

Food prices continue 1984 balancing act

Retail food prices in Kentucky continued a balancing act at the mid-point of 1984, registering a 4 1/2 percent increase in June, compared to the May figure.

A marketbasket of 40 selected food items cost shoppers \$69.56 in mid-June compared to \$67.35 last month and \$69.41 a year ago. The findings were part of Kentucky Farm Bureau's monthly food price survey.

The balancing effect in June was the result of price declines in poultry, eggs and grain-based foods, which largely offset increases in the cost of pork and beef cuts. The other two major food

groupings — dairy and fruits/vegetables — both showed slight declines. Pork led the way on the upside, increasing 10 cents to \$1.14 for a pound. Pork chops jumped 10 cents to \$1.14, an increase nearly a half-dollar higher for two pounds at \$2.29 and again the most 22 cents more per pound at \$1.17.

SOFT BREAD CUTS were also an expense, as T-bone steaks climbed 20 cents to an average \$4.81 a pound and pot roast dropped 11 cents to \$1.7 a pound. Other individual food items showing marked increases included American cheese, up 10 cents, fresh tomatoes, 10 cents higher, and wheat bread, up four cents.

Several items were priced lower in June, with eggs showing the largest rate of decrease. Eggs averaged 53.5 cents per dozen below May prices, at 80 cents average for the large size and

61 cents for extra large.

Other declines were steak, lamb, right cuts lower at \$1.80, two percent milk down eight cents to \$1.29 for a gallon, cheddar cheese off nine cents to \$1.14, a pound, and corn meal, 11 cents lower at \$1.29 for a five-pound bag.

The June figures, gleaned by volunteer surveyors from 100 stores in 20 Kentucky communities, continued a trend of price stabilization, but also some instances of farm and food prices going in opposite directions. Such comparisons are always difficult, as variations in production costs and marketing strategy by some retailers leads to inconsistencies in pricing month-to-month.

A check of farm prices this month shows some correlation, but also some instances of farm and food prices going in opposite directions. Such comparisons are always difficult, as variations in production costs and marketing strategy by some retailers leads to inconsistencies in pricing month-to-month.

The most striking similarity between the consumer-bureau price indexes comes in eggs. The latest report on farm-level egg receipts in the state shows an average price of 86 cents a dozen, down sharply from 91 cents the month before. That tracks closely with the retail findings.

Big prices also improved, but farmers were only getting about one percent more for their animals while shoppers were paying six percent more at the retail counter. Even with the small increase, hog prices were well below the levels of a year ago in most major markets.

Cattle prices dropped nearly \$1 a hundred during the reporting period, while retail beef costs rose slightly. Grain prices were mixed, with wheat and corn both lower while soybeans gained a half-dollar per bushel.

Among the 20 local marketbasket surveys this month, Morehead was the cheapest place for shoppers while Henderson anchored the opposite end of the range. Survey spokesmen say the local figures should not be considered as firm statistical results, however, as they may reflect one or more stores, or may vary according to shopping preferences of the individual surveyor.

These local averages are Morehead, \$1.51; Jackson, \$4.17; Greenburg, \$4.96; Johnsonville, \$5.26; Tompkinsville, \$7.91; Scottsville, \$8.81; Glasgow, \$9.36; Cynthiana, \$9.11; London, \$9.26; Carlisleville, \$8.88.

Greenville, \$6.43; Hopkinsville, \$6.96; Brandenburg, \$6.71; Lexington, \$6.73; Georgetown, \$5.71; Somerset, \$5.25; Owensboro, \$5.26; Lawrenceville, \$5.87; Greenup, \$5.47; Elizabethtown, \$5.84; Madrasville, \$4.29; Shelbyville, \$4.58; and Henderson, \$5.88.

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Wins state championship
Nancy Woolley won the state championship in Senior Other Food Demonstrations during Communications Day at Kentucky 4-H Week in Lexington, Monday, representing the Nicholas County 4-H Club. In the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Woolley. — Photo submitted.

Deaths

MRS. FRAZIER PLATT
Mrs. Elizabeth Georgia Sible Platt, 84, Route 2, Carlisle, widow of Frazier Platt, died Tuesday, June 19, 1984 at her home.

She was a member of the Carlisle Christian Church and a native of Nicholas County.

Survivors are a son, James Henry Platt, Nicholas County, a brother, Howard Sible, Nicholas County; three grandchildren; one grand-grandchild.

Services were Friday, June 22, at the Matheo-Cannon Funeral Home by the Rev. Ronald Rosemond, Burke, Carlisle Cemetery.

Casket bearers were Frazier and William Sible and Gary Hoseney.

