Crop & Livestock Roundup

OCT. EGG PRODUCTION 3 % ABOVE SEPT.

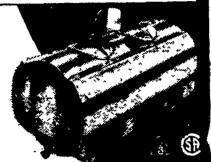
flock produced 260 million eggs during October. October

The Keystone State's laying production was up 3 per cent



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change is the smallest September to October increase in re- PA. FALL PLANTINGS cent years. The usual advance is about 6 per cent. In recent years this change has gradually became smaller. Production had some rain in early October with a strong rise going into during October 1963 was 2 per but succeeding weeks were dry summer.

month and a year ago.

the mid-month September and fall vegetables. price but a cent below the October 1963 mid-month price, LOW CORN PRODUCTION The egg-feed price ratio indi- THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR cates egg producers are in a more favorable position than

a year earlier.

type hatchings suggests an and produced good yields while increased egg supply for next late planted corn was hurt by year, and possibly a slightly both the dry growing season PA POTATO PRODUCTION lower price.

OFF TO A POOR START

cent less than this October. and soil moisture continued to age numbered 149 million dur- cept the northwest according BELOW LAST YEAR ing October, about 1 per cent to the Pennsylvania Crop Remore than both the previous porting Service. Fall seeded Rate of lay for October at til rain supplied the necessary 481 million pounds. The cur-17 45 eggs compares with 17.10 moisture. Some seed was in for September The October the soil a month before it low 1963 production and 9 per rate of lay was also slightly sprouted Most fall plantings cent below the 1958-62 average. higher than in October 1963. are up but lack of moisture is Prices received by farmers hampering growth. The cool not curing as fast as usual for eggs averaged 39 cents a dry weather favored harvest- and stands a risk of shed freezdozen in October, a cent above ing of corn, potatoes, apples, ing The month of October of-

Prospects for this year's the previous month or a year corn crop are below normal but Leaves on the late crop are better than the two preceding Production of egg-type chicks dry years. Production of corn in Pennsylvania from January for grain is forecast at 51.9 to September inclusive totaled million bushels, 20 per cent 24.7 million, 9 per cent less greater than last year but 6 than the comparable period per cent below the 1958-62 last year. The January through average production of 56.3 mil-September total for the Unit- lion bushels. Production dured States was 2 per cent above ing 1958 through 1961 ranged from 57 to 62 million bushels. The slight increase in egg. Early planted corn matured and September freezes.

Corn prices are finishing harvest above last year and are expected to stay higher than Most of the Commonwealth 1963-64 throughout the season,

Hens and pullets of laying be deficient in all areas ex- PA SEEDLEAF PRODUCTION

Production of Pennsylvania Seedleaf tobacco is forecast at rent estimate is 4 per cent be-

The later planted tobacco is fered too little warmth in combination with sufficient moisture to give late tobacco the best cure For proper cure. the seedleaf needs warm sunny days with some moisture. short but heavy.

Early tobacco cured down quite well. It has a nice chestnut brown color and is of good quality. Some growers were ready to start stripping the early crop shortly after November 1. A small percentage of the acreage was frozen and not harvested but damage by insects and disease was very light this year.

PROSPECTS DOWN 5 %

The combined late summer and fall potato production in the Keystone State is forecast at 70 million hundredweight, down 5 per cent from October 1 expectations. This places production 5 per cent below last year and 9 per cent below the 1958-62 average. The combined yield is estimated at 180 hundredweight per acre.

The fall crop is estimated at 64 million hundredweight based on an average yield of 180 hundredweight per acre. Variable weather across the State during October had significant effects on the progress of digging in the major fall producing areas, but by November 1, harvest in all areas was virtually completed. Growers in the east had little trouble with foul weather preventing digging and the crop was finished by October 20. Although yields in eastern counties are only fair, quality is very good and the potatoes are a lot drier than those in the west Many growers in western counties had excellent yields.

Digging of potatoes in the west was delayed by rain early in October. When the weather turned favorable growers hastened harvesting operations in anticipation of more foul weather. The quality of the western potatoes is better than originally reported. Because of the excess moisture in the west this year, growers fear some breakdown of potatoes in storage. The hollow heart found earlier in Erie County was not as serious as first expected and prices in that area are now in their normal relationship with the remainder of the State.

US Fall Production Below 1963

Fall potato production is estimated at 176.7 million hundredweight, 1 per cent less than forecast on October 1 and 10 per cent less than 1963 production. This is the smallest fall potato crop since 1960.

Total potato production for all seasonal groups is estimated at 2440 million hundredweight compared with 271.7 million in 1963 The 1964 crop is the smallest since 1957.

It is expected that potato prices will move up sharply this winter.

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