

## Many Weather Records Broken In Southeast During July, August

HARRISBURG — Dry weather during July and August in Southeastern Pennsylvania broke or threatened many weather records, the State Department of Agriculture reported Monday in the Federal-State monthly crop summary.

In the Reading area, farmers have experienced the driest January-August eight-month period of record. Only 18.6 inches of rain had fallen, according to U.S. Weather Bureau records. During August 88 inch was recorded. August rainfall in Harrisburg at 93 inch was the lowest since 1923 and the total Summer rainfall was the least since 1909. In the Allentown area the month was the driest since 1916.

This continuance of drought conditions through the southeast and the spreading of dry weather to western counties prompted Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service statisticians to revise estimates downward for all Summer and Fall crops.

Rainfalls in the southeast Aug. 25 and 26 were too little and too late. They helped some pastures but at month-end most were still far below normal for Fall grazing. The moisture was too late to help corn production which, for the entire State, is reported at 64 per cent of last year's output.

Rains last week aided Eastern Pennsylvania farmers in preparing their soils for Fall planting of winter grains and benefited pastures which were in the poorest condition since the keeping of records started in 1933.

September 1 production estimates for the principal Pennsylvania Summer and Fall field crops were below last year's output in all commodities. Statewide corn yields were estimated at 19 bushels an acre under last year, soybeans, down 4½ bushels, alfalfa, one-tenth of a ton below 1956, to-

bacco, down 350 pounds to the acre, and Fall potatoes, 30 hundredweight under 1956.

## Check Tractor Before Adding Anti-freeze

Freezing temperatures can quickly disable even the sturdiest tractor built, unless a few simple maintenance precautions are taken to protect the cooling system. Failure to follow such a procedure can mean a cracked radiator or engine block, and expensive repair bills.

For safe, winter operation, farm equipment authorities and cooling system experts of anti-freeze manufacturing companies recommend:

1 Before adding anti-freeze, drain, then flush, the cooling system with a chemical cleaner. This gets rid of accumulated rust-sludge which can clog up narrow engine and radiator passages — causing an overheated motor.

2 Check radiator and hose connections for leaks. Replace worn or cracked hoses, and fan belts. When installing new hoses, clean pipe connections, then apply a thin layer of sealing compound.

3 Check the thermostat and pressure cap for rust, and to see if they are working properly.

4 Clean the leaves, dirt, and insects out of the radiator fins to permit air to circulate freely.

5 When buying anti-freeze, remember that the so-called "permanent" type anti-freeze, can be used in any tractor, anywhere, in any climate and altitude. One shot lasts all winter, and is good for operating in temperatures even lower than 30 degrees below zero. For average winter operating conditions, however, a standard anti-freeze offers safe, sure protection. It costs less than permanent — and you need less of it. And it won't boil away in modern pressurized cooling systems.

6 Install sufficient anti-freeze according to the manufacturer's instructions to obtain the desired degree of protection.

7 Add enough water to fill the cooling system within an inch of the filler neck to allow for expansion.

8 After running the engine for a while, test the anti-freeze solution with a hydrometer to make certain your tractor is protected against freezing to the lowest likely temperature in the area.

Here are a few other tips. Make sure any water-filled tires are properly protected against freezing. Remember, too, that anti-freeze time also is time for an oil change and for a complete grease job. And don't forget to grease the wheel bearings.

