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Pigs.

Prices shown in pence per lb.:—Based on selling price per head of live animal and estimated dressed weight of carcase.

Date of Sale, 1948.	2nd Nov.	9th Nov.	16th Nov.	23rd Nov.	30th Nov.
Number yarded each Sale	1,877	2,011	1,754	2,149	2,003
Estimated prices per lb. for—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Porkers—					
35-50 lb. Extra Light	13½-17½	13½-17½	14½-18	13½-19	14½-19
50-60 lb. Light	14½-16½	14½-16½	15-17½	15-18½	15½-18½
60-70 lb. Medium	14½-16½	14½-16½	14½-17½	14½-18	15-18½
70-80 lb. Medium	14½-16½	14½-16½	14½-17½	14½-17½	15-18
80-90 lb. Heavy	13½-16	13½-16	14½-16½	14½-17	15-17½
Intermediates—					
90-100 lb.	12½-15½	12½-15	14½-15½	14½-15½	14½-15½
Baconers—					
100-110 lb. Light	12½-14½	12½-14½	12-14½	12½-14½	12½-14½
110-120 lb. Light	12½-14½	12½-14½	12-13½	12½-13	12½-13
120-130 lb. Medium	12½-13½	12½-13½	11½-13	11½-13	12-12½
130-160 lb. Heavy	12½-13½	12½-13½	11½-12½	11½-12½	11½-12½
160-180 lb. Extra Heavy	12½-13½	11½-12½	11½-12½	11½-12½	11-12½
180-200 lb. Extra Heavy	12-12½	11½-12½	11-11½	11-11½	11-11½
200-240 lb. Extra Heavy	10½-12	10½-11½	10-10½	9½-10½	9-10½
Backfatters—					
250-350 lb.	8½-10½	8-9½	7½-10	7½-9½	6½-8½
350 lb. and over	8½-10½	8-9½	7½-9½	7½-9½	5½-8½

G. COLEMAN.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SALES AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS

November, 1948.

FRUIT.**Choice Apples Limited.**

Only a small proportion of the apples taken out of cold storage were of choice quality, "wasty" lines predominating. Enquiry for sound dessert lines was steady and prices showed little variation from the previous month's rates. Stocks were on offer from New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria, South and Western Australia and quotations were as follows:—*New South Wales*: Delicious 10s. to 26s., few to 30s.; Rome Beauty 10s. to 18s., extra choice to 22s.; Granny Smith 10s. to 18s., few to 22s., odd special higher; Democrat 10s. to 18s., few to 20s.; Yates 10s. to 20s. *Tasmanian*: Granny Smith 12s. to 20s.; Democrat 10s. to 12s. *Victorian*: Delicious 14s. to 20s., few 22s.; Jonathan 10s. to 16s., few special higher; Yates 14s. to 22s.; Rome Beauty 12s. to 18s., few 22s. *South Australian*: Jonathan 18s. to 26s.; Statesman 14s. to 20s. *Western Australian*: Granny Smith 20s. to 22s. per bushel case.

Victorian Pears Sell Steadily.

Packham's Triumph, Winter Cole, Josephine and Winter Nelis pears were on offer during the first half of the month but only Packham's Triumph and Josephine were available throughout November. Choice lines were scarce and sold readily but fruit showing breakdown, which predominated, moved out very slowly.

Some lines did not warrant the cost of consignment to the Sydney market. Ruling prices were mainly as follows:—Packham's Triumph, 12s. to 25s.; Winter Cole, 14s. to 26s., few 27s.; Josephine, 13s. to 24s., few 25s.; and Winter Nelis, 13s. to 24s. per bushel case.

Marketing of Local Peaches Commences.

On and after 15th November peaches reached the Sydney market in increasing quantities from the near-metropolitan districts. Dry weather had resulted in a considerable amount of small fruit being harvested and realisations for this class were low. Medium to large sizes, however, commanded attention and prices were high. Rates ranged from 5s. to 16s. with choice large to 20s. per half case. Some special packs were higher.

Heavy Supplies of Small Apricots.

Adverse growing conditions were also responsible for small apricots which were very slow of sale. Rates for quarter bushel cases varied from 4s. to 16s. according to size and quality, whilst half-case packs brought 5s. to 18s., a few special to 20s. A small consignment from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area arrived on 30th November and realised from 14s. to 22s. per half case.

Cherries Arrive from Inland Districts.

