

ANIMAL AGRICULTURE FACES HARD COST - PRICE SQUEEZE

North Carolina's big and growing animal agriculture faces dim prospects for increasing profits in 1971. Producers will be hard pressed to cope with the combined effects of higher feed costs and possibly lower prices.

Every segment of the animal side of the state's agricultural industry will feel the pressure of increased costs of production — resulting largely from reduced corn supplies. In addition, prices farmers receive for most of their animal products are likely to average lower than in 1970.

North Carolina State University economists predict a need for general belt-tightening all down the line, as outlined in the following:

Hogs

North Carolina top hog prices are expected to average \$19 to \$20 during January and February, which would be some improvement over late 1970 prices. A decline back to around \$17.50 to \$18 could come in the March-April period with a possible recovery back to the \$20 level during May-July. Assuming no increases in marketing during the fall compared to 1970, prices should average above \$19 during the latter part of 1971. If hog production continues to increase, \$15 top hogs could result.

Feeder pig prices probably will average lower in 1971 than the 1970 average. With usual relationships between top hog prices and feeder pig prices and with a higher cost of corn, 50-pound pigs may average \$30 to \$32 per hundred pounds during January and February. Prices will likely hold near this level, reaching a seasonal peak around \$34-\$36 in May. The trend will be downward during the summer, leveling out at about \$30 per hundred pounds.

Beef Cattle

Prices during the first half of the year may average 50 cents to \$1 per hundred pounds below 1970. Second half prices will probably average near 1970 levels. Midwestern slaughter prices are likely to average near to slightly below the \$30 level throughout most of the year.

Higher feed grain prices will reduce both cattle feeder profits and feeder cattle prices. Choice 500-pound feeders will probable average \$2 to \$3 per hundred lower during the first half of the year. If expansion continues through the second half of the year, feeder prices could average \$31 to \$32 for the year.

Broilers

Lower broiler prices during 1970 and continued increases in production costs are expected to bring sharp adjustments in the industry, especially during the first half of the new year.

Wholesale, ready-to-cook broiler prices during the first quarter of 1970 are expected to average about 28 cents, slightly above the first quarter of 1970, but not enough to offset the anticipated increase in production costs. Higher costs could result in an increase of 1.5 to 2 cents per pound in the cost of producing a broiler. Production is expected to be down the first half of the year but up to levels of a year ago in the second half.

Turkeys

For the first six months, wholesale prices are expected to average several cents per pound below a year earlier. Higher feed costs and other factors could add about 2 to 3 cents per pound — on a dressed weight basis — to the cost of producing turkeys.

Eggs

North Carolina producer prices for shell eggs are expected to average about 31 cents a dozen for the first quarter, down about 16 cents from a year ago. Further decline is anticipated with a second quarter average of about 26 cents, 4 cents below the second quarter of 1970. Prices are expected to strengthen in the last half of the year but still will average several cents per dozen below prices of a year ago. Production costs are expected to be up sharply, perhaps by 2.5 to 3 cents a dozen. The cost of producing replacement pullets will likely be 10 to 15 cents per bird higher than in 1970.

Milk

North Carolina prices for Class I or bottling milk went up 28 cents per hundred weight in December. This will result in a rise of at least 1 cent per quart in consumer prices, although prices may vary if milk is bargain priced in supermarkets as a loss leader. Further increases in producer prices are likely in the next two years.

SAM ERVIN

Continued from page 4

the Post Office, environmental pollution, women's rights, electoral college reform, individual privacy and consumer protection.

In the end, Congress compiled an impressive list of major legislative enactments: a postal reorganization act, which established a government-owned postal corporation to deliver the mail, a new railroad passenger corporation act to overhaul our rail passenger system, a new omnibus farm bill, two major anti-crime programs, a Congressional reform act to revise committee and floor procedures, and a new air pollution control act.

Much of my attention during the 91st Congress was focused on efforts to preserve individual

privacy and constitutional rights. These efforts related to governmental and private surveillance of citizens and the collection, storage and use of information about their personal lives. As Chairman of the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, I have sought to call attention to the seriousness of this growing problem and to take appropriate committee actions to deal with these invasions of individual freedoms.

In the sphere of proposed constitutional amendments, I took an active role in the debates which the Senate engaged in over electoral college reform and women's rights. In each of these debates, I sought to make it clear that while I did not oppose reform in these areas of our law, I did oppose both the direct election amendment, which would have abolished the electoral college, and the House-passed equal rights amendment. Each of these proposed constitutional amendments, which, incidentally, did not pass during the 91st Congress, seem to me to have serious defects and I, therefore, offered my own amendments for the reform of the electoral college and for the protection of women's rights.

Another battle of the 91st Congress was over the Federal requirement that public school children be bused from their neighborhoods to a distant school to achieve racial balance. I sought with all the energy at my command to prevent this busing requirement by legislation. Moreover, on September 21, 1970, I submitted an amicus curiae brief to the Supreme Court in opposition to lower Federal Court rulings requiring the busing of Charlotte public school children. The case has yet to be decided by the U. S. Supreme Court.

These were some of the cross currents that worked in the 91st Congress.

Saffron Sesame Seed Rolls



Let your first holiday gift to your family be a gift they will love — the aroma of home baked saffron rolls.

Saffron and sesame seeds have been known and loved by men for as long as recorded history. Both were used in Arabian cooking even before the time of Christ. Now, still as popular, they team up in Saffron Sesame Seed Rolls to make your Christmas a little brighter.

Shaping Saffron Sesame Seed Rolls is easy. Cut the dough into strips and snip it along one edge. Roll up the strip, clipped side up, and place it in a muffin tin. During rising and baking, the petals will open and blossom into a beautiful flower.

Bread is nutritious, which is why four servings each day are recommended for good health. Enriched self-rising flour provides home-baked bread with the B-vitamins — thiamine, niacin and riboflavin — and the minerals, calcium and iron. Self-rising flour also saves measuring and mixing steps as salt and leavening are preblended with the flour.

SAFFRON SESAME SEED ROLLS

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|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4 1/2 to 5 cups enriched self-rising flour* | 1/8 teaspoon ground saffron |
| 2 packages dry yeast | 2 eggs |
| 1/2 cup milk | 1 tablespoon grated lemon rind |
| 1/2 cup water | 3 tablespoons milk |
| 1/2 cup sugar | 1/2 cup sesame seeds |
| 1/4 cup oil | |

Stir together 2 cups flour and yeast. Heat 1/2 cup milk, water, sugar, oil and saffron over low heat only until warm, stirring to blend. Add liquid ingredients to flour-yeast mixture and beat until smooth, about 2 minutes on medium speed of electric mixer or 300 strokes by hand. Blend in eggs and lemon rind. Add 1 cup flour and heat 1 minute on medium speed or 150 strokes by hand. Stir in more flour to make a moderately stiff dough. Turn onto lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and satiny, 8 to 10 minutes. Shape into ball and place in lightly greased bowl, turning to grease all sides. Cover and let rise in warm place (80 to 85°) until doubled, about 1 1/2 hours. Punch down. Divide in half and let rest 10 minutes. Roll each half into 11x18-inch rectangle. Cut into 1x11-inch strips. Brush with milk; sprinkle with sesame seeds. Snip at 1/2-inch intervals along side of each strip. Roll up and place in greased muffin cups. Cover and let rise in warm place until doubled, about 30 minutes. Bake in preheated 350° oven 20 to 25 minutes, or until done.

*Spoon flour into dry measuring cup; level. Do not scoop.

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