

Dry Weather Hits Midwest; Dust Blowing

The week ending April 23 was generally more favorable for small grains, even in the southwest, according to the Weekly Corn and Wheat Weather bulletin of the United States Weather Bureau.

Oats seeding made good progress and plowing for corn was well along although the western portion of the Corn Belt is very dry.

A state-by-state report follows:

Illinois — Mostly sunny and very cold. Peaches and apples heavily damaged in north and probably damaged in south. Substantial showers in extreme south early, otherwise no rain of consequence. Soil moisture deficient in north and central and critically short in central northwest. Winter wheat pastures and legumes deteriorating. Oat seeding complete but germination poor in dry areas. Working land for corn and soybeans ahead of normal.

Iowa — Precipitation totals did not exceed a trace at any point in state. Temperatures cool for season. Field work good progress with 80 per cent of plowing completed against 60 per cent average this date. Oat seeding completed much earlier than any year except 1946. Germination retarded by lack of moisture and stands spotty. Pastures furnishing 2 per cent of forage requirements. Most available moisture in top foot with some in second foot Western and southern counties dry to surface.

Indiana — Temperatures in lows 20s and 30s have not occurred so late in season since 1946 and 1936. Rainfall negligible. Frost damage of fruit trees not yet determinable. Soil moisture estimated short by one third reporting. Oat seeding and spring plowing ahead of recent seasons. Wheat six inches high. Too cool for small grains and pastures.

Ohio — Temperatures averaged much below normal. Freezing nearly every morning in some places. Snow flurries in most sections. Tuesday. Moisture averaged near 1/2 inch. Rainy weather limited field work and progress is at least 10 days behind normal. Major farm activities plowing seeding oats and meadows and hauling manure. Some spraying of orchards and planting potatoes and cabbage. Fruit prospects good but possibility of some frost damage last week.

Michigan — Cold with freezing most nights. Precipitation very light. Farm-work 10 days to two weeks behind normal. Very little fieldwork except in southern half of lower Michigan. Oat sowing progressing in south. Winter wheat and rye condition good but crops show little growth. Fruit budding delayed and still dormant in some areas. Subsoil moisture reported low in some counties.

Wisconsin — Cold dry weather continued. Vegetation much retarded. Feed supplies short and pastures in need of rain and warmth. Oat and barley seeding nearly completed in south but just begun on light soils in north. Commercial vegetable seeding begun as far north as Green Bay area. Brisk dry winds through week. Moisture fall generally less than 0.10 inch.

Missouri — Rainfall adequate in Bootheel area. Cool and dry over remainder. Frost and freeze in west and north. Fall and spring-planted crops at standstill, pastures poor. Livestock on winter feed. Fall seeded grain 74 per cent, 14 below last year and lowest since 1950. Oats poor, stands due to lack of moisture and low temperatures. Corn 5 per cent planted 1 point ahead of last year. Cotton and soybean planting well under way.

Minnesota — Extreme dry weather continues. Strong gusty winds caused considerable blowing dust. Temperature averaged below normal. Seeding oats and barley virtually completed in south central and southwest, well advanced in central and southeast, and limited seeding in west central. No fieldwork in northern third. Dry, cool weather re-

12 Acre Woods at Oxford Burned

Fire on the farm owned by Judge Richard VanRoden, Media, Monday destroyed 12 acres of timber. The Union Fire Co., Oxford, responded to the call.

Fertilizer bags were being burned, firemen said, and the blaze spread to the nearby woods. Assisting in battling the fire was James Lentz, Norristown, state deputy forest fire warden, who was nearby when the fire broke out.

Farm Safety Meeting Set For May 15

WASHINGTON — (USDA) — A Farm Safety Clinic will be held in the Jefferson Auditorium of the U. S. Department of Agricultural as part of the President's Conference on Occupational Safety, May 14-16.

The clinic will begin at 9:30 a. m. on May 15 and end shortly after noon, but its committee work will continue throughout the day. Kirk Fox, editor of "Successful Farming," will serve as moderator.

Benson to Speak

Clinic participants will develop for the President an appraisal of all possible resources for safeguarding farm people from accidents on their farms, in their homes, and on rural highways.

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, who will address the overall Conference on Occupational Safety in the Department Auditorium at 3 p. m. May 14, has pointed out that increased hazards are now associated with agriculture as a result of tremendous expansion in farm mechanization and technology. The annual rate of farm work fatalities is now exceeded only by that in mining and construction industries.

