



AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

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

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

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search

<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>

aesearch@umn.edu

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

Demand was keen and during the latter half of the period rates per lb. reached 7¹/₂d, the highest level for some time. On most sale days, prices per head exceeded £16.

Increased basic price for porkers.

Porkers generally were well supplied and included all grades of weight and quality. Good lines of stores, especially weighty sorts, met a fairly keen inquiry but demand generally was only moderate. Highest rates noted were 12d per lb. and lowest 7¹/₂d.

As from 11th June, 1945, porkers dressing between 60 and 100 lb. will be accepted for export at prices based on 9d per lb. instead of 8d. This is a temporary arrangement, the idea being that the lower weight limit and higher value should induce producers to remain in production during the prevailing food shortage. Actually, of course, the Government desires that all porkers be taken to the baconer stage but the food position may make this impracticable in many instances.

(G. Coleman and
J.R. Williams).

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SALES
AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Limited supplies of fruit.

There was a good demand generally and values for most lines were firm. Supplies were only moderate and some fruits, o.g., apples and Navel oranges, were short of trade requirements at times.

Apple supplies decline.

Only light consignments of apples were forward from inland orchards and packing houses in this State. Request was keen especially for Granny Smith and Delicious at the ceiling level of 27/- per bushel but the quantities available were well below buyers' needs.

Tasmanian apples were fairly plentiful early in the month but at closing stocks were very light and rates for the few varieties on offer were much firmer, Jonathans and Scarlet Pearmain selling to 26/-, Cleopatras to 27/- and Geoveston Fanny to 23/- per bushel case.

Consignments from Victoria showed a sharp falling-off and such varieties as Rome Beauty and Granny Smith realised the maximum of 27/- for other than very small sizes or faulty packs.

South Australian supplies, apart from small quantities of Jonathans, were stated to be practically finished.

Quieter demand for pears.

Inquiry for pears was satisfactory during early May but there was a slackening subsequently. The bulk of supplies were received from Victoria although some Tasmanian shipments and small consignments from inland sources in this State were received. The principal varieties on offer were Packhams Triumph, Beurre Bosc, Winter Cole and Josephine. Small quantities of Tasmanian Glou. Morceau and Winter Nelis were available.

The maximum of 28/- was realised for best sizes of Packham's Triumph and Winter Cole early in the month but rates weakened subsequently by from 2/- to 3/- per case.

Navel oranges in short supply.

Request for Navel oranges exceeded the supply, although the position was relieved to some extent by an increase in supplies from coastal groves and small quantities from the M.I.A. late in the month. No difficulty was experienced in obtaining maximum prices for all counts.

Values of Emperor mandarins ease.

Relatively few Imperial mandarins were forward but consignments of Emperors increased. Inquiry was good early but it was not maintained and values were much easier later, especially for small fruit, which proved difficult to sell even at low rates. Occasional packs of choice, large Emperors sold at the maximum but in most instances disposals had to be effected at lower figures as the fruit lacked sufficient sugar to find favour with the public.

During the last week of the month two consignments of Glen Retreat variety were received from Queensland. As this fruit was well coloured and attractive, early clearances were effected at the ceiling rate of 25/- per bushel.

Coastal lemons sell slowly.

Demand for coastal lemons was restricted and rates were weak. The maximum of 20/- was obtained for occasional choice, coloured lines but most sales were made at lower prices. Consignments of Queensland fruit, however, met a good request and rates generally ranged from 15/- to 20/- per bushel.

Banana market very firm.

A keen demand ruled for the limited supplies of bananas and the ceiling rate of 7d per lb. ruled.

Grape season virtually finished.

Practically all supplies of grapes were from the M.I.A., only a small quantity of Ohanez from an interstate source being available. Inquiry for Cornichons was generally very satisfactory and up to 20/- per half-case was realised. Doradillo and Waltham Cross consignments were very light and values of both varieties advanced, up to 30/- per half-case being realised for Walthams. There was a steady request for Ohanez and sales were made to 22/- per half-case. Towards the close of the month only very small quantities were forward, the end of the season being at hand.

Rates for pineapples firm as supplies become lighter.

Bi-weekly consignments of pineapples showed a sharp decline from 10,100 cases early in May to 5,270 for the last week of the month. Demand was only moderate early other than for specially selected packs and rates had to be lowered. As supplies fell away the market firmed to the maximum for the bulk of offerings, only very small sizes selling below the ceiling rate of 21/3 per case.

Choice passionfruit realise satisfactory prices.

Passionfruit were moderately supplied and choice packs sold at around 30/- per half-case although higher prices were obtained for occasional extra-choice lots.

Tropical fruits sell well.

