

Tobacco Planting Begins; Soil Dry

Some early tobacco went into cutting, but most feel that the fields this week as farmers continued to take advantage of the sunny days to move ahead with planting and other field work.

Many farmers around the county report they have harvested more high quality hay this year than ever on first

which followed the showers.

Pastures are beginning to show the effects of low moisture and corn is growing slowly, however the good supply of water put in the soil during April helped the corn to germinate well. Stands appear very even, but are yellowing in some fields.

Soil moisture continued to dwindle over most of the state as rainfall averaged well below normal for the fourth con-

secutive week, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service said today in its crop and weather summary for the week ending June 1. In northwestern and southwestern counties moisture was more than adequate for growth of vegetation. Low temperatures hindered crop development in all areas. In northern counties scattered frosts did little damage except in Erie County where some strawberries and tender vegetables were hit.

Winter grains continued to make moderate growth despite the lack of rainfall. Length of straw will be affected in some eastern and central counties. Nearly all barley in southern counties is in head and occasional fields are coloring. Smut has appeared in the Lehigh-Northampton area. Most fields of wheat in the southeast are in head. Rain is needed to lengthen straw and provide moisture for development of kernels.

Most early sown oats fields show good stands but dry ground is hindering growth. Some late plantings are only fair. Planting of corn continues in all areas but with some delay. The ground is too dry to plow in some localities. Early stands look good despite cool weather.

Spraying of alfalfa stubble for control of weevil is under way. Pastures continue to provide good grazing in western counties but elsewhere growth has slowed down and some fields are turning brown.

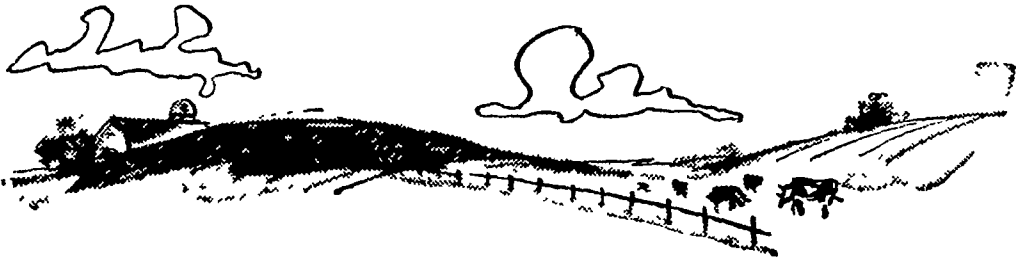
Early Cobbler potatoes in the southeast look good. Some fields are being irrigated. Harvesting of strawberries has started but rain is needed to promote sizing. Early planted peas for processing are in bloom.

Some Thoughts For...



Dairy

Farmers!



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