and Katahdins; these were not available for general trading purposes. Supplies from Victoria showed a considerable increase when 52.947 bags of Carmans and Snowflakes and limited supplies of Brownells arrived compared with 28,852 bags in May. The bulk opened up in a very satisfactory condition, the exception being about 2,600 bags which it was necessary to regrade owing to glassy ends, wet rot, undersize and mechanical injuries. All the consignments were made available for general trading purposes and sales were readily effected at the prices quoted above.

At Sussex Street supplies showed a considerable fallingoff when 99,043 bags were received from Tasmania which comprised
mostly Brownell, Bismarcks, Snowflakes, Arranchiefs, also Up-toDate, compared with the total of 149,703 bags in the previous
month. A good percentage was released for general trading purposes
the balance being taken over by the Federal Authorities. Rates
continued unchanged at prices quoted for N.S.W. lines. Supplies at
Darling Harbour included 2 trucks of Victorian Carmans and Snowflakes and these sold at unchanged rates. Three trucks of local
Factor seed arrived but these were not offered for general trading.

Supplies of Tasmanian swedes reduced - rates lower.

At Alexandria Goods Yard 315 bags were received from local centres; these sold at £7.0.0 to £9.0.0 with badly graded lines at £5.0.0 per ton. There were 2.531 bags of Tasmanian swedes received by rail from Victoria at Alexandria. Opening sales were made at £9.0.0 to £9.10.0 per ton. Arrivals at Sussex Street of Tasmanian declined considerably and consisted of 6,405 bags as against 13,853 bags last month. Opening sales were effected at £11.0.0 to £10.5.0 and prices were reduced to £9.0.0 per ton owing to heavy supplies late in the period.

Lighter supplies of carrots - demand continues slow.

There were no supplies of carrots received at Alexandria. Tasmanian consignments arriving at Sussex Street amounted to only 2,849 bags compared with last month's total of 5,803 bags; these were disposed of at unchanged rate of £8.0.0 per ton.

Parsnips sell at lower levels.

At Alexandria 285 bags of Victorian parsnips came to hand; in the early part of the period sales were made at £18.0.0 per ton and at auction 140 bags submitted realised only £12.0.0 per ton. Tasmanian supplies in Sussex Street consisted of 1,877 bags. In the first half sales were made at £14.0.0 but later the market fell to £9.0.0 per ton.

Pumpkins continue to be fairly well supplied.

Consignments of pumpkins at Alexandria amounted to 91 trucks which comprised 68 trucks from Queensland, also 23 trucks from local centres. Last month 114 trucks came to hand. In the first half of the period a few sales were made early at £9.0.0 but prices gradually decline, sales being made at from £7.0.0 to £8.10.0 with a few green lots at £6.0.0 per ton. Later the market was firm for local supplies, clearances being made at mostly £9.0.0 to £10.0.0 with small grades £6.0.0, and badly graded £8.0.0 to £8.10.0 per ton. During the period Queensland lots opened at £9.0.0, declined to £7.0.0 to £8.10.0 and later brought £10.0.0 per ton. At Sussex Street supplies were light. 45 bags were on offer and realised £7.0.0 per ton. At Darling Harbour landing consignments included 3 trucks of local which sold at £9.0.0 per ton.

Exceptionally light supplies of Victorian onions.

Arrivals of Victorian brown onions continued to show a considerable falling-off and totalled 979 bags of brown table lines as compared with 3,243 bags in May. All lines on offer were in demand, selling readily at approximately £18.0.0 to £18.10.0 per ton. Also 140 bags of brown pickling were received, and these sold at £17.10.0 to £18.0.0 per ton. In Sussex Street, the receivals totalled only 185 bags and these were disposed of at undisclosed rates. Consignments at Darling Harbour landing again showed a falling-off and consisted of 16 trucks of Table lots, including 4 trucks of brown pickling. Table lots sold at approximately £17.0.0 to £18.10.0 and pickling brown £17.0.0 to £18.0.0 per ton.

Oaten chaff consignments increase.

Receivals at Alexandria of oaten chaff showed a marked increase when 142 trucks came to hand. The total for May was 112 trucks. Good inquiry continued for most lines on effer, rates continuing mostly unchanged as follows: Stained lets £7.10.0, /medium...

medium £8.0.0 to £8.5.0, good sound £8.10.0, prime £8.15.0 to £9.0.0, also choice lots £9.0.0 per ton.

Consignments of wheaten chaff continue to be restricted.

Arrivals of wheaten chaff were again lighter than the previous month and totalled only 17½ trucks; these met with good inquiry, mest lines selling at maximum rates. During the period ruling rates were:- Good sound lots £8.15.0, prime and choice £9.0.0 per ton.

Lucerne chaff in request - rates remain firm.

Supplies of lucerne chaff were again fairly light and increasing by only 15 trucks and aggregating 42 trucks. No diffi was experienced in clearing all lots on offer at firm rates, whi were recorded as follows: Good sound £11.0.0 to £12.10.0, prime £12.15.0 to £13.10.0, also few choice £13.10.0 per ton.

Lucerne dust threshings and pods sell well.

Supplies of lucerne dust consisted of about 2 trucks which realised £13.0.0 to £14.0.0 per ton. Three trucks of thres ings arrived and brought £10.0.0 to £11.0.0, 2 trucks of lucerne pods sold at £10.0.0 to £10.10.0 and choice lucerne poultry meal included 2 trucks which sold at £15.0.0 per ton.

Increased arrivals of lucerne hay; rates continue firm.

