

Poultry, Livestock Number Expected to Climb in '60

Livestock and poultry numbers as well as feeding rates will continue to increase during the next 12 months. The rate of expansion, however, has slowed down.

There will be more than enough grain and high protein feedstuffs, but prices for some major livestock products have declined.

So stated the Feed Survey Committee of the American Feed Manufacturers Assn., which met recently in Chicago, Ill. The committee is composed of 24 college professors. Among them is Dr. E. R. Barrick of North Carolina State college.

Here are details of the committee's report:

Beef cattle numbers will increase eight per cent and reach a record level. The number of hogs to be fed in the coming 12 months will be up four per cent, turkey numbers will increase five per cent and sheep and lambs will be up two per cent. Declines of four per cent for layers, eight per cent for horses and mules, and one per cent for milk cows are expected. Broiler numbers will remain unchanged.

At estimated rates of feeding, nearly 137 million tons of grains, oilseed meals and other concentrates will be consumed during 1959-60. This compares with estimated supplies available for feed of 189 million tons . . . an excess of 38 per cent. Grain supplies exceed feed requirements by nearly 40 per cent while high proteins are in excess about eight per cent.

If estimates of the committee are realized, the 1959-60 period will be the fourth year of expansion in the current cycle. It will provide consumers with one of the largest total supplies of meat, milk, eggs and other livestock products ever experienced.

The 1959 fall pig crop is estimated to be 44,912,000 head which is six per cent more than the pig crop of the preceding fall.

It is estimated that approximately 59,664,000 pigs will be produced in the spring of 1960, which is two per cent more than the 58,494,000 produced in the spring of 1959.

It is expected that the average slaughter weight of all hogs marketed in the 1959-60 feeding year will be 237 pounds which is the same as 1958-59.

There will be a four per cent de-

crease in numbers of layers during the 1959-60 feed year. There will be no appreciable change in broiler production, and turkey production will increase five per cent over last year.

The average number of layers for the period October 1, 1959, to September 30, 1960, will be approximately 291 million.

Commercial broiler production in the 1959-60 feed year will remain unchanged with an anticipated production of 1,815 million.

It is anticipated that 87 million turkeys will be raised in 1959-60 which represents a five per cent increase over 1958-59. There will be a shift to heavy breeds resulting in 13 million being marketed as light and 74 million as heavy turkeys.

The number of cows to be milked in 1960 is expected to be 19,116,000, a decrease of approximately one per cent compared with 1959. The number of heifers and heifer calves to be raised for replacement is estimated to increase about one-half of one per cent over 1959.

Total milk production of 125.8 billion pounds is an increase of slightly more than one per cent over 1959 and is the result of a one per cent decline in cow numbers coupled with a 2.5 per cent increase in yield per cow. The rise in yield will be due to heavier grain feeding to better cows.

Roughage is plentiful in most sections. Concentrates are in abundant supply and are available at more favorable price ratios. It is estimated that the feeding rate will be 2,160 pounds per cow, an increase of five per cent over 1959.

It is expected that the number of beef cattle on January 1, 1960,

will total 69,500,000 head which would be an all-time high. This number is approximately eight per cent higher than a year ago. Substantially more calves and yearlings will be available for fattening.

The total number of sheep and lambs is expected to increase about two per cent during the feed year ending September 30, 1960. Improved forage conditions and a continuing increase in farm flock size in the non-range states is expected to result in an increase in the number of lambs marketed. The number of feeder lambs to be fattened is expected to increase slightly.

A reduction of eight per cent is expected in horse and mule numbers for the 1959-60 feeding year. The decrease in work stock is expected to more than offset the increase in light horses and ponies.

Although livestock feeding operations in the United States are expanding, feed supplies are more than enough to take care of the increase. The record 1959 corn crop is largely responsible.

Nearly 190 million tons of grains, oilseeds and other concentrates are available for feed in 1959-60, compared with 143 million tons actual-

ly fed last year. The excess is mostly in grains; supplies of oilseed meals and other by-products for feed in 1959-60 are somewhat larger than the amounts fed last year. There are some shifts within these groups. There is more corn, but less oats. Likewise, prospective soybean meal supplies are somewhat larger, and supplies of cottonseed meal are much larger.

Production of the four major feed grains in 1959 is up seven per cent from the previous year. Reduction of 24 per cent in the oat crop, 13 per cent in the barley crop and seven per cent in the sorghum grain crop are more than offset by a 19 per cent increase in the corn for grain crop. Furthermore, the carry-over on October 1, 1959, of corn and grain sorghums was record large.

Tale bearers are just as bad as tale makers.

—Richard Brinsley Sheridan.
The past, the present and the future are really one—they are today.—Stowe.

An acquaintance that begins with a compliment is sure to develop into a real friendship.
—Oscar Wilde.

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