

## Governor Says All Allowable Tax Refunds for 1956 Are Completed

Governor George M. Leader Saturday said that all allowable claims, nearly 19,000 for refunds of gasoline taxes to farmers for the 1955-56 fiscal year have been processed for payment, according to a progress report prepared at the Governor's request by the Secretary of the Board of Finance and Revenue, W. Ken Duffy.

An additional 3,000 claims, the report says, could not be completed because applicants failed to supply the information required by law. These individuals have been notified of the deficiencies, and their claims will be allowed just as quickly as the proper information is submitted.

It is expected that the total number of refunds claims for the fiscal year, July 1, 1956 through June 30, 1957, will approximate 43,000 by the Sept. 30 filing dead-

line. This is about a 100 per cent increase over the previous year. The Board of Finance and Revenue report refunds to the farmers will amount to nearly \$3,300,000.

Every applicant who submitted a claim for the previous fiscal year -- 21,845 -- was mailed a new form, and this alphabetical county-by-county mailing was completed on Sept. 5. Additionally, more than 16,000 forms were sent to new applicants, and will continue to be mailed as the requests are received.

"These refunds cover the gasoline used by farmers in the operation and cultivation of their land. This is an important contribution to helping the farm economy of Pennsylvania," Governor Leader declared.

"I know that if the farmers requesting refunds will take the time to answer all questions and submit the gasoline tax receipts required by law, their claims will be processed quickly and efficiently."

The refunds claims have increased nearly 400 per cent from the original 9,000 applications received in 1949, and the processing has been accomplished with only a small increase in personnel, the report submitted to the Governor reveals.

The Board of Finance and Revenue also suggested that the notation "Farmers Gasoline Tax Refund" on envelope of the claim will hasten its delivery to the proper office.

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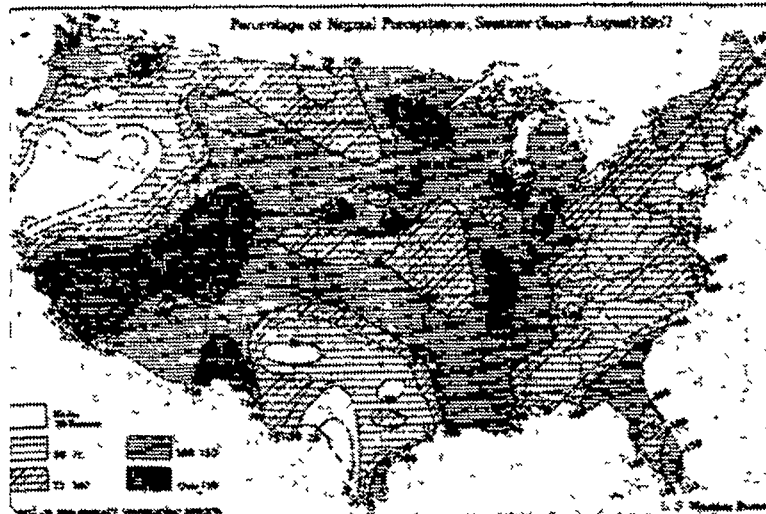
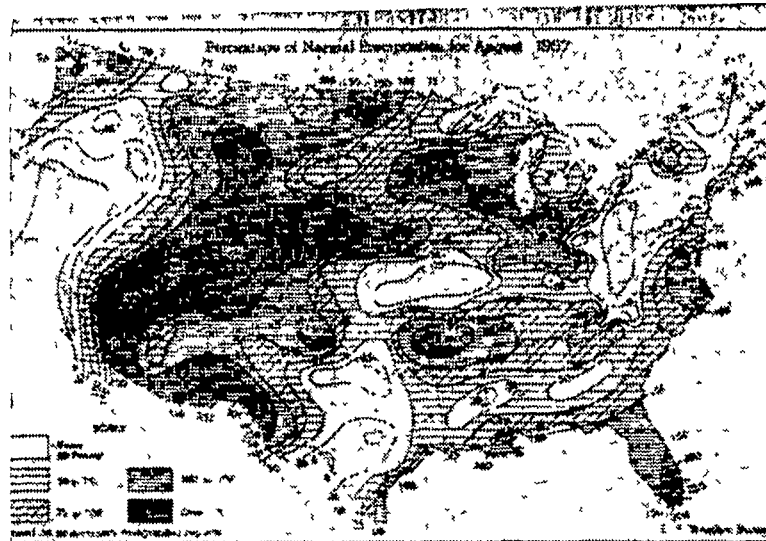
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THESE TWO CHARTS show that Pennsylvania has had under 50 per cent normal precipitation in August and that the Southeastern area has had under that same figure for the entire summer. Note that the Southwestern U. S. has had more than 200 per cent of normal for the summer and as much as 450 per cent during August. (U. S. Weather Bureau Chart)

