

Farm Exports Pass \$100 Billion Mark

Lexington, Ky.—The United States has exported more than \$100 billion worth of farm products since the end of World War II, according to the Agricultural Attachments to other countries passed the \$100 billion mark in fiscal year 1968. But added, says Wilson Hourigan, UK Extension specialist in agricultural economics.

Increased dollar value of farm products have been the key to reaching this \$100 billion export level, he points out. For the past three years, dollar sales in other countries have been close to \$5 billion. In recent years, Government program shipments—that is, P.C. 480 or Food for Peace shipments—have run about \$1.5 billion annual or about 25 percent of the total.

The total value of U.S. farm exports in fiscal year 1968 was well above \$6 billion. This was the fifth straight year in which farm exports topped \$6 billion, setting a new record for U.S. agriculture.

Production from 70 million cropland acres—about one out of every four acres harvested in the United States—goes to other countries. Thus the export market for agricultural products is very important to U.S. farmers, since the total farm market in the domestic (U.S.) market plus the export market, Hourigan notes.

U.S. agricultural exports go mainly to England, West Germany, East Asia, Africa, and South and Central America.

The value per pound of Oriental leaf from Greece, which exported 36 million pounds (declared weight) to the U.S. in the period, was listed at 79.2¢ from Turkey, 74.2 million pounds at 63.7¢ cents and others including Yugoslavia, 107 million at 63.2¢ cents.

The group's board noted that the United States has an import duty of 11 1/2¢ cents on foreign tobacco. The directors said they also were studying the tightening attitude of tariff protectionism among foreign countries in the international tobacco trade especially in Europe's Common Market.

Burley and flue-cured imports into the U.S. totaled about 4.45 million pounds in the first four months of the year, at an average value of 32.1¢ cents-a-pound, in the first four months of the year.

Both Greece and Mexican burley have been imported into the United States, and there are indications that Mexico could become a significant factor in the future—should there be no quotas and continuing low import duties.



THE PICTURE IS PROGRESS—Jars of finger prints in rainbow colors hang in a special box, the retarded, they also mean learning and achievement, color awareness and muscle coordination. These children, residents of Frankfort State Hospital and School, are taking part in Camp Title I, a day camp for retarded children from PSHS and the Frankfort community. Staff members David True, Soledad Campbell and Lynn Jenkins are working to involve the children in the bright, sunny world of fingerprinting.

SHARPENED EDGES of small visitors in the sharp-shinned hawk in the newly-refurbished Nature Center in Pine Mountain State Park near Princeton, Kentucky, are just one part of Appalachia's natural history featured in the Nature Center. There are also wildflowers and wood specimens, herpet and mammal nests and aquarium containing snakes and turtles.

The center is just a short walk through scenic woods from the park's Herndon J. Evans Lodge. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. There is no admission charge.

U.K. Ag Engineers Develop Grain-Handling Complexes

Lexington, Ky.—Simplicity in the theme of a grain-drying and storage complex developed recently by the University of Kentucky Agricultural Engineering department.

Harvey Hamilton, engineer-designer says the complex is set to handle (1) grain-storage and drying and (2) feed processing, if desired.

"We're to start out 'small' and work up to a larger complex if desired," he says. "This is a package deal that will fit many farms. The design starts with one grain-storage bin and drying unit. Later, the farmer-owner can add another storage bin. If he desires, there is a second bin (for storage) can be added to the first. Grain can be dried in the first bin and transferred to the second one by portable auger or conveyor equipment.

When the second bin goes in, the operation can switch from "layer" drying (where a layer of about 4" deep is dried and moved to another bin). A portable auger would move the dried grain from the drying bin to the storage bin or bins.

Round bins up to 40 feet in diameter can be used in this plan. The plan can be used for storage up to about 172 million bushels.

The operation is planned mainly for corn, though other grains could be worked in.

Hamilton has planned the setup so that there is a center building. This includes a shallow dump pit and bucket elevator. One option to the plan is to scale in the driveway on which a truck can be weighed, dumped and then weighed without moving. Also, the truck can be weighed while being filled with grain.

When the operation is expanded the drying system can be changed by installing an "overhead" storage bin for wet corn.

