Experts feeted by weather. Fall strongly for existing supplies of raw product but it is not believed they will be able to

(Continued From Page 30) but, because of weather conditions resulting in late planting or poor growth, the harvested tonnage was up only 6 percent. Production of principal vegetables as a group was about equal to 1972.

Potatoes were also af-

average 9 cwt-acre less, will be only 2 percent greater.

Relatively short supplies coupled with strong con-

yields are expected to replenish stocks of most items in their warehouses therefore total production out of this year's crops. If demand remains strong during the winter and spring, and indications are that it will, processor demand will sumer demand have left be strong again next year. stocks of processed fruits Supply will again be the and vegetables quite low. predominant determinant of Processors are bidding next year's prices and

weather will play a key role in its determination. A great expansion of acreage would appear risky since producers may not be able to count on weather conditions to control next year's production.

Production decisions affecting next year's supply of tree fruits, berries, and grapes have long since been made. Strong consumer demand and moderate supplies of fruits have led to

relatively high prices for the past two years. It is becoming increasingly evident that our production capacity for apples, sweet and sour cherries, and perhaps even grapes is such that if all areas of the country produce crops equal to those of their better yield years, seriously depressed farm-level prices will

probably result. However, there is room for a large fruit crop because processors would like to rebuild stocks. Agriculture 1974

For agriculture, 1974 looks like another good year in view of the strong domestic and foreign economies. However, a cautionary note needs to be sounded concerning all-out production in future years. The foreign economies, which are currently enjoying rapid growth, are fighting an inflationary battle of their own. Although foreign economies have historically turned down somewhat later than the U.S. economy, the current inflationary trends may bring the slowdown sooner.

Pa. Broiler **Placements** Up 12 pct.

Placements of broiler chicks in the Commonwealth during the week ending January 26, 1974 were 1,300,000. The placements were 12 percent above the same week a year earlier, and 19 percent above the previous week. Average placements during the past 10 weeks were 5 percent above a year earlier.

Settings for broiler chicks were 1,766,000 - 4 percent below the previous week and 2 percent below the comparable period a year earlier. The current 3-week total of eggs set is 3 percent below the same period a year

Inshipments of broilertype chicks during the past 10 weeks were zero compared with 8,000 a year ago. Outshipments averaged 281,000 during the past 10 weeks, 36 percent above a year earlier.

Placements in the 21 States were 59,820,000 - about the same as the previous week but 4 percent above the same week a year earlier. Average placements during the past 10 weeks were 3 percent above a year ago.

Settings were 71,030,000 - 2 percent below the previous week and about the same as a year earlier. The current 3week total of eggs set is 3 percent above the comparable period a year ago.

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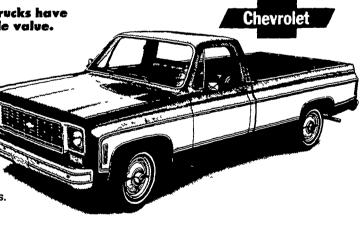
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