

Crop Summary

Crops Continue Good Growth

Hay crops and pastures continued to make good growth in most sections of the Commonwealth, despite some hot, dry weather, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Legumes and grasses for hay and ensilage were generally developing satisfactorily, and new alfalfa growth started well following second cutting. Pastures in most areas are providing normal grazing for this time of year.

The exception is in the northeastern corner of the state where seven counties have been designated as drought disaster areas. Virtually all crop development has been retarded there by a prolonged dry spell.

Elsewhere in the state, early June rains provided adequate soil moisture to sustain crop growth. Corn has developed well, particularly in central and southern counties where some stands are reported seven feet tall. Wheat continues to produce good yields as harvesting of small grains continues at a normal pace.

Increasing quantities of early sweet corn and tomatoes, and the season's first early white peaches are reaching the fresh market.

The Crop Reporting Service pointed out that only three of 18 weather stations in the state have recorded adequate rainfall since April 1. They are Pittsburgh with 3.33 inches above normal, Erie, 1.36 inches above, and Arendtsville with a surplus of .95 of an inch. Rainfall deficiencies at the other 15 stations range from nine-tenths of an inch at Altoona to 4.78 inches at Montrose in Susquehanna County. Susquehanna is one of the seven counties designated as drought disaster areas.

Spring Pig Crop Is Smallest Since 1935

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania had a spring 1964 pig crop of 338,000. This was the smallest since the 1935 crop of 310,000, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. It was 20 per cent smaller than the 1963 spring crop of 425,000, and 19 per cent below the 1958-62 average of 417,000.

A total of 47,000 sows were farrowed. This compared with 59,000 in the spring of 1963 and the five year average of 58,000.

Pigs saved per litter was 7.2 — the same as a year earlier and average.

Intended fall farrowings of 42,000 sows and gilts, if carried out, would be the smallest of record.

Sow farrowings for the spring pig crop by months were: December, 5,000; January, 6,000; February, 9,000; March, 12,000; April, 9,000; and May, 6,000.

PENN MANOR MEETS

The Penn Manor Clashing Thimbles met on July 22 at 9:00 a.m. at Penn Manor Junior High School for a combined work and business meeting. The members decided to have a party. Their parents will be invited and members will wear the garments they have made.

Next meeting will be held on July 29 at the Junior High School.

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