

SECOND SECTION

Biologist Cites Role Of Plant Disease Study In Man's Survival

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'65 Best Crop Season In Several Years

Rains beginning in August relieved late crops from early drought conditions, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Later maturing crops such as corn and later hay cuttings were involved. Yields in most areas turned out quite well for such a season, but conditions did not completely overcome the effects of the dry months. Early season crops such as winter wheat, barley and first cutting hay fared well benefiting from rains which, while not abundant, were timely.

ALL CLASSES OF PA. LIVESTOCK REDUCED

Numbers of all species of

farm livestock declined from January 1, 1965 to January 1, 1966. There were a total of 2,398,000 head of animals on Pennsylvania farms this January 1 — down about 4 percent from the 2,486,000 a year earlier. Cattle numbers were down 3 percent or 56,000; hog numbers down 7 percent or 23,000; and sheep numbers down 2 percent or 4,000 head; sheep numbers at all-time low. Total inventory value was up 5 percent, however, to \$365,931,000 reflecting higher prices for all species.

CATTLE: Cattle and calves kept for milk declined almost 5 percent. This was partially offset by an increase in other cattle, beef type and bulls, of about 2 percent. Most of the decrease was in the number of cows and heifers two years old and over kept for milk. Most other classes made smaller declines. The number of bulls held steady and only steers showed an increase.

HOGS: Hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms January 1, 1966 numbered 370,000, the smallest January 1 number of record. This was 7 percent less than a year earlier and 26 percent below the (1960-64) average of 503,000. Inventory value of all hogs and pigs on hand was \$15,207,000, up 44 percent from a year earlier and 16 percent above the 5-year average. This was due mostly to the all time high value per head of \$41.10.

POULTRY: The number of chickens on farms January 1, 1966 (excluding broilers) totaled 16,907,000, a 6 percent decline from 1965. This was the ninth consecutive year of declining numbers and the lowest since 1935. Among the States, Pennsylvania ranks third in total numbers. Of the total chickens on farms January 1, 42 percent were hens, 53 percent pullets, and 5 percent other chickens.

U.S. CATTLE NUMBERS OFF ONE PERCENT

The January 1, 1966 inventory of cattle and calves on farms and ranches in the United States was 106,557,000 head. Dairy stock numbers (milk cows and replacement heifers) continued to decline and were 6 percent below a year earlier. This reduction was partially offset by a 1 percent increase in the number of other cattle, mostly for beef. January 1, 1966 marked the end of seven years of record inventory highs for all cattle.

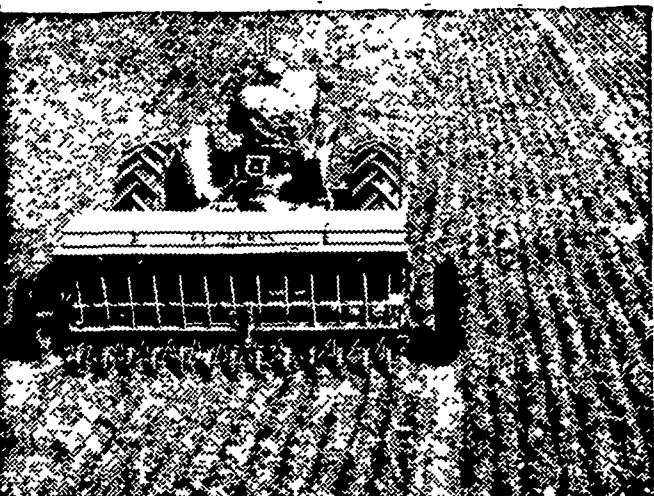
HOGS: The number of hogs and pigs on farms and ranches in the U.S. on January 1, 1966 totaled 4 percent less than a year earlier. Inventory numbers of hogs decreased from a year earlier in all regions except the South Atlantic which was up 2 percent and the South Central up 1 percent. In the Corn Belt (12 North Central States) January 1 numbers were down 5 percent from a year earlier. Iowa, the leading hog producing State, had 2 percent fewer hogs on farms. Hog numbers were down 7 percent in the North Atlantic States and 4 percent in the West.

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