

North Dakota Hatchery Industry

The North Dakota Poultry Improvement Board consists of Arthur J. Lanz, Chairman, Devils Lake; Mrs. James G. Thoreson, Secretary, Valley City; William H. Keup, Mohall; D. B. Carlson, Oakes; Phil W. Starkle, Bismarck; and Mrs. J. A. Barner, Fairmont, North Dakota.

Attached to the board there are three ex-officio advisory members (without vote) consisting of Dr. R. L. Bryant, Chairman of the Poultry Husbandry Department at the N.D.A.C.; Hon. Math Dahl, Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor, and Dr. T. O. Brandenburg, Executive Officer of the State Livestock Sanitary Board. Mr. Roy D. Carlson is the Executive Secretary of the Board with headquarters in Bismarck, North Dakota. The Executive Secretary has recently compiled a group of interesting statistics about the hatchery industry and its problems which report can be obtained upon application to him. The 1946-47 summary notes that there were 61 hatcheries in the State that year of which 60 were under the supervision of the poultry improvement board; the total capacity of hatcheries in North Dakota that year was 4,122,660 of which a capacity of 4,110,564 was under the supervision of the board or 99.7 percent. In 1946-47 the number of birds in breeding flocks was 236,438, the number of flocks 1,361; the average size of flocks 174; the percent of pullorum in flocks on last test 0.97 percent. The number of birds in the mortality survey in 1946-47 was 430,560, the number of birds dead at the end of three weeks was 17,367 or 4.03 percent.

Reports from 58 hatcheries and chick jobbers received by July 31 indicated the following percentage of breeds sold in 1947:

White Rocks	32.9
White Leghorns	23.9
Buff Orpingtons	1.4
New Hampshires	20.2
Barred Rocks	1.7
White Wyandottes.....	2.3
Rhode Island Reds	1.0
Cross breeds	12.9
Others	3.7

These percentages apply to a total of 6,966,746 chicks.

As compared to similar statistics for 1941, 1943, and 1945 the 1947 figures indicate a fairly constant and high proportion of White Rocks, a noticeable decline in White Leghorns, sharp decline in Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, to less than 2 percent in each case; a decline in White Wyandottes, a sharp rise to third place of the New Hampshires, a sharp rise in the use of cross breeds, and a marked decline in miscellaneous or other breeds. The three dominant breeds in 1947 were White Rocks, White Leghorns and New Hampshires, the most marked increase having taken place in the case of the New Hampshires.

Hatchery supply flock figures reveal that White Rocks came from 525 North Dakota flocks or 39 percent of the supply flocks; White Leghorns came from 307 flocks or 23 percent and New Hampshires from 259 flocks or 19 percent of the supplying flocks.

The Poultry Improvement Board reports an extensive analysis upon pullorum tests made in 1947 giving special emphasis to results obtained upon re-tests; readers especially in their Pullorum Testing Analysis 1947 report should apply to their secretary for a copy of it.

North Dakota Farm Prices

By

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North Dakota farm prices continued at high levels for the two months period ended August 15th in spite of some seasonal price declines. Eight North Dakota farm commodities established new high price records.

The July 15th farm price of \$151.00 for milk cows was the highest price on record. The August 15th farm price for corn at \$2.11 was 11 cents more than the previous record high established in July 1946. The farm prices of barley, beef cattle, and veal calves have been at record highs for three successive months.

The farm price for barley for June 15th was \$1.65 and for July 15th and for August 15th it was \$1.78 per bushel. Beef cattle registered a record high farm price on June 15th at \$19.50, the July 15th price was \$19.70 and the August price was \$19.90 per hundred pounds. The farm price of veal calves on June 15th was \$21.70, the July 15th price was the same but the August 15th price was \$22.00 per hundred. Lambs also established a new price record with a farm price of \$21.20 per hundred. The farm prices of wholesale milk and retail milk were likewise at record heights with August 15th prices of \$3.65 per hundred pounds for wholesale milk and 15 cents per quart for retail milk.

The August 15th North Dakota all-commodity farm price index was 19 points lower than the previous month but 55 points above that of a year before. The farm price index for grains was down 32 points from the month previous but 61 points higher than a year earlier. The index for meat animals was up 7 points for the month and 92 points for the year. The farm index for dairy products was up 9 points over the month earlier but the index for poultry and eggs was down 3 points from that of July 15th, 1947.

Dr. Rae H. Harris, Cereal Technologist of the North Dakota Station, has served the American Association of Cereal Chemists during the past year (1946-47) as a member of the Experimental Milling Procedure Committee.