

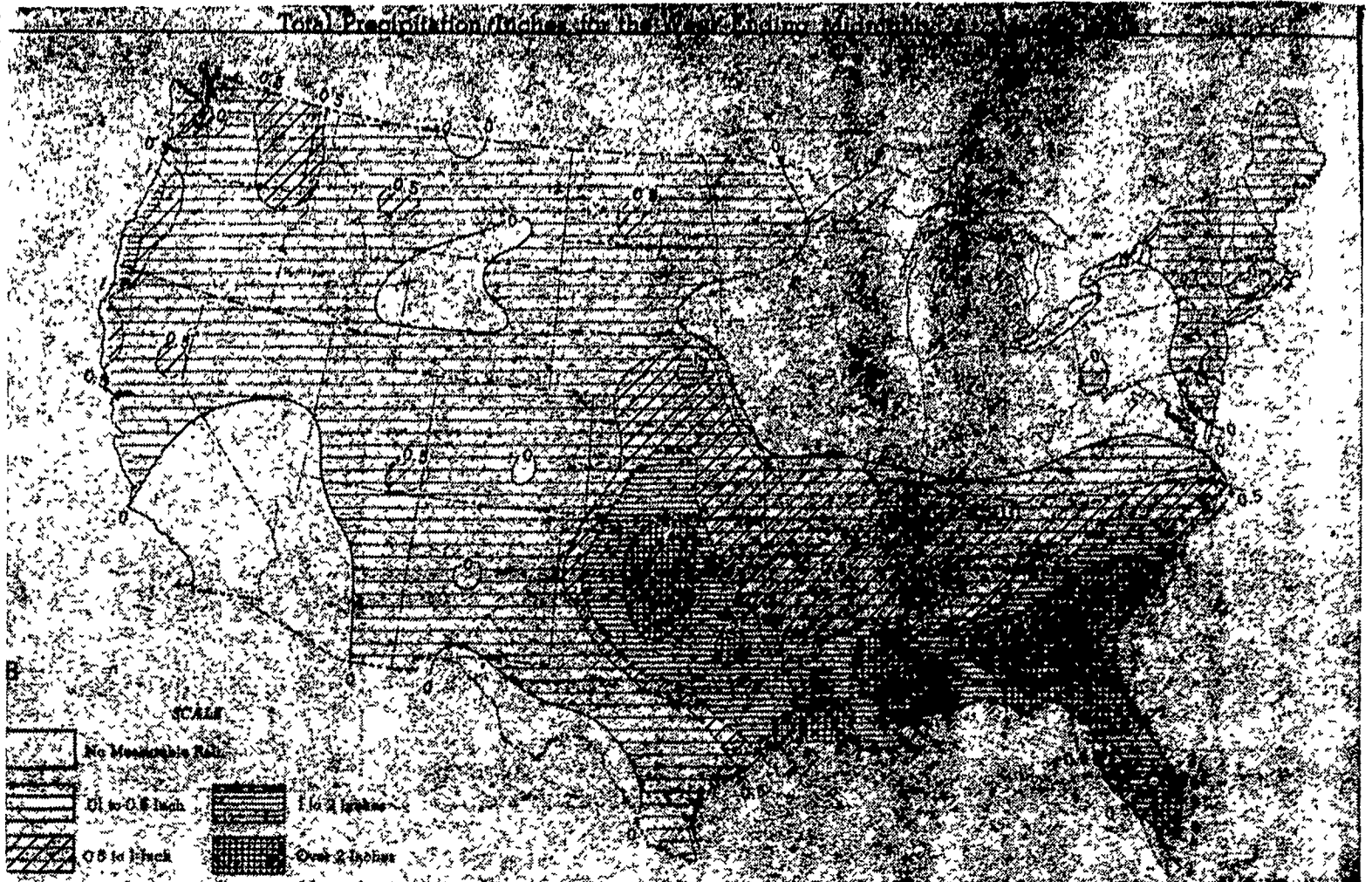
Grange Protests State Wheat Acreage Cut

The Pennsylvania State Grange is bitterly protesting the action of the United States Department of Agriculture in reducing the wheat acreage allocated to Pennsylvania farmers for the 1958 crop season by 13,000 acres it was announced here today by S. Ralph Wanner Master of the Lancaster County Pomona Grange No. 71.

"Pennsylvania farmers lost 20,000 acres under a similar action of the Department for the 1957 crop, and the Grange feels it is high time that this policy be discontinued in as much as the national wheat acreage has not been reduced during these years by a single acre.

"It is the feeling of the Grange that unused acreage allotted to Pennsylvania farmers should be assigned to other farmers in Pennsylvania who are not now permitted to grow even the amount of wheat needed to feed their own livestock.

