

Farm Irrigation Doubled In '66 Drought Year

HARRISBURG—Eight billion gallons of water were poured on Pennsylvania farmland from irrigation systems in 1966—the state's fifth consecutive drought year—according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

But, the service noted, it was "only a drop in the bucket." Rainfall in Pennsylvania during a normal year is estimated at 32 trillion gallons—about 4,000 times the amount of water applied to fields last year by irrigation systems.

The use of water on agri-

cultural land is included in a preliminary report of an irrigation survey being completed by the Crop Reporting Service. It discloses that an estimated 45,103 acres of cropland were watered during last summer's dry spell, almost double the acreage irrigated two years earlier.

Heaviest use of water was on more than 9,000 acres of vegetable crops and about 7,000 acres of fruits and berries. More than 6,000 acres of potatoes—about 17 percent of the state total—were irrigated.

PCRS also reported that 6,000 acres of field corn were irrigated, but pointed out that this represented less than one percent of the harvested acreage.

Irrigation systems were em-

Area Oliver Dealers See Equip. Preview

Two Lancaster County Oliver farm equipment dealers and their representatives attended Oliver Corporation's Growing "O" field demonstrations this

week at Hershey Farms, Hershey.

Nelson Hershey, president of N. G. Hershey & Son, Inc. Manheim, attended with Galen Hosler and Ammon Shelley. Also attending was Ivan Nott, president of Farmersville Equipment Co., Inc. of Ephrata R2, with Bud Buch, Charles Hackman and Phares Musser.

The farm equipment men saw a wide range of new products for the coming fall, winter, and spring seasons introduced and many of them were demonstrated under actual field operating conditions, often in competition with similar-sized models made by other manufacturers.

Dealers from throughout

several states in the area witnessed Oliver president Sam White, Jr., and his top management team from the Chicago headquarters of the firm and contractors equipment subsidiary of White Motor Corporation present the new products. These will be ready for distribution to dealers and customers later this year. On Tuesday, Farmers Day, dealers within driving range attended with their invited local farm guests to view the new machinery in action.

The two-day field event was one of eleven such demonstrations being presented in principal agricultural areas across the county during July, August, and September.

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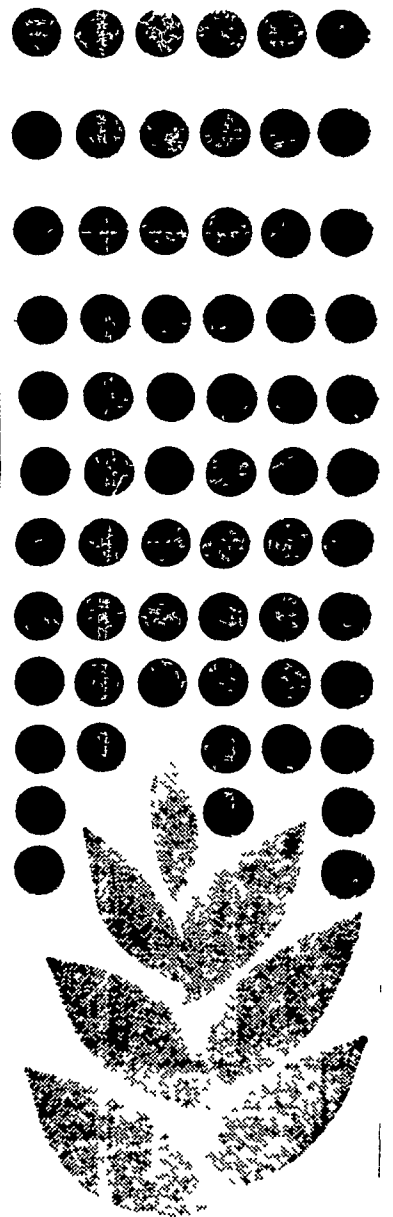
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