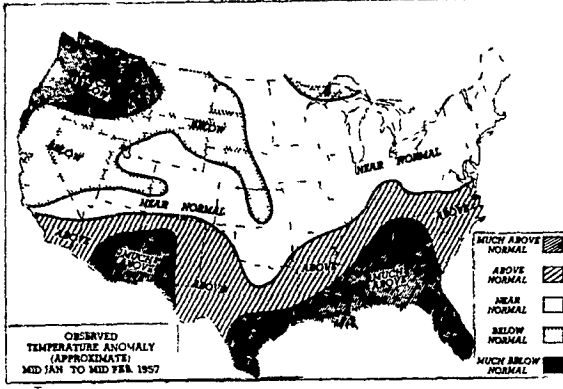
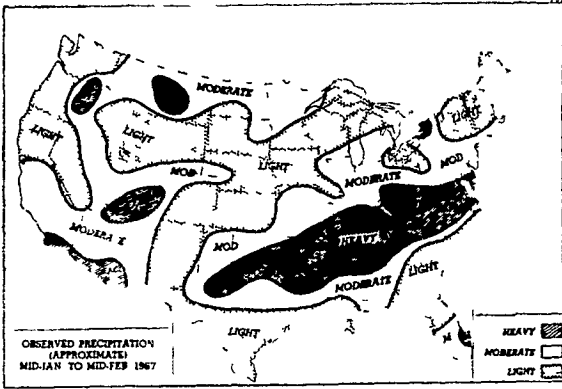


BELOW AVERAGE temperatures are predicted by the U.S. Weather Bureau during the next 30 days. Heavy precipitation is also forecast for the North and Middle Atlantic Coast states. The Weather Bureau

cautions that these 30 day forecasts are based on an analysis of observations from a major part of the Northern Hemisphere and are subject to marked local variations. (U.S. Weather Bureau Photo)



SOUTHEASTERN Pennsylvania enjoyed near normal temperatures and precipitation the first half of February, although the Groundhog had predicted six more weeks of bad weather. The average tem-

perature in this area for February is 31.1 degrees and the average precipitation is 2.24 inches, including 8.9 inches of snow. (U.S. Weather Bureau Photo)

13.5 Million Acres Entered In Soil Bank

More than 13.5 million acres of cropland had been signed up by farmers under the 1957 acreage reserve program of the Soil Bank through Feb. 8, according to preliminary and incomplete reports which have been received by the U.S. Department of Agriculture from State Agricultural Stabiliza-

tion and Conservation offices. The first report on progress of the 1957 Acreage Reserve covers "allotment" land for wheat, corn, upland cotton, rice, and certain types of tobacco that farmers have entered under the program, and includes winter wheat acreage agreements signed last fall and still in effect. By crops, the acreage reserve agreements reported included 644,767 acres of corn, 1,475,840 acres of cotton, 77,498 acres of rice, 33,549 acres of tobacco, and

11,301,916 acres of wheat. The wheat includes winter wheat agreements signed last fall, less cancellations, plus spring wheat agreements signed through Feb. 8. The tobacco acreage includes all eligible types except binder and filler. The sign-up for binder and filler types started Friday. Deadlines for producers to enter land in the 1957 Acreage Reserve are March 1 for cotton and tobacco and March 8 for spring wheat, corn, and rice.

Dairy Day to Feature Display For Making Quality Roughage

An educational display of various pieces of equipment, methods and materials in making quality roughages will be present at the annual Lancaster County Dairy Day to be held Wednesday at the Guernsey Sale Pavilion, Lincoln Highway East.

The full day program will start at 9:30 a.m. with a speech on the dairy outlook for 1957 by William F. Johnson, agricultural extension economist at Penn State University.

Following his talk, Joseph Taylor, dairy extension specialist from Penn State will explain the new dairy testing programs. He will cover the use of IBM record keeping procedures in the dairy herd improvement association programs, the owner sample procedures, and the day-a-month system of keeping production records.

Other speakers and their subjects are Fred M. Miller, Johnson & Johnson Co., Milk Strainer Demonstration; Monroe Arme, agricultural economic extension, Penn State, Labor Saving Devices on the Dairy Farm; Dudley W. Winter, field representative, Interstate, The Farmer Magician, Walter D. Hunnicutt, National Dairy Products Corp., Quality Roughages, F. E. A. Smith, Cowles Chemical Co., Cleansing Dairy Utensils, Ivan E. Parkin, Penn State dairy extension specialist, Cold Tank Management.

Chairman of the program is Max M. Smith, Lancaster county agent.

This Dairy Day is conducted by the agricultural extension service in cooperation with the milk distributors, milk marketing cooperatives and dairy breed associations of Lancaster County.

Lunch will be available at the

pavilion. Milk, ice cream and cheese will be donated by the milk distributors and manufacturers of dairy products.

Hog Weight Loss Can Be Reduced By Brown Sugar

The weight loss of hogs on their way to market can be reduced considerably by feeding them dark brown sugar in drinking water 48 hours before loading them for market, according to Marshall C. Heck of the Arkansas agricultural experiment station at Fayetteville. In the Arkansas tests, three pounds of sugar were mixed with five gallons of water. After a 250-mile trip to market, the hogs fed brown sugar lost seven pounds less per head than those not getting any sugar.

The Arkansas researchers point out that the feeding of sugar caused the hogs to drink more water than usual, and that the craving of water continued for some time after the sugar was omitted. In further tests, barrows and gilts were slaughtered to determine the effect of the sugar on shrinkage, curing loss, and palatability.

It is reported that shrinkage in the sugar-fed hogs was only 2½ per cent, compared with 4½ per cent for those getting no sugar. In dry-sugar and dry-salt curing tests, the cuts from the hogs fed sugar lost less weight in curing and smoking, and the cooked hams and shoulders also tested higher for aroma, flavor of fat, flavor of lean, texture, tenderness, and juiciness.

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