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SALES OF FARM PRODUCE AT ALEXANDRIA AND SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

September, 1947.

Interstate Potato Consignments Increase.

In contrast to the exceptionally light arrivals in August, totalling 115,315 bags, consignments during September amounted to 142,826 bags. The supply included 64,141 bags received at Sussex-street from Tasmania, which consisted mainly of Brownells, with a few Bismarcks, Arranchiefs, Up-to-Dates, and Snowflakes, while 76,213 bags of Victorian No. 1 grade Carmans and Snowflakes came to hand at Alexandria. Approximately 10,000 bags of this total were reserved for essential services or reconsigned to other stations. Local supplies continued to be light, 2,472 bags of Nos. 1 and 3 grade Factors and seed Factors being forward. These tubers were mostly from the Crookwell district. Supplies during the month were insufficient for requirements and consequently a good demand ruled for all lines on offer.

Prices fixed for month ending 30th October, Sydney basis, were:—Wholesalers' Prices to Retailers:—Local and Interstate, No. 1 grade and undergrades, £10 per ton, plus cartage, which must not exceed 10s. per ton.

Rates for New South Wales grown potatoes for delivery to country areas are as quoted, plus freight from loading station; prices for Interstate potatoes to New South Wales country areas are as quoted, plus freight from Sydney or loading station, whichever is the lower. Primary merchants' prices to wholesalers are £1 per ton less than the figures quoted.

Swedes Sell Slowly.

Receivals at Alexandria were again light, only 260 bags being consigned from local centres and 180 bags from Victoria. Demand was very slow and sales were difficult to effect. A few local lines were disposed of at £6 to £7 whilst Victorian arrivals sold at as low as £2 per ton. Tasmanian consignments at Sussex-street totalled 300 bags and realised £5 per ton.

Other Root Vegetables in Short Supply.

Only 305 bags of carrots arrived at Alexandria from Victoria and were disposed of at £6 to £7 per ton. The 34 bags of parsnips forward from Victoria brought £10 per ton.

Pumpkin Rates Show Considerable Variation.

Receivals at Alexandria were slightly lighter than during the previous month, and totalled 96 trucks which included 34 from local sources and 62 from Queensland. Rates varied considerably during the period, opening sales of local lines being made at £8, increasing to £12, but later declining to £8 to £9. Towards closing, however, supplies declined and values again increased to £14 to £15. Queensland lots brought £10 to £12 early, but were subsequently reduced to £8 to £10, while at the close of the period, £14 to £15 per ton was obtained.

Queensland Onions Heavily Supplied—Rates Reduced.

Queensland onion supplies at Alexandria showed a marked increase, 23,916 bags being available. This is the largest quantity available for two years. Request was good during the first half of the period when the bulk of the offerings were rationed to buyers and new season's brought £28 per ton. Later, supplies increased and stocks were more than adequate with the result that rates were considerably reduced, closing quotations for Queensland new season's being recorded at £20 to £23, while white lots realised £20 to £24 per ton.

Oaten Chaff Consignments Appreciably Reduced.

The quantity available for trading showed a marked decline when only 104 trucks, including 18 from Victoria, were available. This represents a reduction of 57 trucks on the August supplies. Demand was fairly good, especially for prime and choice grades. Clearances of good sound were made at £10 to £10 10s. and prime £10 10s. to £10 15s. per ton., plus the cost of new bags. At auction, 5 trucks were sold, bringing £8 to £8 16s. 8d., and good sound £10 1s. 8d. In the latter part of the month, good sound realised £10 to £10 10s., prime £11 to £11 10s., and choice £11 10s. Seven trucks were submitted for auction sale, inferior selling at £6 6s. 8d., medium £8 15s., and heated £4 10s. to £9 5s. per ton.

Wheaten Chaff Sells Slowly.

