

Milk Producers

(Continued from Page 1)
 owned by Mary Rice, Blain, Perry County. The Ayrshire herd of John A. Rodgers, Belleville, Mifflin County, was tops with 515 pounds of butterfat; top Brown Swiss herd owned by Joseph Zumbro, West Newton, Westmoreland County, had 549 pounds of butterfat, and the Milking Shorthorn herd of Samuel G. Yodel, Shoemakersville, Berks County, was tops in that breed with 344 pounds of butterfat.

A summary of county averages for the year ending September 30, 1963 shows that Lancaster County, among all in Pennsylvania, ranked 22nd in amount of butterfat and 30th in amount of milk. However, Lancaster County ranked

first in number of cows while Chester County, in second place, had only about two-thirds as many cows on test. Butler County ranked first in amount of butterfat per cow, but had only 1,114 cows on test, compared to the 13,807 in Lancaster County and the 9,062 in Chester County. Chester County ranked 40th in butterfat and 45th in milk averages. Juniata County, with 1,394 cows on test, had the high milk average and followed Butler in the butterfat column. Butler dropped to seventh place in the milk production column.

Lancaster County herds produced an average of 11,921 pounds of milk and 478 pounds of butterfat per cow during the year. The state average for

the year was 11,993 pounds of milk and 470 pounds of butterfat. In the state average, herds producing over 500 pounds of butterfat more than doubled from the previous year — up to 1,492 this year from 741 herds in 1962.

This year was the first time in the history of the Pennsylvania DHIA that a county had an average of more than 500 pounds butterfat. It was also the first time more than one herd in the state had an average of over 700 pounds. Three herds in the state went over the 700 pound mark this year.

Soil Moisture Still Critical Over Penna.

HARRISBURG — Unless rainfall increases markedly before the ground freezes Pennsylvania will be headed into a winter drought that could intensify the severity of prevailing low moisture conditions, State Agriculture Secretary Leland H. Bull declared today.

Late October and early November rainfall has revived some streams that had dried up but, Secretary Bull said, this was not enough for deep soil penetration that is needed to sustain springs and streams for any considerable period.

Meanwhile, he continued efforts for getting reduced freight rates on hay as added relief for farmers in drought disaster areas where aid in the form of reduced prices on government-owned feed grains already is in effect.

Governor William W. Scranton in mid-November certified nine additional Pennsylvania counties to the United States Department of Agriculture for drought disaster status. Twenty-nine other counties that he had certified earlier have been granted that status.

In response to the Governor's request, based on recommendations of the state's USDA Disaster Committee, the Interstate Commerce Commission has given railroads permission to reduce freight rates on hay shipped into these 29 counties. The same arrangement was asked for the nine additional counties.

Secretary Bull said that since the hay freight concession hinges finally on voluntary action by the railroads he was making

Drought Blamed For Decrease In Milk Flow

HARRISBURG — Milk production in the Keystone State declined in October, apparently as a result of the drought, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Production per cow was estimated by PCRS at 646 pounds — 14 pounds less than in September and five pounds less than October, 1962.

It was the first time since July, 1962, another drought period, that output per cow was lower than in the comparable month of the previous year. The October decline probably reflects poor condition of pastures resulting from prolonged dry weather, PCRS said.

Despite the slump in October, milk production per cow in the first 10 months of this year totaled 7,093 pounds, 325 pounds more than the record-setting pace at the same time last year.

The number of cows continued to decline, dropping to 846,000 in October, PCRS reported. This was 2,000 less than a month earlier and 20,000 less than in the same month last year.

Total milk production in Pennsylvania during October was estimated at 547 million pounds, 13 million pounds less than the previous month and 17 million pounds less than in October a year ago.

every effort to acquaint them with the urgency of this need as a means for helping dairy and livestock farmers in areas where hay is not available within the state at reasonable prices.

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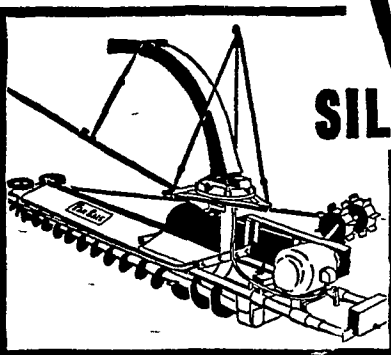
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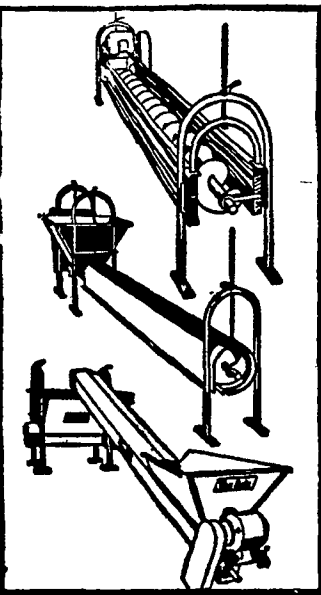


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