

National Crop Prospects

U.S. crop prospects on July 1 were generally good to excellent except in parts of the Gulf States and northern Great Plains. However, crop progress in the important North Central States was moderately behind normal because cold wet weather delayed start of spring planting. An unusually cool June delayed plant growth. Total crop acreage planted for 1969 harvest was down 6.8 million or 2 percent less than last year. Feed grain production is expected to be below last year. Indicated production of winter wheat declined 1 percent during June and total food grain output is expected to be 9 percent below last year.

Production of noncitrus fruits is expected to be 11 percent larger than last year. Citrus fruit production is above a year earlier because orange production is up 47 percent, and grapefruit up 25 percent. Output of summer vegetables for fresh market is 6 percent below 1968. Indicated acreage of vegetable crops planted for processing is 15 percent less than last year. Production of summer potatoes is forecast slightly below last year, but indicated production of sweetpotatoes is up slightly. Fall potato acreage is up 4 percent. June milk production, down 1 percent from a year earlier, was the smallest June production since 1934. Egg production, however, was up slightly from last year.

CORN PRODUCTION 2% BELOW 1968

Production of corn for grain in 1969 is expected to total 4.3 billion bushels, 2 percent less than last year, and 10 percent below the 1967 record crop. The decrease from last year results from 2 percent fewer acres for harvest as grain, and a slight drop in yield. The indicated yield per acre of 78.3 bushels is only 0.2 bushel below the 1968 yield and 0.3 bushel below the 1967 record yield of 78.6 bushels. Changes in production forecasts between July 1 and harvest have averaged 211 million bushels for the past 8 years, ranging from 77 to 423 million bushels. Growers expect to harvest 54.8 million acres for grain, 2 percent less than last year and 10 percent below 1967.

WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION BELOW YEAR EARLIER

A winter wheat crop of 1.152

million bushels is now forecast, 6 percent below last year's crop, and 1 percent below a month earlier. Yield prospects improved in the Central and Southern Plains and Oregon but declined in Illinois and several western States. Harvested acreage was lower than earlier estimated levels, accounting for the lower production forecast. U.S. yield per acre is indicated at a record 31.5 bushels compared with 28.9 last year and 26.6 two years ago. Acreage for harvest as grain is expected to total 36.6 million acres, 14 percent below last year and the lowest since 1963.

OATS PRODUCTION INCREASES

Production of oats in 1969 is estimated at 931 million bushels up slightly from 1968 and 18 percent above 1967. Yield per acre harvested is expected to be 50.7 bushels compared to the 1968 record yield of 53.5 bushels. Changes in the production forecast of oats between July 1 and harvest have averaged 36 million bushels for the past decade — ranging from negligible to 96 million bushels.

Conservation Corner



“— and people think I smell”

Dog Training Season Will Open August 1

Sportsmen are reminded that Pennsylvania's dog training season will open on August 1.

Dogs may be trained from sunrise to 10 p.m. EDT from August 1 through October 25, and from sunrise to 9 p.m. EST from October 26 through March 31.

Raccoon dogs may be trained until 1 a.m. EDT from August 1 through October 25, and until midnight EST from October 26 through March 31.

To train dogs legally on Sunday the consent of the owner of the land where such training is done must first be secured except in the case of state and national forest lands.

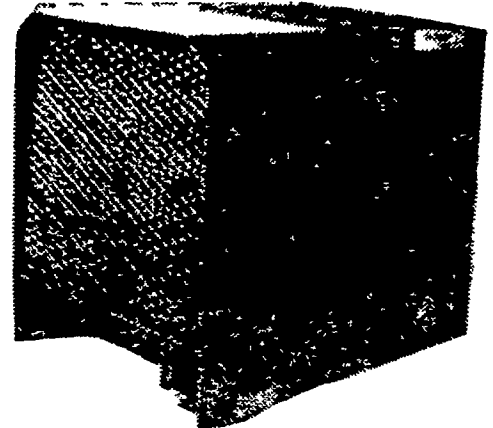
Trainers are reminded that the carrying of a rifle or shotgun while training dogs is prohibited.

The Game Commission urges that owners of dogs show the same courtesies that apply during the hunting seasons, such as asking permission from landowners to train dogs on their properties.

A friend of ours is a proof-reader—he checks the small print on whiskey bottles before he makes purchase.

AUTOMATE EXISTING CAGES

With The Big Dutchman Low-Cost Approach To Cage Automation



FEED HAS BEEN REMOVED TO EXPOSE BIG DUTCHMAN CHAIN IN FEED TROUGH

- FITS ANY SIZE OPERATION
- SAVES WORK AND TIME
- BIG DUTCHMAN QUALITY THROUGHOUT
- BIRDS EAT BETTER—PRODUCE BETTER

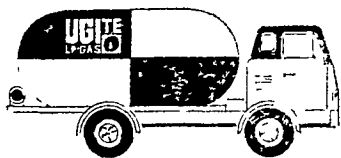
BIG DUTCHMAN

A Division of U.S. Industries, Inc.

Diller Ave., New Holland, Pa.

354-5168

Ugite sells gas



For the best in gas service, call Ugite and get all the pleasure and convenience of gas cooking, clothes drying, water heating, barbecuing and home heating.

If it's gas, it's best if it's from



Rt. 222, Ephrata
Ph: 733-2207