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# Weekly Review for MINNESOTA AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

University Farm, St. Paul 8, October 5, 1945

HEALTH FACTS. E. W. Aiton, former assistant state 4-H leader in Minnesota, has recently produced some mimeographed tables giving arresting health data which he compiled from Medical Statistics Bulletin No. 3, on physical examinations of selective service registrants during wartime. Rejection rates are given in terms of the number turned down per 100 registrants examined, April 1, 1942, to December 31, 1943. The rate for all occupations was 42.6; that for farm laborers and foremen was 52.8. That for farmers and farm managers was 56.4!

The lowest rejection rate of all was turned in by students; it was 25.7 per 100, but clerical, sales, and kindred workers had a low rate of 37.5 and a group called "operatives and kindred workers" about the same. Only domestic service workers, with a rate of 59.6 and emergency workers and the unemployed, with a rate of 56.5, managed to exceed the rate of rejection attained by farmers and farm managers, or by farm laborers and foremen.

MORE SOAP, SHORTENING, OILS, FOR CIVILIANS. Civilians will receive larger supplies of shortening and cooking oils, soap, and oils for protective coatings as a result of amendments to WFO 42, WFO 42a, and WFO 42b. Beginning October 1, the quota for use of fats and oils in production of civilian supplies of shortening, cooking and salad oils will be increased from the present 79 per cent of average use during the base period 1940-41, to 88 per cent. Reduced military requirements and a larger prospective supply of soya bean oil than was previously estimated allowed the action. With the increase, it is hoped that larger and more even distribution of these products will make it possible to remove shortening and cooking oils from rationing after January 1, 1946. Requirements for European distribution during the next year are expected to be met by reducing trade inventories to a minimum working stock level at the beginning of the 1946 crop marketing season.

The quota for margarine--95 per cent of the base period--remains unchanged.

Also effective October 1, soap manufacturers may increase their use of fats and oils in production of civilian supplies of household package and bar soap from 74 per cent of the quantity used during the average base period 1940-41 to 78 per cent. This action was made possible by military cutbacks and releases of Government stock piles. The forthcoming amendment to WFO 42b will specifically designate as quota-exempt the fats and oils used in soap for distribution to Puerto Rico and other U.S. territories.

There will also be an increase from the current 45 per cent quota to 75 per cent in the amount of fats and oils manufacturers may use in the production of paints and varnish, coated fabrics, and floor coverings such as linoleum, effective October 1. The new quota will include all uses listed in WFO 42a, including military needs, except tung oil, which remains quota-exempt. Reason for the increased quotas is an increased domestic supply of flaxseed, now estimated at about 35,000,000 bushels, as compared with about 23,000,000 bushels in 1944, plus reduced military requirements.

TURKEY SET-ASIDE TERMINATION ANNOUNCED. The Department of Agriculture has announced termination of WFO 106, which requires turkeys to be set aside for Government procurement, effective at 12:01 a.m., e.w.t. September 24.

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The purpose of the order, which became effective April 8, 1945, was to facilitate procurement of turkeys by the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps to provide holiday dinners for men and women in the armed services, both at home and overseas. Purchases of turkeys under the order, as well as turkeys set-aside but undelivered on September 24, are expected to be adequate to supply holiday dinner requirements for most of the armed forces.

The termination order provides that all processed turkeys set-aside or required to be set-aside as of September 24, shall continue to be held and accounted for as set-aside processed turkeys and shall be disposed of only in accordance with the provisions of WFO 106, as amended.

Additional turkeys required by the armed forces will be purchased in the open market. Priorities will be extended if open market procurement does not prove adequate.

The 1945 turkey crop is estimated to be of record or near-record proportions, and should be adequate to supply both the armed forces and civilians with the desired quantity of turkeys for the holiday season.

USDA RECOMMENDS PROTEIN CONSERVATION MEASURES. More grain and less protein for turkeys, broilers and late-hatched chicks, culling of old hens and slowly maturing birds; more pasture and less protein for dairy and beef cattle; and use of protein supplements for brood cows and fall pigs, rather than for market hogs, are the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture for easing the current tight protein feed situation.

Farmers in doing their part in meeting wartime needs for meat, milk, and eggs are producing 22% more turkeys, 23% more chickens, feeding hogs 40 to 60 lbs. heavier, and feeding dairy cows at a much heavier rate than last year. At the same time, last year's protein supplies were no larger than a year earlier and new-crop production is not yet available in volume. The Department feels that there is no reason for alarm or fear about the supply of protein feeds after the new-crop vegetable proteins become available if these recommendations are generally adopted by farmers and cattlemen. September and October are the between-season months in the production of protein meal and cake.

FARMERS URGED TO PUT EXTRA CASH INTO WAR BONDS. Farmers can protect themselves against any possible price collapse after this war by investing their high income dollars in WAR BONDS. This argument will be directed to farm people during the Victory Loan campaign which starts October 29.

Treasury officials point out that bank deposits of farmers are more than three times as large as in 1941. By putting more of this money in War Bonds farmers will build up cash reserves against lean years. Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson also recommends the buying and holding of War Bonds until the danger of inflation is past.