

## Crop Roundup

### CROP PROSPECTS IMPROVE

Crop prospects greatly improved in all areas during the week, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Rainfall the past week was below average but was sufficient to sustain growth promoted by adequate rainfall early in the month. Hay fields showed signs of new growth and pastures were turning green. Satisfactory growth of corn continued in most areas but cool nights have delayed the process. Harvest of small grains remained a major activity with good wheat yields being reported. Other activities were baling straw and hay plowing for all seedings, digging early potatoes, topping tobacco and harvesting fruits and vegetables.

### GRAINS

Harvest of small grains made good progress near the end of the week after being delayed by rains early in the period. Wheat harvest is well underway in northern counties and nearing completion in central counties. Reported yields are mostly above last year and above average. Oat harvest is virtually completed in the south and will begin shortly in the northern tier counties. Plowing activity for planting wheat and barley is increasing in the southern counties and beginning elsewhere. Buckwheat is in bloom in many areas. The corn crop, which was showing signs of drought damage in numerous areas, was greatly improved by rains of the past two weekends. However, the moisture came too late to aid many of the already stunted plantings. Statewide yields for grain will probably be below average.

### HAY AND PASTURES

In areas that received ample rainfall, hay fields showed signs of new growth and pastures were turning green. Second cutting of alfalfa advanced in the northern counties as

### Eric Stoner

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are picked on the basis of their over-all club work. Members of the group are given opportunities to represent the state at various 4-H functions all over the country, according to Winthrop Merriam, associate county agent.

Stoner was named one of three Keystone Award winners from Lancaster County for his project work in Conservation and Field Crops. Other county Keystone winners were Virginia Wivell, Columbia R1, in Home Economics and Food Preservation and Evelyn Groff, Gordonville R1, in Bread.

At press time announcement of names of state winners in each project category was still being awaited. These state winners are picked from among the Keystone winners.

# MH 30

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farmers in the south looked forward to the possibility of a third cutting. Pastures perked up but most continued to supply below normal amounts of feed.

### OTHER CROPS

Digging of early potatoes is in full swing. Size is mostly small but quality is excellent.

Set on later varieties is good and rainfall has improved outlook in eastern and southern counties. Tobacco topping is well under way in Lancaster County. Pea harvest is nearing completion in Potter County while snap bean harvest is just beginning. Tomato picking has increased in the south but cool weather has delayed ripening in Erie County. Harvest of sweet corn continues.

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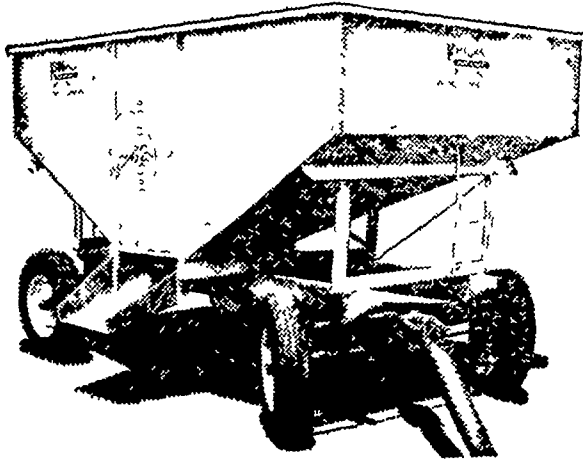
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