

## Crop & Livestock Round-Up

### MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production on Pennsylvania farms during July was estimated at 570 million pounds or 5 million pounds below July 1963 according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The month's milk production was the third highest on record for July.

It was exceeded only in 1961 (580 million pounds) and again in 1963 (575 million pounds). Milk production for the first 7 months of 1964 totaled 4,317 million pounds or 57 million below the comparable period in 1963. Based on the July 1, 1962 Pennsylvania estimate, July milk production was at a level to provide 162 pounds or 75 quarts daily per person in the State.

The number of milk cows in the Commonwealth during July was estimated at 820,000 cows the same as in June but 26,000 fewer than in July 1963. Cow numbers have decreased rather sharply in the last couple of years. The number now estimated is the lowest since 1930. It appears that a

gradual fall build-up of herds has off-set the dispersal of herds this past month. It is expected that this picture will change somewhat when dairymen cull their herds rather rigorously before putting them on full winter feeding.

### EGG PRODUCTION

The number of eggs produced by the Commonwealth's laying flock during July totaled 256 million, down seasonably from June, but 2 per cent above July 1963 according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. This July production is the second lowest for the month in recent years, only last year's total (lowest in 10 years) was lower. Increased production over last year was caused by a larger number of layers and a higher rate of lay.

Hens and pullets of laying age in the State totaled 13.8 million a slight increase over the previous months' number of 13.7 million and just above the year ago figure. July rate of lay at 18.54 eggs per layer was down seasonal-

ly from June but almost 2 per cent higher than July 1963. The rate of lay declined from June because of the increased placement of pullets in the flock.

Prices received by farmers for eggs averaged 34 cents per dozen, a cent above the previous month and the same as a year ago. The egg-feed ratio was more favorable than a month ago because of higher egg prices, and higher than a year ago because of lower feed prices.

### WINTER GRAINS

Record and near record yields of winter wheat, rye, and barley were produced this year on Pennsylvania farms according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Winter wheat and rye surpassed last year's record yields by one-half and one bushel respectively while barley equalled the record set in 1961. Hot humid weather near the end of July interfered with harvesting of small grains. Temperatures throughout July were warmer than normal except during the second week.

### FRUIT CROP

Prospects for a large fruit crop in the Keystone State is forecast by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Harvesting of both sweet and sour cherries is about over while picking of early varieties of apples and peaches is under way. Normal rainfall for the remainder of the growing season will be needed for continued good growth and sizing of the fruit crop. The peach crop estimate for Pennsylvania is 3.1 million bushels, the same as the record set last year. (Continued on Page 12)

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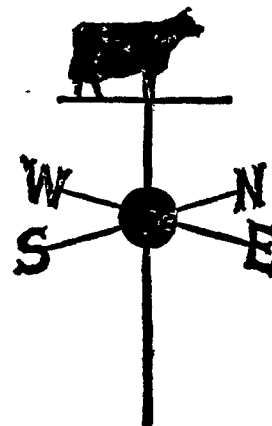
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