Consignments of cherries from the Young district were available throughout the month, about 41,500 quarter-bushel cases reaching the market. Arrivals from Orange commenced on the 17th November and totalled, during the balance of November, approximately 38,000 cases. Early realisations for Young lots ranged from 14s. to 18s. with closing rates 6s. to 14s. per box. Offerings from Orange sold at 4s. to 14s. early and from 5s. to 10s. on the last day of the month.

Considerable Fluctuations in Banana Prices.

Rates for New South Wales Cavendish bananas on 1st and 2nd November ranged, according to size and condition, from 8s. to 34s. per banana case but heavy supplies of ripe fruit were responsible for a sharp decline in prices on 3rd and a further fall on 9th carried quotations down to 6s. to 10s. for sixes, 6s. to 14s. for sevens and 10s. to 20s., few 24s., for eights and nines. These low levels were maintained until 15th, when lighter supplies resulted in sales being made at rates ranging from 8s. and 32s. per case. Values continued to rise, although minor falls occurred, and on the 24th 12s. to 34s. covered sales. From 25th until the close of this period quotations were steady as follows:—Sixes 10s. to 14s., odd 16s.; sevens 14s. to 20s., few higher; and eights and nines 20s. to 30s., few 32s. per banana case. Lady Finger variety followed the general trend of Cavendish prices, opening at 10s. to 20s., special to 30s., few 35s. per banana case, with mid-month prices 14s. to 20s., special to 25s., inferior lower, whilst on 30th November quotations were 15s. to 20s., special to 25s., few to 30s.

Supplies of Cavendish and Lady Finger fruit from Queensland totalled 9,946 for the month, whereas October consignments amounted to 12,536 cases. Rates quoted are for early, mid-month and closing days, respectively:—Cavendish 6s. to 25s., few higher; Lady Finger 10s. to 25s., inferior lower; Cavendish 10s. to 26s., odd higher; Lady Finger 10s. to 25s., inferior lower; Cavendish 6s. to 28s.; Lady Finger 15s. to 30s., inferior lower.

Weak Market for Small and Medium Valencias Improves at Closing.

Heavy supplies of coastal Valencia oranges were available throughout the month, except toward the close, when offerings were lighter, due to Gosford district consignments to the Brisbane markets. The small percentage of large fruit sold readily at all times but small and medium sizes moved out slowly and were at times almost unsaleable. Quotations for choice fruit, sizes 234 and 150, were mainly from 4s. to 7s. per bushel case up to 22nd November. During the remaining days values improved slightly and at the end of the month rates ranged from 6s. to 12s. per case. Counts larger than 150 brought from 10s. to 14s., with choice extra large to 16s. and occasional sales as high as 20s. Very small fruit was cheaper and even more difficult to sell. Light offerings of choice Washington Navel oranges were available from the 1st to the 8th of November and realised mainly from 10s. to 20s. per case with small and inferior lower. Little interest was shown in second-crop Navels, sales being made at from 6s. to 10s. per case with inferior lots lower. Trading in this class of fruit was not noted after the 18th November.

Steady Trading in Lemons at Slightly Improved Rates.

Choice lemons, sizes 150 to 180 per bushel case, met a steady inquiry throughout the month with closing rates 1s. to 2s. per case better than early rates. Large and very small fruit and wasty lines were slow of sale, and even buying for processing failed to clear stocks. Quotations ranged from 4s. to 10s. per bushel case with choice selected sizes to 12s., and at closing a few to 14s., with a few Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area offerings to 16s.

Limited Demand for Grapefruit.

Supplies of grapefruit were light but demand was not strong. After the middle of the month coastal offerings were supplemented by consignments from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. Quotations were:—Coastal: early in month 6s. to 8s., later 8s. to 10s., few 12s.; M.I.A. 14s. to 16s., few to 20s. per bushel case.

Choice Passionfruit Scarce.

The strong demand for choice passionfruit resulted in high prices for the limited quantity available. New South Wales offerings sold at 18s. to 30s. per half case, special to 40s. Consignments from Queensland totalling 2,102 half cases, received on 8th November and on and after 22nd, realised prices within these ranges. Rates were lower at the end of the month.

Limited Inquiry for New South Wales Strawberries.

Quotations for strawberries were mainly from 18s. to 30s. per dozen punnets. A few choice packs were higher and inferior lots lower. Inquiry was limited.

Queensland Tropical Fruits Sell Mainly at Unchanged Rates.

Particulars of arrivals of tropical fruits during November are followed by October totals, in brackets, and by a range of prices:

Pineapples: 26,584 tropical cases (25,967) 16s. to 26s., few to 30s.

