

percent of the stalks were packed with either bad ribs or rib stubs which should have been removed. This compared with 10 percent of the stalks packed by the firms which followed the method of placing one stalk at a time on the chain. There was no noticeable difference between the two methods in the proportion of celery in which natural defects were overlooked in packing.

An improved style dumping table was designed to simplify the job of dumping celery. Using the improved table, a worker does not have to lift the field boxes of celery as high.

The time required for sorting and packing in the washhouse varied from 11.5 to 26.0 hours per 10,000 stalks. Several systems of sorting and packing were used. Better packs resulted where one person did the packing and sorting. Also, this method was more economical than having one person sort and another pack.

There was little variation among the firms using different methods of sorting and packing in the excellence of workmanship involved in sizing, facing and positioning the tops in the crates.

Much inefficient use of labor in the washhouses results from a lack of flexibility in adjusting the number of packers for any given size of celery. The proportion of celery of various sizes differs for every field and, because all sizes are packed on one chain, the output of all the workers on the chain is usually limited by the output of the workers packing the largest volume. A limited amount of flexibility can be attained by having more than one worker sort and pack the most common sizes. When more than one worker packed a given size on the same chain, however, the crates packed by the first worker weighed more than those packed by the second or third worker.

Size of celery was an important factor in determining the average weight of a crate of celery. Sizes 2½ and 3 dozen averaged 66.8 and 69.2 pounds per crate, respectively, while sizes 6 and 8 dozen averaged 74.2 and 76.3 pounds per crate.

Crate closing involved much heavy work as well as rough handling of the crate. Crate tops were difficult to place in position for closing because the crates were bulged by the contents. To ease the job of closing crates, and at the same time to reduce crate damage caused in closing, a device was made for squaring up the packed crate and holding it while the top was placed in position and fastened.

The arrangement of present-day washhouses is not conducive