### USDA Advisory Committees Announce 1957-58 Session Dates

Interested organizations are invited by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to submit suggestions concerning Federal program of agricultural research to the 25 USDA research and marketing advisory committees. The eleventh year of annual meetings of these committees begins this month.

These advisory groups, representing all segments of the Nation's agriculture, are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture under provisions of the Research and Marketing Act of 1946. At their 1957-58 meetings, starting in September and ending in February (a complete schedule is given below), committee members will again offer guidance to the Department in its planning of future research to improve the production, marketing, and utilization of the Nation's agricultural products.

Interested groups are encouraged by the Department, on behalf of the committees, to submit written recommendations concerning farm and related industry problems that need research attention. Such recommendations should be addressed to Dr. Barnard Coy, Assistant to the Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. He will transmit them to the appropriate committees.

Besides these committees, there is a national advisory group, the Agricultural Research Policy Committee, concerned with the broader aspects of the USDA research program. This 11-member committee, which meets quarterly, will hold its next meeting Oct. 24-25 in Washington, D. C.

Here is the tentative 1957-58 schedule of research and marketing advisory committee meetings (except as noted, sessions will be in Washington, D. C.):

September: Forest, 23-26 (Ogden, Utah).

October: Sheep and Wool, 28-30; November Food and Nutrition, 4-6; Refrigerated and Frozen Products, 13-15; Rice, 20-22.

December: Potato, 2-5 (Idaho Falls, Idaho); Production Economics, 4-6; Home Economics, 9-11, Dairy, 11-13; Seed, 16-18.

January: Tobacco, 6-8; Deciduous Fruit and Tree Nut, 6-10 (Albany, Calif.); Grain, 13-15 (Albany, Calif.); Soils, Water, and Fertilizer, 15-17; Poultry, 20-23 (West Lafayette, Ind.); Food Dis-

tribution, 27-29; Oilseeds and Peanuts, 29-31.

February: Vegetable, 3-6; Feed and Forage, 5-7; Transportation, 12-14; Livestock, 17-19; Farm Equipment and Structures, 19-21; Citrus Fruit, 24-27; Sugar, 24-28 (Puerto Rico); Cotton and Cottonseed, 26-28.

## Wheat Program For Farm Use Outlined by USDA

(Continued from page 11)

application is approved will be eligible to use this exemption.

A producer who participates in the 1958 wheat acreage reserve of the Soil Bank will not be eligible to use the provisions of the 30-acre feed wheat amendment. A producer who wishes to participate in the feed wheat provision will have to cancel his wheat acreage reserve agreement prior to the closing date for cancellation of wheat acreage reserve agreement.

A basic provision of the acreage reserve program requires that a producer must comply with all acreage allotments on the farm to receive a payment under the Soil Bank. However, under provisions of the feed wheat amendment, producers who sign an application and harvest not more than 30 acres of wheat for use on the farm will be eligible to participate in the acreage reserve program for other commodities, such as corn, cotton, rice, and tobacco, even though their wheat acreage allotment is exceeded.

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