Papaws: 10,023 tropical cases (11,346) 8s. to 16s., few to 20s.

Avocados: 537 (658) half cases. Fuerte and similar 14s. to 16s.; other varieties 5s. to 8s.

Mangoes: 2,558 (510) half cases. Fancy 14s. to 18s., few to 20s.; common 6s. to 8s., few to 10s.

Rockmelons: 5,881 (630) half-bushel cases. Prior to 9th November 10s. to 14s., after that date bushel case lots sold at 14s. to 24s. each.

Water Melons: 15s. to 25s. per tropical crate.

VEGETABLES.**Supplies of Peas much Lighter.**

During November 22,313 bags of peas were on offer in the agents' section of the market, including 21,520 from Victoria. Supplies were also on offer in the growers' market. Agents' receipts were about 11,000 less than for October. It is interesting to note that receipts for November, 1947, were estimated to be about 58,300 bags, of which approximately 5,300 were from Victoria. Values during the month were high, ranging from 14s. to 30s. per bushel during the first week, to 24s. to 42s., with a few sales at 44s. and higher later in the month. Quality varied considerably and whilst demand for choice lines was keen, inferior consignments sold slowly. The limited supplies, however, were generally cleared each day.

Light Offerings of Beans.

Beans, on the agents' stands, amounted to 6,392 bags, including only 70 received during the first week from Queensland. October supplies in the agents' section totalled 29,908 packages, of which 7,223 were from Queensland. During November, however, offerings of local beans in the growers' market increased considerably. Figures for November, 1947, were 19,000 bags from New South Wales and 44 cases and 720 bags from Queensland. Supplies were also heavy in the growers' market.

The shortage resulted in high prices. Quotations varied according to supplies available each day and ranged from 16s. to 26s. a bushel early in the month to 35s. to 50s. towards the close. The month closed with 30s. to 40s. being paid for good choice quality beans. Some inferior lots were cheaper.

Cabbages Sell Freely.

The shortage of peas and beans resulted in a good demand for cabbages. Realisations were mainly from 8s. to 12s. a dozen for medium to large heads, but at times as high as 18s. to 20s. was paid. Small cabbages sold at from 4s. to 6s.

Ample Supplies of Lettuce.

Offerings of lettuce were generally sufficient for retail requirements and fluctuations in prices only occurred when supplies were very heavy or comparatively light. Most sales were made at from 4s. to 6s. per case, but on a few days quotations rose to 10s. with odd sales at 14s. Heavy stocks occasionally resulted in quotations being lowered to 2s. per case in an endeavour to clear supplies.

Heavy Supplies of North Coast Tomatoes.

Consignments of tomatoes from North Coast districts totalled about 135,000 half cases. Glass-house growers supplied a considerable quantity and during the last week of the month local field-grown fruit was available. Consignments from Queensland amounted to only 5,703 half cases. Realisations were mainly as follow:—North Coast 12s. to 18s., few 20s.; Glass-house 14s. to 18s., few 20s.; local field-grown 14s. to 18s., few to 22s. Queensland 8s. to 12s. per half case. Small and inferior were cheaper.

Keen Demand for Light Supplies of Carrots.

A shortage of potatoes resulted in a strong demand for the light supplies of carrots available. As high as 35s. per quarter was offered at times, with bag lots selling at from 65s. to 120s. per cwt.

Other Root Vegetables also Dear.

Quotations for parsnips, sweet potatoes and swede turnips were also very high, as follow:—Parsnips 50s. to 80s., inferior lower; sweet potatoes 40s. to 60s., few to 70s.; swedes 28s. to 60s., few to 80s.

New South Wales Marrows and Cucumbers on Offer.

Supplies of local marrow were available and sold in with the 2,852 tropical cases from Queensland. Prices ranged from 12s. to 28s. per case according to supplies.

Queensland consignments of cucumbers amounted to 22,445 half-bushel cases and before local supplies were available quotations were from 5s. to 18s. per half case, but increased supplies reduced values and at the end of the month prices were mainly from 5s. to 10s. per half case.

Other Main Vegetable Lines.

Price ranges for other main lines of vegetables were as follow:—

Potatoes, old 10s., new 23/7½d. (fixed maximum prices); pumpkins, early 70s. to 80s., mid-month 40s. to 60s., closing sales 30s. to 36s. per cwt; local celery 9s. to 24s.; beetroot 4s. to 10s. per dozen bunches.

A. M. BURNS.