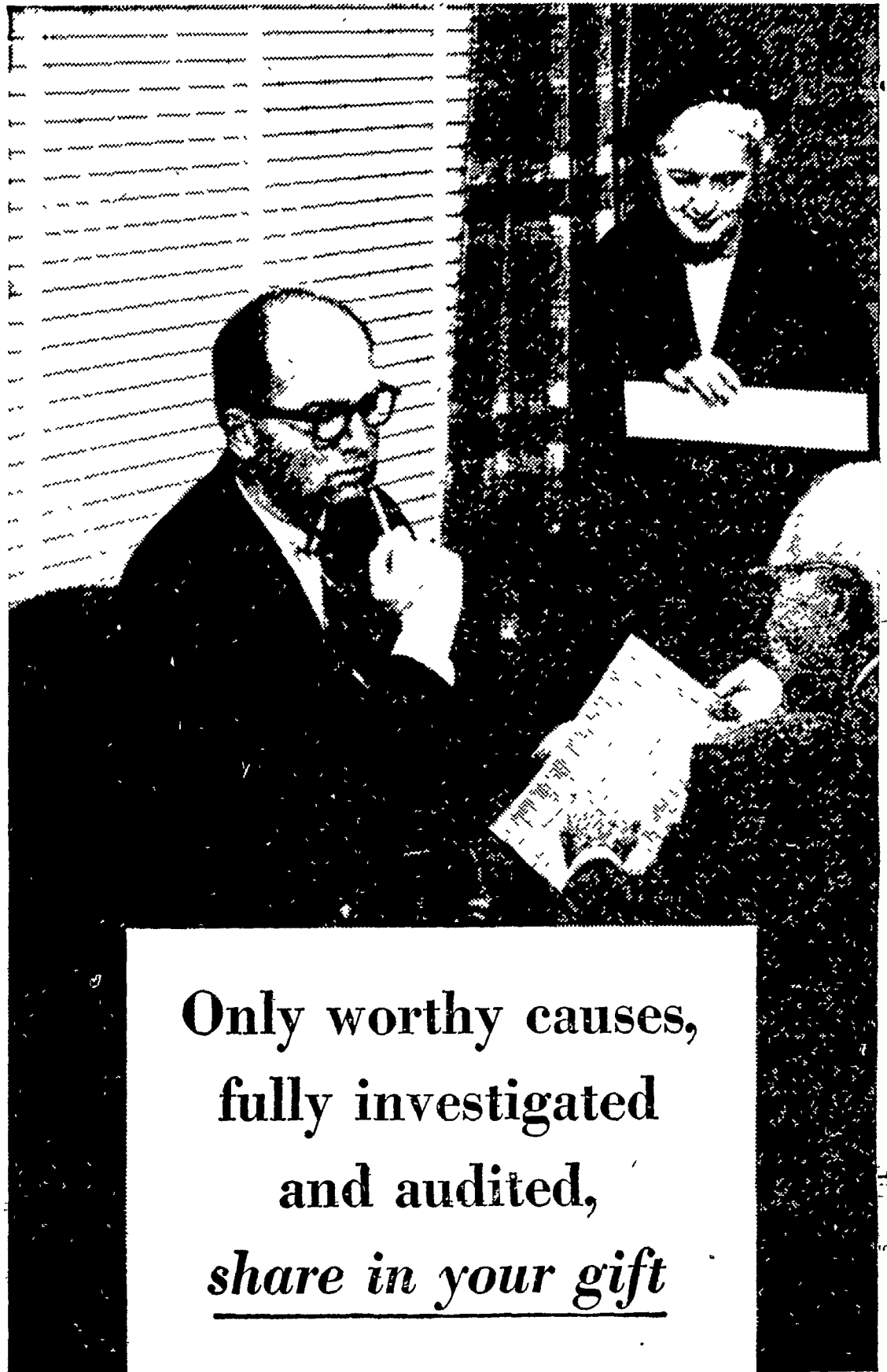
## Protecting Sheep Against Vibriosis

Oral inoculation of non-pregnant ewes was found to immunize them against abortion due to vibriosis for at least a year, according to a report in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Also, following an abortion from vibriosis, veterinary authorities said, ewes do not carry the infection and are immune for at least a year.

Only in the late stages of pregnancy are ewes readily infected with this disease and usually by contaminated feed and water. It is important, the Association said, to isolate those animals that abort their lambs and to remove all infected material from the premises. Vibriosis in sheep is not a venereal type of disease as it is on cattle.

According to statistics from the Colorado State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, Fort Collins, about 50,000 ewes aborted in one year in that state and about 5 per cent of the aborting animals died.



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Therefore, we suggest that you not feed layers more than 10 lbs of scratch grain per hundred birds per day for White Leghorns and at the very most do not feed over 12 lbs per hundred birds per day in the cold weather to heavily laying birds. Reduce scratch grain in warm weather.

Feed a top quality laying ration that is finely ground so that the birds cannot sort out coarse particles in the mash. Provide plenty of space for birds to eat and at least 3 sq ft of floor space per bird. Pullets that are overcrowded in the laying house get awfully sick of looking at one another and may start picking just on general principles. Scratch grain should be fed in the litter in all parts of the pen to provide exercise and give every bird an even chance at the feed. This allows each pullet to get enough and none to get too much.

Babcock Bessies are not naturally cannibalistic. They will lay at a high rate of speed for a long time and will come up in egg size rapidly. You will like these Bessies.

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