

February 1, 1977

Food Supply Looks Good For February

(0:35)

A good food supply for February is predicted by the U-S Department of Agriculture. The U-S-D-A's monthly food marketing alert forecasts that pork, beef, chicken, fresh and non-citrus fruits, milk, dairy and grain products will all be in good supply.

Beef production should be four percent above the 1974-76 average. Pork also will be plentiful, with production forecast at 18 to 20 percent above last year's record low. The poultry area finds broiler-fryers plentiful. February marketings will be four percent above last year's record. Turkey and eggs will be in enough supply to meet February needs.

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Dutch Elm Disease

(0:30)

Extremely cold weather could reduce the beetle population that carries Dutch elm disease. But a University of Minnesota extension entomologist emphasizes that unless an effective sanitation program is affected, any reduction will not mean a thing.

Entomologist Mark Ascerno says there is a possibility of a change in the beetle population if the extreme cold continues and there continues to be a lack of snow. Lower-than-usual temperatures have increased the chances that a higher percentage of beetles may die this winter. Ascerno emphasizes that predictions about the winter's effect on the disease and the beetle are speculation at this point.

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