

Crop Forecasts For Penna. Up From July

Pennsylvania's hay crop is estimated to be the smallest of record since 1875. The Pennsylvania State Department's Crop reporting service said this week. Tobacco yield forecasts are up almost five percent from a month earlier to 1,275,000 tons is 30 percent under

six per cent above the ten year average, but six per cent below last year.

The droughty conditions during the season have resulted in the smallest hay crop since 1875. Total hay production is estimated at 2,455,000 tons compared with 4.1 million tons last year and an average of 3.5 million tons. Alfalfa

Crop reporting service said hay production at 1,079,000 tons is the lowest since 1953, clo-tim production at 1,275,000 tons is 30 percent under

the previous low of 1,821,000 tons in 1957.

POTATOES: The combined late summer and fall potato crops in Pennsylvania are expected to total 6.9 million cwt. - 17 percent less than in 1961 and 15 percent below the 10-year (1951-60) average.

OATS production is forecast at 25.4 million bushels - smallest crop since 1952. Most oats were combined by the end of August excepting for a few fields in northern counties. Soybean production at 152,000 bushels was sharply down from 1961 production and slightly over half of average.

Rains which came to most of the Commonwealth during the second week of August gave crops only a temporary boost. With the return of dry weather the following week, crops again suffered from a lack of moisture. Field corn revived somewhat and made a little growth. Hay fields and pastures greened up and looked better again. On September 1 the corn was still far from a normal crop, pastures too short for grazing and hay too short to cut in many areas. Feed supplies are generally short and many crops are being diverted from their original purpose in order to alleviate the roughage short-

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Fly Control By Feeding Is Studied

An interesting new idea in fly control in cattle herds is the attempt to fight flies with chemicals in feed supplements. In this system, the cattle are fed feed supplements containing chemicals such as phenothiazine or ronnel. These chemicals appear in the droppings and help keep flies from developing in manure deposits.

A research chemist with a national feed company points out that this idea shows promise, but as of now it is not the answer to the fly control

CORN: As a result of the critical shortage of pasture and hay due to the drought conditions considerable corn intended for grain will be diverted and used for roughage. Pennsylvania corn prospects now are estimated at 45 bushels per acre compared with 67 bushels last year and a 10-year (1951-60) average of 53 bushels. Total corn production is expected to total 41,985,000 bushels.

TOBACCO: Production of Pennsylvania Seedleaf tobacco is now forecast at 50.2 million pounds, up 5 percent from the forecast a month earlier, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. If realized, this will be 6 percent above the 1951-60 average, but 6 percent below the 1961 production.

Rains during the second week of August practically worked a miracle for the tobacco crop. Harvesting of early tobacco fields was nearly completed by September 1. Topping of late fields was underway the later part of August. Previous dry weather has kept the crop about two weeks late. Tobacco appears to be free of disease or insect damage. Curing conditions have been very good up until the present damp weather.

The average prices received by Pennsylvania farmers for tobacco were 270 cents in 1961 and 280 cents in 1960. The cigar filler tobacco in Miami Valley, Ohio, types 42-44 brought 28.3 cents in 1961 and 28.1 cents in 1960. New England and Wisconsin binder types 51-55, brought farmers an average of 31.7 cents in 1961 and 32.9 cents in 1960. Prices received for New England, Georgia, and Florida wrapper types 61-62, averaged \$2.00 in 1961 and \$1.94 in 1960.

problem. The feed additive approach to fly control is being studied by thorough research, he said. Effective chemicals can be used in this manner as an aid to fly control. However, sprays, dips or dust are still a necessity with present approved feed additives. Additional research work is still needed to determine how best to use feed additives in an overall fly control program.

Chemical feed additives can prevent horn flies, face flies and house flies from developing in manure. However, the number of flies present on the animal is not reduced to any extent. The researcher points out that the consumption of feed additives under field conditions is too variable to assure effective intake of the chemicals, so the control of fly development in the manure is incomplete. Also, flies breeding in the manure of adjacent untreated herds infest cattle receiving medicated feed supplements. He also points out that range cattle, usually infested with horn flies, are not normally fed a supplement during summer months.

Nevertheless he believes the concept of fighting flies through feed additives may develop and serve a useful role in the overall fly program.

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