

Canada Weekly

Ottawa
Canada

Volume 10, No. 27
July 7, 1982

Canadian farming picture looks optimistic this year, 1

Domestic and foreign based travel industry gets boost, 3

Burundi foreign affairs minister visits Canada, 3

Canada-U.S. forest fire pact, 3

Talks mark ten years of Canada-Japan science exchanges, 4

Co-operative energy corporation, 4

Canadian family aids formation of explorers club in Peru, 5

Kanata firm's laser marking system sales increase, 5

Artificial kidneys a boon for patients world-wide, 6

Natives model colourful fashions across the country, 6

Marine traffic system for Hong Kong, 6

News of the arts — TV, music, theatre, arts briefs, 7

News briefs, 8

Canadian farming picture looks optimistic this year

Poultry producers who enjoyed successful sales in all regions of Canada last year are expected to continue the trend while the growth of fruit and vegetables across the country and crops in the prairie provinces appear to be headed for record levels this year with ideal growing conditions in many parts of the country. In addition, a recovery of meat prices has put Canadian meat producers in their best position in more than two years.

If the conditions continue, farmers are expected to cut deeply into imports of produce, while building new export sales.

Trend to continue in poultry industry

Heavy advertising by the poultry and egg industry and higher costs for beef and pork have contributed to the growing sales of chicken over the past year and the trend is expected to continue with additional consumption of chicken increasing 5 per cent during the next year.

The consumption of turkey in Canada remains stable at 99 million kilograms, with a slight increase expected this year. Turkey producers face the problem of concentrated consumption in the October-December holiday period, but the Easter market is growing and new marketing methods are spreading sales over the rest of the year. The low cost of turkey, in relation to other meats, also makes it attractive in other months.

Egg consumption in Ontario rose by 9 per cent as prices declined 8 to 9 cents a dozen since last August, owing to a drop in feed grain prices. Although Ontario's 820 egg producers represent only 25 per cent of the country's total, they account for 40 per cent of national production.

In the west, Saskatchewan egg producers have benefited from high consumption, reducing the previous surplus to manageable levels in the past year. The harsher climate, longer distances and higher capitalization put the province's poultry and egg producers at a disadvantage under eastern-weighted formulas for costs of production, but producers hope

for changes in these formulas after hearings of the National Farm Products Marketing Council being held this summer.

Manitoba's turkey production increased 5 per cent this year and egg production increased 4 per cent. Chicken producers expect sales of 15 million kilograms this year.

In British Columbia, producers suffer from cost-of-production formulas that they claim favour eastern Canada. Egg producers receive only 90 to 92 cents a dozen.

New Brunswick poultry producers realized a receipt growth of 20 per cent to \$18 million last year but rising production costs have left them in a cost-price squeeze. Farm-gate chicken prices are 6 cents a kilogram below the cost of production, while turkey prices are 4 cents a kilogram below cost. Demand for eggs in New Brunswick is up 3 to 6 per cent, but prices are down by an average 3 cents a dozen.

In Prince Edward Island, agriculture officials say price increases for poultry and eggs will be modest this year, pro-



The low price for turkey appeals to Canadian consumers.

F. Royal, NFB



External Affairs
Canada

Affaires extérieures
Canada