WILLIAM P. BROWN
William Perry Brown, 67, Mayfield, died Saturday, June 16, 1984 at home. He was a native of Meigs County, the son of the late James E. and Belle Price Brown.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Wynona Ruth Woodall Brown; one son, William Brown, Mayfield; three daughters, Mrs. Linda Capps Moorefield, Mrs. Beverly Decker, Poinsettburg, and Mrs. Sharon DeAtley, Bellefleur, OH; two brothers, Earl and Cecil Brown, Vanceburg; two sisters, Mrs. Frances Dyer, Vanceburg, and Mrs. Ethel Holinger, Toledo, OH; 18 grandchildren.

Services were Monday, June 18, at Kim Brothers Funeral Home, Mayfield, by the Rev. Alva Puckett of the Lewisburg Baptist Church. Burial in Woodland Cemetery.

Home health agency hearing set

Two proposed home health agencies and the expansion of an existing agency, all in Lexington, will be discussed at a public hearing on July 2 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium, first floor, Health Services building, 275 East Main, Frankfort.

Medical Personnel Pool of Central Kentucky has applied for a certificate of need to establish a home health agency serving residents of Fayette, Bourbon, Scott, Franklin, Woodford, Jessamine, Madison and Clark counties.

Home Health Providers proposes to establish a home health agency to serve all 17 Bluegrass Area Development District counties.

Richmond Place, an existing agency, seeks to expand home health services to include all of Fayette County and Bourbon, Clark, Madison and Jessamine counties.

The hearing on all three proposals will be conducted in a hearing office on behalf of the Kentucky Health Facilities and Health Services certificate of need and Licensure Board, which is scheduled to review the three applications on July 18.

Representatives of Medical Personnel Pool and Home Health Providers requested hearings on their proposals.

Richmond Place is included in the hearing because its service area overlaps those designated by the two proposed agencies.

Fireworks, concerts on KET July 4

This Fourth of July, KET viewers have a front row seat for two holiday extravaganzas of music and fireworks.

That at 9:30 p.m. KET will air "A Capital Fourth/1984" from the lens of the station's capital, E.L. Marshall, the host and Mandala Hadzopovich conducts the National Symphony Orchestra in the traditional Fourth of July concert with solo artists baritone Robert Merrill and Fictel James Galway. The 96-minute concert will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display.

Also included in the celebration is the unveiling to the public of an Arthur Fuller statue.

That at 8:30 p.m. KET will air "A Capital Fourth/1984" from the lens of the station's capital, E.L. Marshall, the host and Mandala Hadzopovich conducts the National Symphony Orchestra in the traditional Fourth of July concert with solo artists baritone Robert Merrill and Fictel James Galway. The 96-minute concert will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display.

Scattered showers ease drought woes

Scattered showers over the weekend brought much-needed rain to parts of Nicholas County, but hot, dry weather continued over most of the area. A good soaking rain is needed to replenish soil moisture supplies and avoid further crop stress. Most crops were in good shape despite the lack of rainfall, but that condition could decline rapidly if the dry weather continues.

Statewide, soil moisture was reported as 69 percent short, 25 percent adequate and two percent surplus; an improvement over last week's 62 percent short and 18 percent adequate. Farmers were able to average 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork.

The corn crop continues to be rated in mostly good to fair condition. Average plant height advanced to 10 inches, above last year's 12 inches, but below the average of 27 inches. The most advanced fields are averaging 20 inches tall with some over four feet. Dry soils have slowed growth in many areas.

The state's tobacco was rated in good to fair condition. Many fields

were set late and dry weather has slowed plant growth in many areas. As a result, over half the acreage is still less than 60 inches tall with less than 10 percent over a foot tall. Some retooling has been necessary, particularly because of dry conditions. The serious disease problems were reported and insect damage was generally light.

CORN, SOYBEAN STOCK BELOW IDEAL LEVELS
June 1 stocks of corn and soybeans stored in all positions were well below levels on the same date a year ago in Kentucky according to the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. Corn stored both on farms and at farms totaled 12.1 million bushels, down 67 percent from the June 1, 1983 level. This is the lowest total corn stock of June 1 since 1971.

Soybean stocks were down 54 percent from the previous year to 2.4 million bushels, the lowest since 1977. Wheat stocks were estimated at 1.8 million bushels, up slightly from 1.5 million on June 1, 1983.

Celebrate the 4th of July at Carlisle's Blackberry Festival!

July 2 thru 7

★ The Courthouse Square is "The Place" to be July 2 thru 7!

★ Sponsored by the American Legion.

★ Rides

★ Parade ★ Floats

★ Courthouse Flag Dedication

★ Queen Candidates ★ Fireworks ★ Games

★ "Toe Stomping Music" and Dancing Nightly with Stanley Gray and his Midnight Raiders

★ Drinks ★ Ice Cream ★ Horses ★ Souvenirs

★ Cotton Candy ★ Hot Dogs

DO IT ALL!

... at the Blackberry Festival!