

Near Record Crop Yields Predicted By State Agency

Harrisburg — A crop of 71.1 million bushels of corn, the fourth largest crop ever to be grown in Pennsylvania, is expected this year, the State Crop Reporting Service predicts.

Corn yield is estimated at 55 bushels an acre. With a late frost and normal growing conditions the remainder of the season, Pennsylvania could easily realize a near-record production.

Small grain yields exceeded earlier expectations. An average of 30 bushels an acre, equal to the record of 1958 is expected for wheat. Rye yields are estimated to be 25 bushels an acre. Barley growers reaped better yields than expected, an average of 41 bushels an acre. In some southeastern localities, yields were cut because the crop had lodged.

The oats picture is spotty. Winter oats were harvested with good yields, but disease had infected later oats plantings in some localities. As harvest progressed, the yield was reported to be better than had been expected.

Higher daytime temperatures and frequent, timely rains and showers during July pushed crop growth. Corn and tobacco grew vigorously. Grasses and legumes for hay and silage also made excellent growth. Pastures are mostly in fine shape and providing most of the feed requirements for livestock.

Temperatures averaged about normal for the month during the day, but were mostly below normal at night. As a result, average temperatures for the month were below normal. Rainfall, for the State as a whole, was more than normal, but some areas in the Central mountains and valley areas had less.

A crop of 49,500,000 lbs. of Pennsylvania seedleaf tobacco is now expected. This is a considerable improvement over prospects a month earlier. Near ideal growing conditions for tobacco prevailed in Lancaster County area during July and the crop made up for much of the effects of late planting.

Digging of the summer cobbler potato crop got underway in late July and in early August. Blight struck many fields and will hasten harvest operations. The late potato crop progressed satisfactorily during July and yields were expected to average normal for the season.

Gains in yield prospects for several major crops during July give promise of making 1960 the Nation's biggest crop year. Corn prospects eased up and winter wheat and oats outyielded earlier expectations. Spring wheat and barley prospects

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Extension Men Present New Agronomy Guide

Changes to be recommended by the Agricultural Extension Service for 1961 in seeds, fertilizers and other farm supplies will be explained for dealers throughout Pennsylvania at eleven district meetings, starting on October 11.

Dr. C. S. Bryner of the Pennsylvania State University, said the University's new "Agronomy Guide" for 1961 will be distributed. He and other Penn State extension agronomists will discuss quality seeds, lawn maintenance, forage, small grain and sorghum varieties, potatoes for chipping, weed control, hay and pasture management, fertilizer placement and liming. Host county agents will preside.

The meeting for Lancaster, southern Berks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lebanon,

Philadelphia and York counties will be held in Lancaster on November 10.

Read the Classifieds.

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shrank as the major producing states were hot and dry. Total feed grain tonnage is now expected to fall about 4 per cent below last year. Oat production is substantially above last year, but the corn, sorghum, and barley crops are expected to be smaller than in 1959. A 4.1 billion bushel corn crop is in prospect, about 1 per cent above the forecast a month ago, but 6 per cent below the record production in 1959.

About 75% of electrical appliances are bought by people who had no intention of buying them at the beginning of the year. And since 88% of American families receive a newspaper every day, the chances are that a newspaper ad gave them the idea.

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