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

**November, 1946.**

### **Potato Supplies Exceptionally Light—New Seasons Arrive.**

Following light consignments in October, receivals at Alexandria and Sussex-street were again reduced, only 86,654 bags coming to hand, compared with last month's total of 98,755 bags and 17,445 crates. Receivals at Sussex-street from Tasmania were exceptionally light and comprised 38,677 bags and 1,203 crates, mostly Brownells with a few Bismarcks, Up-to-Dates and Snow-flakes.

At Alexandria arrivals from local centres totalled 28,736 bags. With the exception of 1,583 bags of No. 3 grade and Factor seed, the tubers were new grade Factors and Katahdins, chiefly from Grafton, Raleigh, Kempsey and Windsor districts. From interstate sources, 9,910 bags of new grade Factors and Katahdins arrived from Queensland, 6,951 of No. 1 and undergrade Carmans from Victoria, and 2,380 bags of Brownells from Tasmania. The bulk of the arrivals during the month were available for civilian use and demand was very keen. Receivals were rationed to buyers and were not nearly sufficient to meet requirements.

Prices fixed for month ending 30th November, Sydney basis, were: Wholesalers' prices to retailers, local and interstate, No. 1 and New Grade, £7 17s. 6d.; undergrades, £6 7s. 6d. 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, Carrots and Parsnips Exceptionally Scarce.**

There were no fresh arrivals of swedes or parsnips during the month.

Carrots available totalled only sixty bags of Queensland lines and regrading was necessary.

### **Other Root Vegetables Again Scarce.**

Receivals at Alexandria included the following: Beetroot, 337 bags from Queensland which realised £18 early, later receding to £10, but again advancing to £13; and 631 bags of sweet potatoes which cleared at £40 to £45 per ton.

### **Queensland New Season's Onions in Lighter Supply.**

Queensland consignments at Alexandria were lighter and totalled 13,478 bags, compared with the October total of 16,852. All lines cleared readily, new seasons realising £30 per ton.

**Pumpkins Scarce.**

Consignments were the lightest for a considerable period, only 21½ trucks arriving at Alexandria, compared with 46½ during October. These comprised 16½ trucks from Queensland and five from Victoria. Demand was very keen, and early in the period eighty-five bags of Victorian Triambles submitted at auction realised the high price of £66, while £54 was secured for forty bags of No. 2 grade. Subsequent receivals realised to £53, but the market closed at £42. Queensland lots realised £60 at opening, but owing to increased supplies of other vegetables, values declined considerably and at closing were from £25 to £27 per ton.

**Oaten Chaff Supplies Again Reduced.**

Consignments continued to decline and were the lightest for twelve months, only ninety-two trucks arriving. Supplies were insufficient for requirements and sales were effected at the maximum rate of £10 5s., except two trucks of medium which brought £8, and good sound £10 per ton.

**Lighter Supplies of Wheaten Chaff.**

Truckings showed a reduction, only forty-one being available for trading. These included old and new seasons, and all lines sold readily. Sales were made as follows: Few medium, £9 10s.; also good sound, £9 10s. to £10; bulk at £10 5s. per ton.

**Lucerne Chaff Again Scarce.**

Little improvement was noticed in the quantity on offer which totalled only thirteen trucks. Demand was keen and practically all grades realised the maximum rate of £13 10s.

**Lucerne Meal and Dust.**

Consignments of meal increased to seven trucks. Demand was good and prime and choice lines realised £14 10s. to £16 per ton. Lucerne dust included one truck and twenty-six bags, portion of which sold at £16 10s. per ton.

**Maitland Lucerne Hay Supplies Reduced.**

Following fairly heavy supplies in October, consignments were lighter by eighteen trucks, seventy coming from the Maitland district. Demand showed a falling off due to favourable weather causing an improvement in pastures, and in order to effect clearances, rates were reduced. Sales were recorded as follows: New soft green, £5 to £8 10s.; well made, £8 to £9 10s., few £10 10s.; derrick pressed, new soft green, £8 10s.; well made, £10 10s. to £11; half-bales, new soft green, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; well made, £10 10s. to £11 15s. per ton. Towards closing, values receded, new soft green realising £4 to £7, and half-bales well made £8 to £8 10s. per ton. Arrivals from other centres were maintained and aggregated thirty-eight trucks, including twenty-one of derrick pressed. The bulk of the Mudgee baled lines were in demand and realised £12 5s. Derrick pressed lines sold as follows: Heated, £3 12s. 6d. to £7; grassy, £6 15s. to £10 10s.; good sound, £9; prime, £10, few choice £10 10s. to £10 15s.; and at auction one truck of medium, £7 6s. 8d. per ton.

**Oaten Hay Very Scarce.**

Truckings showed a considerable decline, only eleven coming to hand, compared with twenty-seven trucks in October. Seven trucks of rack oaten realised £8 10s. for medium, £9 to £9 10s. for good sound, and £11 for choice. Good sound derrick pressed sold at £7 5s. to £8 per ton.

**Reduced Consignments of Wheaten Hay.**

Receivals were exceptionally light, amounting to only five trucks of new season's derrick pressed. Clearances were made as follows: Medium, £5 10s.; good sound, £6 to £7; and prime and choice, £8.

Four trucks of meadow hay were also on offer and realised £5 10s., also three trucks of mixed wheaten and lucerne from South Australia, of which two trucks were offered at auction, medium realising £4 to £4 10s. per ton.

**Straw Supplies Exceptionally Light.**

Following heavy consignments in October, totalling eighty-five trucks, only twenty-nine trucks were received during November, comprising seventeen of oaten, seven of wheaten and five of rice. Oaten damaged lines sold at £5 15s., good sound £6 15s. to £7, prime £7 10s., and wheaten good sound £5 10s. to £6, prime £7 10s. per ton.

**Wheat Consignments Exceptionally Light.**

Only ten trucks arrived at Alexandria, compared with twenty-three trucks in the previous month. These were not offered for general trading.

**Maize Supplies Considerably Reduced.**

Supplies were again restricted, only 318 bags of yellow arriving from local centres, compared with 2,478 bags in October. No rates were disclosed.

**Increased Consignments of Oats.**

Receivals showed an increase of nine trucks, when thirteen trucks came to hand. Supplies were not available for general trading, being required for milling purposes.

C. H. FERRY.