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INFORMATION MEMO

Steep rise in meat production in the EEC

In 1962 meat production in the EEC countries was 5.52% up on 1961. This is about 1% more than the average yearly growth from 1950 to 1962, which was 4.7%. The rise in the Netherlands was particularly steep (11.1%), the average growth rate over the period from 1950-1962 being 5.9%. In the other EEC countries, too, meat production rose more sharply than the average over the period referred to, with the exception of Italy where it was almost the same in 1962 as it had been in 1961. Relatively speaking the expansion was most marked in the case of veal (10.9%). In all the EEC countries the increase in veal production was above average. The same is true of pigmeat. Although in 1962 4% more poultry was produced than in 1961, the increase of production in this sector was less than the average over the past 12 years (7.4%).

For milk and eggs the rise in the production graph was maintained in 1962, although the increase fell rather short of the average expansion from 1950 onwards, especially in the case of milk. In none of the EEC countries was the average percentage rate of growth reached. In Italy, milk production in 1962 was even lower by 4.4% than in 1961. The increase in egg production in Germany, France and Italy was roughly equal to the average increase over the period 1950-1962. In the Netherlands and Belgium it fell considerably short of this. In Belgium egg production in 1962 was as much as 6% less than in 1961. In all these developments the head of livestock has remained roughly the same.

These figures emerge from "Agricultural Statistics 1963-64" published by the Statistical Office of the European Communities. This continues the series of figures concerning the head of livestock, the output of livestock products and farm prices given in "Agricultural Statistics 1962/63".

Apart from the index figures for producer prices of agricultural produce the publication now also contains index figures for cost factors (excluding wages). Although these series of figures are as yet far from comparable (the farm prices working party of the Agricultural Statistics Council is endeavouring to improve this situation), some general lines emerge. The price level over the period from 1950 appears to have been the most stable in Italy and the Netherlands and the most variable in France. Generally speaking prices for vegetable products seem to be more subject to fluctuation than prices for livestock products. Except in France, cost factors seem to be developing at a regular pace in all countries. In the Netherlands and Belgium this development seems to be moving a little ahead of producer prices; in Italy on the other hand producer prices are in the lead.

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Livestock and animal produce in the EEC

countries in 1962 (1961 = 100)

|   | <u>Germany</u><br>(F.R.) | <u>France</u> | <u>Italy</u> | <u>Nether-</u><br><u>lands</u> | <u>Belgium</u> | <u>Luxem-</u><br><u>bourg</u> | <u>EEC</u> |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Head of livestock<br>(on date of count) |                          |               |              |                                |                |                               |            |
| Horses                                  | 88.2                     | 94.4          | 99.5         | 94.7                           | 95.3           | 80.0                          | 93.8       |
| Cattle                                  | 100.6                    | 98.5          | 98.3         | 105.3                          | 103.8          | 104.1                         | 99.8       |
| Including dairy<br>cattle               | 101.0                    | 101.7         | 99.7         | 104.5                          | 102.4          | 100.0                         | 101.2      |
| Pigs                                    | 98.0                     | 98.5          | 106.6        | 97.9                           | 116.1          | 115.0                         | 100.2      |
| Sheep and goats                         | 93.8                     | 100.0         | 99.8         | 109.1                          | 100.0          | -                             | 99.7       |
| Chickens                                | 100.4                    | 100.0         | 105.4        | 92.0                           | 88.6           | 100.0                         | 99.8       |
| Total                                   | 99.4                     | 98.2          | 99.4         | 103.1                          | 104.5          | 104.7                         | 99.5       |
| Animal produce                          |                          |               |              |                                |                |                               |            |
| Beef and veal                           | 109.8                    | 103.6         | 101.2        | 120.0                          | 106.0          | 100.0                         | 106.0      |
| Pigmeat                                 | 106.5                    | 109.6         | 96.3         | 104.4                          | 110.0          | 109.1                         | 106.4      |
| Mutton and lamb                         | 87.5                     | 98.6          | 102.7        | 125.0                          | 100.0          | -                             | 99.5       |
| Horseflesh                              | 84.2                     | 94.5          | 88.5         | 70.0                           | 75.0           | -                             | 89.0       |
| Poultrymeat                             | 103.7                    | 102.4         | 103.5        | 117.5                          | 100.0          | -                             | 104.0      |
| Total meat                              | 107.2                    | 105.0         | 100.1        | 111.1                          | 106.1          | 104.3                         | 105.5      |
| Milk                                    | 101.9                    | 102.2         | 95.6         | 104.5                          | 102.5          | 94.2                          | 101.3      |
| Eggs                                    | 106.2                    | 103.1         | 102.7        | 101.0                          | 94.1           | 161.1                         | 102.7      |