Arrivals from the Maitland district increased by 15 trucks compared with May totals of 75 trucks. Clearances were mad as follow: New soft green £5.0.0 to £6.10.0, well-made new green £8.0.0 to £9.10.0; few dump bales £10.10.0. There was also a fair percentage of dry lots and these realised £7.0.0 to £10.0.0 per ton. From other centres supplies increased to 42 trucks; including 8 trucks of derrick-pressed. Quality lines were in demand. Prices were: Inferior lots £8.0.0, medium £8.10.0 to £10.0.0, good sour £10.0.0 to £11.5.0, prime £11.0.0 to £12.10.0; also few choice £12.5.0 to £12.10.0 per ton. Derrick-pressed medium lines sold at £8.5.0 and good sound £10.0.0 per ton.

Hay - Heavy consignments of oaten.

Consignments of oaten hay showed a marked increase, better the heaviest for a few months, and amounting to 57 trucks, including the following: 22 trucks of rack daton, 35 trucks of derrick pressed. Six trucks of derrick-pressed wheaten also arrived. Most lines on offer were in request and rates were fairly firm. Clearances were made as follow: Rack daten lots of interior £7.0.0, good sound £9.10.0, prime £9.10.0 to £10.0.0 with choice £10.0.0 to £10.15.0 per ton. Derrick pressed sold as follows: Damaged lots (early) £6.0.0, good sound £5.10.0 to £6.10.0, prime £6.0.0 to £7.15.0 per ton. Wheaten lots realised £7.0.0 to £7.15.0, and at auction good sound brought £6.5.0 per ton.

Straw in demand: (1997) Straw in demand: (1997) Straw in demand: (1997) Straw (1997)

Arrivals of straw were considerably lighter, amounting to 25 trucks which included 14g of oaten and 9g of wheaten. The bulk of all lots, both oaten and wheaten, brought maximum rates of £6.0.0 per ton.

Receivals of wheat again limited.

Supplies of wheat at Alexandria were restricted to 20 trucks, the bulk of which comprised mostly F.A.Q. lines. These were disposed of at 3/8 and 3/9 per bushel. At auction 5 trucks of under quality were submitted and pick-ups sold at 3/0 to 3/3, and slightly under quality 3/6 to 3/7 per bushel.

Maize consignments increaso - rates firm.

At Alexandria maize supplies increased to 12,598 bags as compared to 7,995 bags last month. Particulars are as follow:1,914 bags of yellow and 4,766 bags of white from local centres, and 3,701 bags of white, 2,217 bags of yellow from Queensland.
There was little change in rates during the period.

A large percentage of the consignments consisted of white lots, the bulk of these being forwarded for private buyers, rates not being disclosed. Local yellow lines realised 8/- per bushel by private treaty, and at auction 137 bags brought 7/8 per bushel. Queensland lots of yellow brought 7/6 to 8/- per bushel, and at auction 240 bags of red and yellow realised 7/8 and 131 bags of yellow brought 7/9 per bushel. No sales were recorded of white lots. Arrivals at Sussex Street from the North Coast were reduced to 2,189 bags of mostly yellow, which realised 8/- per bushel.

Oat consignments increase.

Arrivals of oats at Alexandria were heavier than in the previous month, when 23 trucks were received, representing an increase of 16 trucks.

The bulk of the arrivals was consigned to private buyers; feed lots sold at 3/3 and seed at 3/102d per bushel. One truck of seed submitted by auction sold at 3/10d per bushel.

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

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

Commodity	June, 1944	31st Augu	st, 1939
	From To	NOW THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY	То
Wheat: Home consumpti Bulk - per bushel	on $3/11\frac{1}{4}$ d (un	changed) 2/	4
CHANGE WITH SAN SAN TENNES	£10.4.2 (plus £2.8.10 ta	£6.12 x) " (plus £6	.3 .2.9 tax)
Bran - " " Pollard " "	£6.0.0	£4.5. £4.5.	
Eggs - per dozen	2/-	1/	- 000000
Butter (choice) per cv	vt. 169/4d	161/	2d
Cheese: Loaf - per 1b. Large - " " Special Brands 1b.	1/0½d 1/- 1/1d 1/3½d	1	Id Ożd Sd
	June, 1944.	. 29th Augus	st, 1939
Pigs (Abattoir Sales): Good to prime per hea	From To	From Prom	То
Medium weight Heavy Baconers £3	35/6 53/6 37/6 67/6 50/6 72/6 .10.6 £7.5.6	43/6 50/6 60/6	40/6 44/6 57/6 54/6 75/6 £8.10.0

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

FRUIT.

		Name and Address of the Owner, which was to be a second	and the second s		Commence of the Commence of th	Compared to be Selective	THE REST OF THE PERSON NAMED IN
-	STATE	Pineapples tropical cases.	Bananas tropical cases	Other Fruit cases	Tomatoes half-bushel cases	Melons	TOTALS pkges.
The second secon	Queensland Victoria Tasmania Sth. Aust. West Aust.	11,268 46 - -	2,576 38 - -	21,458 99,615 97,283 16,250 37,529	32,831 7,898 15 -	-	68,133 107,597 97,298 16,250 37,529
	TOTALS:	11,314	2,614	272,135	40,744	-	326,807

VEGETABLES.

STATE	Potatoes	Onions	Swedes	Pumpkins	Cucs. & Chillies cases.	Other Vegs. pkges.	TOTALS pkges.
Queensland Victoria Tasmania Sth. Aust. West Aust.	106 75,771 34,330 1,856	5 27,717 1,880	3,420 13,857	bags 11,063	126	4,060 48,006 4,821 16,362	15,360 154,914 53,008 20,098
TOTALS:	112,063	29,602	17,277	11,063	126	73,249	243,380

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DIVISION OF MARKETING AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS - DEPT OF AGRICULTURE - NEW SOUTH WALES M. 44.2 MEAT PRODUCTION IN NEW SOUTH WALES

BULLOCKS & COWS, CALVES, PIGS, SHEEP & LAMBS, 159

