Pork Production

Eighteen of the 21 Barron County farmers kept hogs. On none of those farms was pork production profitable. The average net cost per hundredweight was $18.25, while the net receipts were $8.65 (Table 23).

Several of the farms, such as numbers 2, 8, and 15, had excessive food costs that made profits impossible. The labor cost on many farms was also much too high.

Hog production on those farms was a very minor enterprise. Only farms 7 and 17 produced any considerable number for sale.

Horse Costs

The net cost of keeping a horse for a year was $97.52. The main items of cost and credit were:

- Food and Pasture: $54.94
- Man Labor: $23.04
- Depreciation: $10.30
- Other Costs: $19.92
- Gross Cost: $108.20
- Credit for Manure & Appreciation: $10.68
- Net Cost: $97.52

The horses in this area worked 717 hours a year which made the average cost of horse work 13.6 cents per hour.

The cost of horse work per hour varied from 8.3 cents to 22.6 cents. The high cost on Farm 20 of 17.4 cents per hour was due to a very heavy food cost. The cost of 22.6 cents on Farm 10 was due to the few hours of work done per horse. In general, the farms on which the horses were worked over 700 hours yearly had reasonably low horse work costs.

The Poultry Flock

Eighteen of the 21 farms kept poultry. A profit was realized from the poultry flock on only 5 of those farms (Table 27). The amounts of food consumed by the poultry is shown in Table 28.