

Oats, Potatoes Alone Reduced In 1956 Yields

HARRISBURG — A harvest-month round-up of Pennsylvania crop production for 1956 today showed bigger volume than last year for all field crops except oats and late potatoes, with wheat only slightly on the down side.

On a statewide basis, Pennsylvania farmers made out better in this wet year than they did under drought conditions in 1955, State Department of Agri-

culture surveys indicated. In reaching October 1 estimates, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service found the higher yields per acre in eastern sections more than offset lower yields in rain-drenched western areas

Above normal rains and below normal temperatures hit the State for six consecutive months. Killing frosts cut the growing season for most crops from May 25 to September 21, shortest of record in some sections. The record late May freeze struck apples and cherries, tomatoes and other tender vegetables. The September 21 general freeze was record

early and was most destructive to corn that had not matured.

The Oct. 1 forecast for corn is a crop of 68,692,000 bu compared with 61 million last year which was about average. Wheat at 16 million bushels is about the same as last year, but four million under average, due to the steadily decreasing acreage.

At 30 million bushels the 1956 Pennsylvania oats crop is three million below last year, but four million above average. Barley production at 9,500,000 bushels is half a million above 1955 and four million higher than the 10-year average, 1945-54. Rye, at nearly 600,000 bushels is 100,000 above 1955 and more than twice the average.

It was a good season for grass and while the volume

cut for hay was estimated at 3,811,000 tons, much could not be cured. Losses were heaviest in western counties where more than 30 inches of rain fell in some areas during the haying season. The 1956 potential production estimate is 500,000 tons above last year and 300,000 above average.

Late summer potatoes totaled 850,000 hundredweight, only slightly above average. Fall potatoes at 7,425,000 hundredweight are 144,000 bags under 1955 but 1,626,000 hundredweight below average. Cigar leaf tobacco was one of the best crops ever known, averaging a record 1,700 pounds per acre for a total of 50 million pounds, five million above last year and slightly better than average.

Oliver Armstrong Show Film At Martic

Oliver Armstrong, Lancaster, whose films of the Holy Land have gained wide recognition throughout this section of Pennsylvania, will show movies at the Martic Township Elementary School Saturday night at 7:30.

Sponsoring organization is the Ladies Auxiliary of the Rawlinsville Camp. Mr. Armstrong, Lancaster businessman, made a four-month tour of the Holy Land and has shown his movies at many meetings. The ten best loved hymns of the State will be another feature of the meeting.

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Republican County Committee of Lancaster Co., G. Graybill Diehm, Chairman