3700 Killed Last Year

Last year 3,700 persons were killed and 310,000 injured while at work on farms. The deaths accounted for nearly a fourth of all fatalities which occurred as a result of occupational accidents.

The clinic will be opened with a welcome address by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Ervin L. Peterson. Mr. Fox will follow with a presentation of the "Challenge of the Farm Safety Job." Others on the program are Jerry Ringo, winner of the Kentucky Future Farmers of America public speaking award, and a panel made up of the following: Mrs. Almer Armstrong, Chairman, Indiana Farm Safety Committee, Indianapolis; Ordie L. Hogsett, farm safety specialist, Agricultural Extension Service, University of Illinois, Urbana; E. C. Martin, secretary, Texas farm and ranch safety committee and assistant director of Extension Service, Texas A & M College, College Station, Texas; Harry Pontious, Director of Safety, Nationwide Insurance Co., Columbus, Ohio; and Mrs. Goode Robinson, Chairman, Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, Lynchburg, Va.

SHOPPING LIST

RESCUES MONEY

Buy from a shopping list so you won't be swayed by clever advertising, personal whims, or high-pressured salesmanship, suggests Doris L. Snook, extension home management specialist of the Pennsylvania State University.

Wise buying provides more lasting satisfactions. Hastily made purchases are often bad investments. The wise buyer takes time to compare.

British industry plans to build atomic energy plant.

retarded germination of new seedings in south and postponed flax seeding in southwest. Topsoil moisture short in southwest and becoming short in south central and southeast, adequate to plentiful elsewhere. Subsoil moisture short in south, generally adequate to plentiful in other areas.

Soil Stewardship Sunday May 6th; "Priceless Gift"

Governor George M. Leader declared that advancements in agricultural technology demand careful conservation of the soil and urged State-wide observance of Soil Stewardship Sunday on May 6th and Soil Stewardship Week May 6-12. He issued the following statement:

"Rapidly increasing numbers of Pennsylvania farmers have come to realize that they are not only the owners but they are the stewards and caretakers of the soil, water and plants. Real stewardship morally obligates each generation to hand down land of higher productivity than it received.

"Soil is God's most priceless gift to man. We depend on productive soil for food, clothing and many of the raw products of industry. Poor stewardship results in abuse of the soil and may force farmers off the land. Good stewardship creates and holds productive soil for the benefit of all mankind.

"With the development of agricultural technology, man can do more to change the soil than ever before. He can bring about more rapid deterioration or more rapid improvement. Therefore, the modern farmer has an increased

responsibility for soil stewardship.

"Our national population is increasing at the rate of about nine thousand a day or three million per year, but our cropland is shrinking by some half million acres a year. Future generations will require land that has been built up and nurtured by thoughtful care.

"For the second consecutive year the directors of the 37 county-wide soil conservation districts in this Commonwealth are sponsoring observance of Soil Stewardship Week, May 6th through May 12th.

"I urge pastors of city and rural churches of all faiths to participate on Rogation Day, the Fifth Sunday after Easter, as Soil Stewardship Sunday, by placing emphasis upon man's sacred obligation to be a faithful steward of God's soil, and suggest that farm people fully exercise their responsibility for

FFA Week Plans at Penn State Begin

Plans for the annual Pennsylvania FFA Activities Week on the Penn State campus starting June 12 include a wide variety of events, Prof. Norman Hoover announced. The program brings about 1500 Future Farmers of America to the campus each year.

The annual meeting of the State FFA Association is listed simultaneously with the series of judging contests to choose Pennsylvania entries for regional and national competition. A band of 100 pieces and a chorus of over 100 voices will form for three days of intensive rehearsal. Numerous educational demonstrations and sports activities also are planned.

constant enrichment of the soil for the utilization of future generations."



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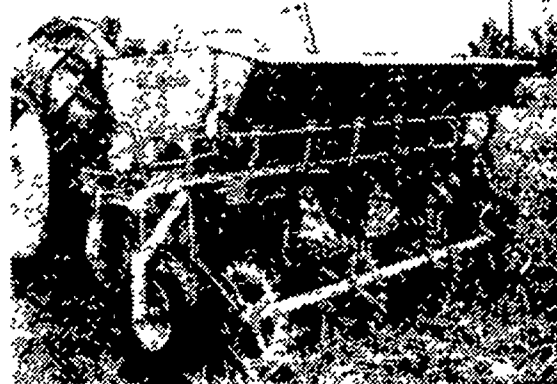
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