Regular bi-weekly consignments of custard apples came to hand from Queensland. Demand generally was satisfactory and rates ranged to 15/- per half-case, but the greater proportion of sales were effected at lower levels. Choice papaws met a ready sale and up to 35/- per case was obtained. For best lines of Avocados 15/- to 20/- per half-case was paid but some varieties sold from 6/-.

Choice peas sell to ceiling price.

There was a considerable falling-off in consignments of peas and values generally were on a higher plane than during the preceding month. Choice offerings constituted only a relatively small percentage of receipts. A large proportion of supplies showed damage, particularly coastal lots, through wet conditions while frost injury was apparent on some inland consignments. The maximum of 23/4 per bushel was realised on some occasions for extra-choice lines but the general range was from 10/- to 20/-; inferior descriptions had to be cleared at lower prices.

Supplies of local beans decline.

During the early part of the month the quantities of beans reaching the market were in excess of trade requirements. Except for choice lines, business was restricted and the daily carryover was large. Unsold stocks on Friday, 4th May, and Tuesday, 8th May, assumed large proportions and to clear floors agents disposed of large quantities at around 6d per bushel for consignment to the Riverina to feed starving stock. Following this period receipts were lighter and the market recovered quickly with the result that prior to the close of the month choice descriptions realised to the ceiling level of 20/- per bushel; with the advent of colder weather, local supplies were falling away rapidly but marketing of North Coast and Queensland beans commenced. The quality of a large percentage of North Coast and Queensland beans was affected by breakdown because of wet conditions in growing areas; many lines were so badly affected as to be unsaleable.

Maximum rate for tomatoes increased.

Demand for tomatoes during the first half of the month was for the most part only moderate. For extra choice coloured "locals" the maximum of 14/- per half-case was paid but lower prices were accepted for inland packs and for medium quality lots from within the County of Cumberland. Subsequently, the market was firmer owing to lighter supplies and on Monday, 21st May, the ceiling price was advanced from 7d per lb. to 9d, or the equivalent of 4/- per half-case. It was possible to obtain the new rate for best lots for a few days following its announcement, but owing to a slackening in demand, together with heavier consignments from Queensland, values at closing were easier, only a few outstanding quality packs exceeding 16/-.

Cauliflowers sell satisfactorily.

While consignments of cauliflowers from inland districts were lighter, receipts from within the County of Cumberland increased. A large percentage of the local product was affected by pests during the growing period; this detracted from appearance and realisations were affected in consequence. Choice lines, however, sold satisfactorily on most days and up to 24/- per dozen was obtained while as much as 30/- and at times 36/- was paid for specially selected heads.

Choice cabbages scarcer.

The market for cabbages was variable. On some days demand was active and values were firm while on others request was very slow and stocks could not be cleared. During the last week of the month, however, supplies were comparatively light and choice heads realised to 14/- per dozen.

Carrots and parsnips cheaper.

Large consignments of loose carrots and parsnips were forward after mid-May and values of both lines fell sharply.

Lettuce realises high prices.

Lettuce was lightly supplied and high prices ruled for choice heads, up to 24/- per case, and occasionally higher, being paid.

Brussels Sprouts sell well.

Brussels Sprouts from Victoria were fairly plentiful at times but little difficulty was experienced in effecting disposals, choice lots selling to 16/- per box, while occasionally 18/- was realised. Only a small quantity of locally-grown Sprouts was available.

(R.D. Meaker).

ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD
AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

Interstate potatoes plentiful.

Consignments to Sussex Street showed a marked increase, 165,304 bags from Tasmania coming to hand compared with 95,890 in April. A large percentage was not offered, being either stored or taken over for essential services. The tubers consisted mostly of Brownells, Bismarcks, Snowflakes and Up-to-Dates.

Arrivals at Alexandria from local centres also increased and consisted of 6,375 bags, mostly Factors, chiefly from the Dorrigo, Guyra and Armidale districts. Supplies from Victoria aggregating 92,458 bags of No.1 Grade constituted the largest total for a considerable period. Varieties such as Carmans, Snowflakes and Katahdins, with few Brownells, Bismarcks and Satisfaction, were included. The tubers arrived in very good condition and, with the exception of about 1,000 bags, the consignments were made available for general trading.

Towards the end of the period, demand started to fall off considerably owing to continued heavy supplies and merchants' stocks on hand increasing, and it was necessary to reassign a number of consignments for storage.

There were also about 1,600 bags from Queensland available.

At Darling Harbour landing receipts were limited to 3 trucks of local seed and 1 truck of Victorian Carmans and Snowflakes. Rates were as follows:- Wholesalers' rates to retailers for local and Interstate No.1 Grade - £7.17.6 per ton: No. 2 and No.3 Grades and Chats - £5.5.0 per ton. Primary merchants' rates to wholesalers are £1.5.0 per ton less than figures quoted.