

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

State's Peach Crop at Prime; Northeast Wet

HARRISBURG — Harvesting of the main crop of late varieties of Pennsylvania peaches is approaching its peak and supplies should be plentiful on local markets over the next two weeks, the State Department of Agriculture announced today.

Giant-sized Hales and early Elbertas are being picked in the Adams-Franklin-York and the Berks-Lehigh fruit belts with the big crop of late Elbertas still to come, a Department survey revealed. Summer varieties are still being picked in Erie County with chances that some late Elbertas may not ripen due to the late, cool season.

In an average year peach harvesting in Pennsylvania usually is completed shortly after Labor Day, but cool weather greatly changed the situation this year, observers said.

Weather and working conditions on Pennsylvania farms during the week ended Monday were generally good with the exception of the northeastern portion where rain and wet ground restricted activities, the Department said. Farmers were busy plowing for winter grains, making hay, filling silos and harvesting oats.

Corn is in excellent condition in southeastern counties, but elsewhere in the State warmer nights are needed for best progress. Third cuttings of hay are underway in the southeast while second cuttings continue in the rest of the State. Pastures generally are in good condition.

Digging of early potatoes in northern areas has been handicapped by wet ground with some tubers reported rotting in the fields. Cutting of tobacco continues in Lancaster County. Harvesting of late summer apples continues.

Harvesting of the staked tomato crop in Luzerne County is about completed. Most fresh vegetables are in good supply, cabbage and sweet corn in heavy supply.

Loughin Ayrshires Cited for Month

The purebred dairy herd of C. Ellwood Laughlin of Chester Springs, has achieved top recognition during a recent month for outstanding production. The 11 cow producers are credited with averaging 1108 lbs of 4.5% milk and 50 lbs of butterfat, actual, which placed them among the nation's top Ayrshire herds in the Ayrshire Herd Test Division of 5 to 15 cows. In accordance with the rules of the Association, all registered cows in the herd, milking or dry, are included in the average.

With 16,000 cows on test, the Ayrshire holds the record among all dairy breeds as having the highest percentage of cows on test.

Lancaster County Peaches



Peaches are at their prime in the Garden Spot, as excellent growing and harvesting conditions have aided in moving the 1956 crop. Best buy, according to the experts, will be at the groves during the next week.

Tobacco Here Moving Quick, Crops Excellent

There was no Labor Day holiday Monday in the tobacco fields of Lancaster County, where the heavy 1956 crop is at its peak of movement into drying sheds.

Farmers are working on a full schedule to get the crop housed, and many are hanging the new cutting on outside racks for initial wilt and drying, until that already filling the barns shrinks enough to permit additional hanging.

"Things are about normal crop-wise," M. M. Smith, Lancaster county agricultural agent said this morning, "we've had no drouth, tobacco is being harvested rapidly, and some farmers are already finished. This is rather early for September, in fact the entire crop is a bit earlier than normal. Ripening was rapid."

Silo filling is underway everywhere Mr. Smith adds a word of caution on sorghum-soybean combinations: "Cut when sorghum heads have seeds heads in the dough stage, and when there are small beans in the soybean pods, put in silos with no wilting and no preservatives. Sorghum provides the necessary sugars."

Winter oats seeding should be completed by Sept. 15-20, Mr. Smith tells, using the leading varieties, LeConte or DuBois at a seeding rate of two to two and one-half bushels per acre on well drained soils. "Fertilize heavier grounds with 0-20-20 at the rate of 300 to 400 lbs per acre. If the soil nature is such that there is no danger of lodging, use a complete fertilizer at the same rate, such as 4-12-12 or 5-10-10."

Right now Lancaster County peach producers are in the midst of their harvest, and the crop looks good.

Here are other crop reports issued by Associate County Agent Harry S. Sloat:

Corn: Maturing rapidly, that planted prior to May 20 has sufficient moisture for maturity. Prospects indicate one of the heaviest crops in years.

Alfalfa: Third cutting progressed rapidly last week, weather favorable for good cure. Sorgo and soybeans, maturing rapidly.

Peaches: Crop moving to market in considerable volume, supply will be excellent for at least another week. Consumers advised to get tree-ripened peaches at orchards for best dessert, fresh, canning or freezing use; quality good.