Receivals were maintained, 38 trucks coming to hand. Prime lines were in demand, but other grades sold slowly. Medium lots were quoted at £8 5s. to £8 10s., good sound £10, and prime and choice £10 15s., plus the cost of new bags. Sales by auction included 4 trucks, damaged bringing £5 6s. 8d., medium £8 5s. to £8 11s. 8d., and shandy £8 11s. 8d. Late sales of good sound were made at £8 10s. to £10 5s., with a few prime £11 per ton.

Lucerne Chaff Receivals Limited.

Only 23 trucks were available, the supply being the lightest since last April. All lines were in request and sales were readily effected, medium realising £11, good sound £12 to £12 10s., prime £13 to £14, and choice £14 per ton.

NOTE.—The Prices Commissioner allowed an increase in the price of chaff on 18th September, and maximum prices are now as follow:—

						Per ton.		
						£	s.	d.
Oaten	..	..	..	..	..	11	11	0
Wheaten	..	..	..	..	..	11	14	0
Lucerne	..	..	..	..	..	15	0	0

Lucerne Meal and Threshings.

Two trucks of lucerne meal were on offer and some sales were made at £17 per ton. One truck of threshings was disposed of at £10 per ton.

Lucerne Hay in Heavy Supply.

Receivals amounted to 103 trucks which represents a marked increase on the 78 trucks forward in August. Maitland consignments increased by 33 trucks to total 70 trucks. The supply exceeded requirements and, consequently, sales were recorded at lower levels. New soft green realised £5 to £7 10s., few early £8, well-made £7 10s., few specials £9 10s., and well-made half-baled lots £9 to £9 10s. Rates showed a further reduction later, new soft green bringing £5 10s. to £6 10s., and well-made £6 5s. to £7 per ton. Consignments from other centres were reduced by 7 trucks and totalled 33 trucks, including 7 of derrick pressed. Prime and choice lines sold well and medium lots were quoted at £7 15s. to £10, few early £10 10s., good sound £10 to £11, prime £11 10s. to £12, and choice £12 15s. Derrick pressed new soft green brought £5 5s., good sound £8 7s. 6d. to £10, and prime £10. At auction, medium grassy realised £6 5s., inferior £6 16s. 8d., and medium £7 10s. per ton.

Oaten Hay Consignments Reduced.

Receivals were reduced by 18 trucks, only 10 being on offer. This total included 7 trucks of rack and 3 of derrick pressed. Sales of good sound rack were effected at £8 10s. to £9, prime £10 to £11 10s., and choice £11 10s., while good sound derrick pressed brought £5 10s. to £8 per ton. Only 2 trucks of derrick pressed wheaten were available and inferior sold at £4 10s. and prime at £6 10s. per ton.

Prime and Choice Straw in Demand.

September consignments showed a reduction of 11 trucks, when 39 were on offer. These included 5 of oaten from local centres, 33 from Victoria, and 12 of local wheaten. No difficulty was experienced in disposing of prime and choice lots, but other grades sold slowly. Good sound local oaten brought £6, prime £7 to £7 10s., while at auction 1 truck of damaged lines realised £4 3s. 4d. Victorian damaged sold at £4 10s. to £4 15s., prime £7 to £7 10s., and choice £7 10s. Inferior and stained wheaten cleared at £3, good sound £4 10s. to £5 5s., and prime £6 10s. Stained was quoted at £4, damaged £4 1s. 8d., and good sound £4 10s. to £4 16s. 8d. per ton at auction.

Maize Sells Slowly.

Supplies at Alexandria amounted to 4,121 bags, and consisted of 2,346 bags of yellow and 776 bags of white from local centres, and 599 bags of yellow and red and 400 bags of white from Queensland. Demand continued to be slow and sales of yellow were recorded at 6s. 9d. to 7s. with a few small lots 7s. 1d. At auction, 198 bags of red from Queensland realised 6s. 9d. per bushel.

Oats Supplies Reduced—Rates Lower.

Receipts at Alexandria were again light. Demand was slow and some sales were made at lower levels. A portion of the consignments were taken direct to store and not offered for trading. Sales by auction included 2 trucks of feed which were disposed of at 3s. 6d. and 3s. 10d. per bushel.

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