The center building is well adapted to the whole system. It can be converted into a feed-processing mill, Hamilton says. It contains four overhead bins above the feed mill and has four hopper-type bins above the drive to hold processed feed from the mill.

Additional hopper bottom, metal bins can be installed outside the building to allow a total of eight ingredients for animal feed rationing.

Hamilton points out that the portable auger (see sketch) is useful for the two or three bins (drying and storage) arrangement. When the layout moves into four bins, or more, a (vertical) conveyor system must be installed for efficiency.

It is accepted that a large enough unit could be a custom operation. Price for the complete four-bin plan is estimated at about 50 to 65 cents per bushel of storage capacity. Feed

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Tobacco Imports 'Cause For Concern'

Steadily increasing imports of Oriental leaf tobacco into the United States for cigarette production have been cited by directors of the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association as a "problem becoming so great that it now must be viewed as a cause for concern" among U.S. tobacco farmers.

Imports of foreign-grown leaf tobacco—124.9 million pounds (declared weight)—were particularly heavy for the first four months of 1968—a gain of nearly 30 per cent more than a year ago—and shipments of imported leaf in storage also had increased substantially.

This trend was interpreted to mean a greater percentage of Oriental leaf tobacco in American cigarette blends, the principal market for the U.S. burley. Oriental leaf is produced mainly in Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia.

Increases in imports of foreign grown burley and flue-cured tobacco included in the total also were disturbing to the burley co-op's board. During the four months (January-April), 1968, more than four million pounds of burley and flue-cured leaf were brought into the U.S.—double the amount reported for all of 1967.

Seeing the whole import situation and its implications as new trouble for American tobacco growers, the board recommended that import quotas could be properly and actively involved.

"We do not want to retard international trade, but we must stress our deep concern with this problem as we must with any problem that affects the use of American produced tobacco and the economic welfare of the farmer."

Increased use of foreign leaf in cigarette blends obviously displaces U.S. tobacco, adding to problems already faced by growers here.

Elaborating on the situation, John M. Berry, president of the growers' association, said:

"What I don't need is a new box of problems, especially one carried in by friends who visit once in a while to ask a favor and then go about unconcerned with us aware."

"What we do need is some of the same understanding concern that we are asked to give when segments of the industry need some significant help."

The co-op's board of directors noted that stocks of foreign-grown cigarette tobacco in the United States on April 1, 1968, totaled 457 million pounds, 17 per cent above the 392 million pounds reported on April 1, 1967, and the largest on record. (The stocks figure is on farm-sales-weight equivalent.)

My Neighbors



...and furthermore I don't like your studied air of indifference...!

NEAL'S KEY
SQUARE DEAL GROCERY FOOD STORES

U.S. CHOICE

ROUND STEAK 1 lb. 89¢

Sirloin Steaks 1 lb. \$1.09
T-Bone Steaks 1 lb. \$1.29
Sirloin Tip or Rump Roast 1 lb. 99¢
Field Bacon 1 lb. 59¢

STOKELYS 46 oz. FARM BRAND
Ping & Pong 3/\$1
DEL MONTE 303
Fruit Cocktail 4/\$1
10c off giant
Ajax Detergent 65¢
Tea LIPTON'S 1/2 lb. 79¢
LIPTON'S family size
Tea Bags pkg. 79¢
Prell Liquid med. 49¢
Crest Tooth Paste 79¢
Dodorant med. 43¢
WISHBONE FRENCH Dressing deluxe 35¢ 8 oz.
Clorox Bleach 29¢ 2c off 1/2 gal.

JELLES 16 oz. 89¢
apple, apple grape, apple black cherry, apple cherry

ICE CREAM 1/2 gal. 59¢
KY. FOOD STORES

PRESERVES 18 oz. 3/1
BAMA PEACH

BORDENS CULTURED BUTTERMILK 19¢ qt.

POTATOES 20 lb. bag 99¢
#1 MICHIGAN

HANNY'S sweet milk, Biscuits buttermilk 6/49¢ Cantaloupes 3 = \$1
Cookies KEEBLER YELLOW 5 ears
choc. chip, iced resin bar, opera creme, french vanilla Corn 27 size 29¢
creme, dutch choc. creme