Early Potatoes: Harvest starting, yields favorable; prices weakening with heavy digging in progress in Delaware, New Jer-

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Warwick Shorthorn Bull Tops Maryland

Timonium, Md — Warwick Beaming Boy, shown by Warwick Farms, R4 Lititz, won honors as grand champion bull in the Shorthorn show at the 1956 Maryland State Fair.

Orus B King as herd manager, won six first place blue ribbons for the owner of Warwick Farms, Irl A. Daffin. Eight herds were in competition in the Shorthorn show.

Loss \$75,000 in County Barn Fire

Loss was estimated at \$75,000 when fire caused by lightning Saturday night destroyed the stone and frame bank-barn and machinery shed, a frame machinery shed and corn crib on the Arthur and Chester Tout Farm, R1 Lancaster, a mile north of Oyster Point Saturday afternoon.

Lightning caused other across the county in the Tout fire, 75 tons of baled hay, 50 tons of straw, and 2000 bushels of oats were lost. The barn was built at least 150 years ago.

Broilers Listed, Offered Increase During August

A marked increase in listings and offerings in broilers is shown in comparison of August 1955 and August 1956 receipts at the Lancaster Poultry Exchange in Rohrerstown. However, total sold declined by 2117.

In seven sales last month, 234 lots, 623,880 birds were listed, compared to August 1955 with eight sales, 245 lots, 570,847 birds listed; for Aug 1956, 232 lots, 618,830 birds were offered, for Aug. 1955, 245 lots, 568,622; and sold in Aug 1956 were 203 lots, 517,455 birds, compared to Aug. 1955 with 220 lots, 519,652 birds sold.

Further military manpower reductions could be possible with the introduction of new weapons, according to Admiral Radford.

Northern Parts Of State Slow In Crop Growth

By ERNEST J. NEILL

COUDERSPORT, Pa — Crop development in the northern reaches of the Commonwealth is slow, a trip through sections of Potter County into New York State last weekend showed. Rainfall is more than adequate, especially with the 1956 crop of potatoes about ready for harvest around the Potato capital of the world — Potato City, Pa.

Temperatures Friday and Saturday were decidedly warm with rains that made humidity high and ground underfoot most soggy.

Monday morning a reading of 36 degrees chilled the neighborhood.

There is one bright note, forests seem to be in prime condition and the supply of deer is heavy feeding on good growths of vegetation as a rule. In one drive through Potter County mountains, 14 deer were sighted, and in another trip just across New York State line, 17 were seen.

Gladioli are just in their prime, but many fields of hay are in bad shape, soaked after cutting by continuous rains. Some residents say it rained 28 days out of the 31 in July.

Some 40 members of the Quarryville Memorial Methodist Choir and families, spent their 11th annual Labor Day weekend at the Quarryville Rod and Gun Club in the mountains between Galeton and Coudersport. Due to heavy rains, the choir attended the Park Avenue Methodist Church in Coudersport Sunday morning and sang one hymn for the host congregation and choir.

Dairy Show Sept. 19 At Quarryville Fair

Due to a conflict with the state show, judging of dairy cattle at the Southern Lancaster County Community Fair in Quarryville will be Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 19 at one o'clock.

Dick Adams of the state extension service will judge the event, which will permit exhibitors to move on to the Harrisburg show the following day. Dates for the Solanco Fair are Sept. 19, 20 and 21.

Farm Prices in Pennsylvania Up Seven Points

HARRISBURG — The index of prices received by Pennsylvania farmers for their principal products during the month ended August 15 showed an advance of seven points, the State Department of Agriculture said this week. Federal-State surveys set the overall index at 242 per cent of its 1910-14 average.

For the same period the national farm price index declined seven points, to 237. The Pennsylvania increase was attributed by observers largely to marketing advantages held by Keystone State farmers, the seasonal advance in milk prices and the inclusion of potatoes in the August 15 survey.

These prices were omitted in the July 15 survey due to light movement at that time. This price index report gives an August 15 average of \$3.00 per hundred pounds, 77 cents above the national average. Pennsylvania potatoes early this week were down to \$2.00-\$2.30 per hundredweight wholesale, the Department pointed out.

The price index for all Penn-

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