"The Pennsylvania State Grange has written to Secretary Benson protesting this action and will carry its fight to every member of Congress from Pennsylvania if this policy is not changed" Wanner said.



SHOWER ACTIVITY continued heaviest in Texas and in the extreme Southeastern United States this past week. For most of the rest of the nation, precipitation was light to unmeasurable. The high pressure system that pushed

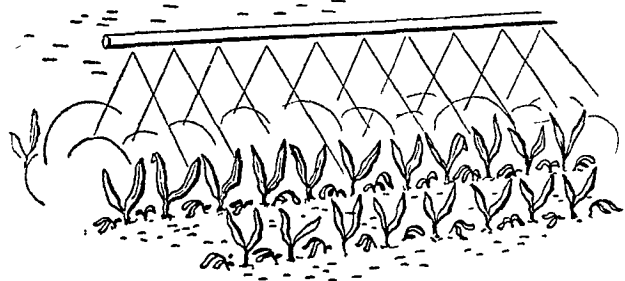
the warm moist air south brought sub-normal temperatures to most of the states east of the Rocky Mountains. (Weather Bureau Photo)

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USDA Emphasis On Marketing

Dairy heifers fed a variety of high-quality forage rations in a limited milk and grain feeding program, need no more than 560 pounds of concentrates to attain normal growth from birth to first calving, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Dairy nutritionists of the Department's Agricultural Research Service, who made the feeding tests at Beltsville, Md., successfully discontinued milk feeding of heifers at 60 days and grain feeding at nine months. Their research has shown that use of large quantities of high-quality hay in rations for dairy heifers materially reduces the cost of rearing dairy herd replacements.

Usual practice has been to feed calves whole or skim milk up to six months, and concentrates, plus roughage, until first calving. As much as 2,000-3,500 pounds of grain is commonly fed to dairy heifers under these conditions before first calving. Researchers found, however, that with the feeding of large quantities of good hay, grain fed in excess of 560 pounds does not increase the growth rate.

They also found that different combinations of alfalfa hay with other high-quality roughages such as corn silage, timothy hay and corn silage, timothy hay and orchard grass-ladino hay, and bromegrass-ladino hay and corn silage all produced similar results in calf gains. The studies indicate that it is important to maintain a high legume content in the high-quality roughage rations.

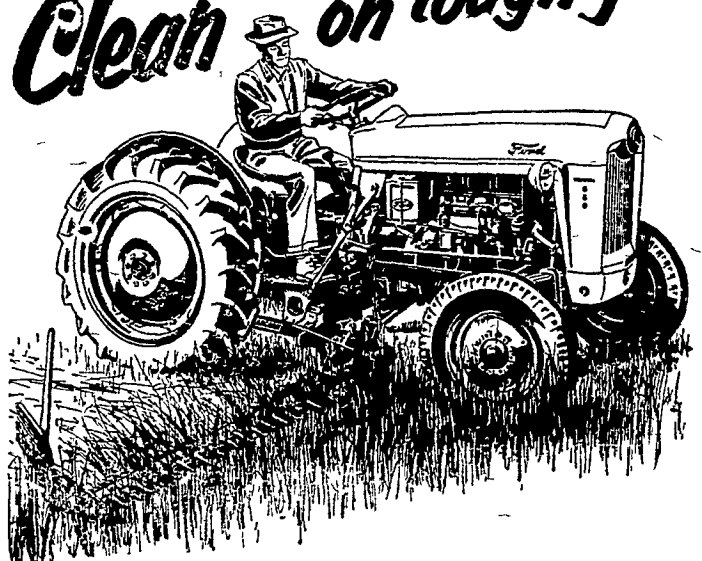
In these experiments, the individually fed group of nine Holstein and 25 Jersey calves was offered as much forage as they would eat, after 10 days of age.

The group of nine Holstein heifers consumed an average of 564 pounds of grain during the first nine months and their weight averaged 617 pounds at 12 months, compared with expected "normal weight" of 632 pounds. Weight of these heifers at 24 months averaged 1,068 pounds, compared with expected weight of 1,069 pounds.

Similarly, the group of 25 Jersey calves, which consumed an average of 549 pounds of grain until nine months old, averaged 460 pounds at 12 months compar-

ed with expected "normal group averaged 801 pounds, compared with expected "normal weight" of 450 pounds. At 24 months, weight of the Jersey heifers averaged 733 pounds.

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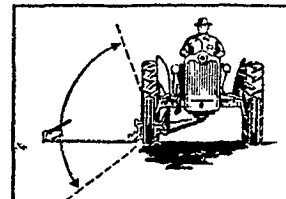


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