

Pa. June Egg Output Down 2%

Penna egg production dropped off nine per cent from May and two per cent below June, 1958. Total output of the state's laying hens for the month was 288 million eggs.

Average number of layers on farms for the month was 15.8 million, a three per cent decline from May, and two per cent less than the June, 1958 flock.

Production for the first six months of this year totals 1,889 million eggs, or four per cent above production for the same period of last year.

Price-ratios for state poultrymen dropped in three cases and held steady only on the egg-feed ratio at 7.7 (lbs. of ration that can be brought by one dozen eggs).

The chicken-feed ratio (lb. of chicken worth lbs. of feed) was 3.9, down from 4.0. Turkey-feed - 7.7, down from 7.9 in May. Broiler-feed - 3.9, down from 4.0 in May and 4.7 in June, 1958.

While holding steady with May, June's 7.7 egg-feed ratio was well below the June, 1958 ratio of 10.6.

For the U. S.

Farm flocks laid 5,132 million eggs during June, two per cent more than in June, 1958. All regions except the North Atlantic and West North Central showed increases over last year.

Increases were 12 per cent

in the South Atlantic; five per cent in the South Central; three per cent in the West; and two per cent in the East North Central states.

The North Atlantic and West North Central regions recorded a four per cent and a one per cent decrease respectively.

Total egg production Jan. to June was up five per cent from last year.

Eggs-per-layer were at a record 18.2 high, compared with 17.9 of June, 1958.

South Atlantic hens increased their rate by four per cent. Rate of lay per layer the first six months of 1959 was 108, compared with 106 last year.

On July 1, layer numbers were up eight per cent from 1958 in the South Atlantic

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Estimated 1959 Pa. Crop Output Off 19% From '58

Led by a 19 per cent decline in expected corn production, most of Pennsylvania's important field crops will show a decrease from last year, the State Department of Agriculture predicts.

Based on reports by the Crop Reporting Service, the Department said that yields in general are below last year's while total harvested acreage is expected to be down about one per cent.

Of all important field and fruit crops grown in the Keystone State, only oats, with a three per cent increase; tobacco, up five per cent; and apples, 17 per cent above last year, are forecast to have increased production.

Barley production is off one-half to lead all declines while rye is down 29 per cent; wheat, 16 per cent; late summer potatoes, 12 per cent; clover-timothy hay, two per cent, and alfalfa hay, one per cent.

Acreage planted to corn is one per cent greater than last year, but a sharply reduced yield from last year's record is expected to lead to a 67 million bushel crop, 19 per cent below last year.

However, both yield and production are above average with expected yield being the third largest of record.

Wheat acreage this year in Pennsylvania is a record low. Yields have been above average, but production is forecast at a record low 142 million bushels.

Spring oats yields are expected to average 44 bushels an acre, a new record, for a total production of 327 million bushels.

Conditions have been fav-

orable for the crop from planting time and harvest started July 15 in some southern counties.

Extreme damage from winter-kill lowered barley yields to 25 bushels an acre, lowest since 1943. Total production is 48 million bushels.

Prospects now are for a slightly smaller crop of both late summer and fall potatoes. Acreage is down six per cent for both and yields are forecast to be down slightly for

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the late summer potato though still above average. Cigar filler tobacco acreage is seven per cent more than last year. The forecast to be only below last year's record. An expected production of 53.6 million pounds, since 1951. Transplanting of seedlings was completed a week earlier than

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