

Crop Harvested

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pronounced this year is an attempt by farmers to store grain on the farm in anticipation of better prices. He said he's aware of a lot of farmers who're storing everything they can.

Newton Bair, assistant county agent in Lebanon County, said they've had an excellent harvest, too, and termed wheat a bumper crop this year. "Most of our local elevators are full now," Bair noted, "and a lot of farmers are trying to store on the farm."

Robert Hood, a partner in Chester County's White Horse Grain Co., told us that the wheat in his area was just about cleaned up. "Yields have been average or better," he said, "with excellent quality. We have had a bad problem with garlic, though. About 20 percent of the wheat we've received had to go into feed."

Hood added that the garlic

problem was worse this year than ever before, because the exporters are refusing to buy any garlicky wheat, and the mills in the area don't want it either. He added that a Congressman from Virginia was looking into the reasons behind a market that was paying \$3.85 for number one wheat, but only \$2 for feed wheat.

John Hooper, a Lancaster County grain dealer from Gordonville, echoed Wood's comments about garlic and the export market. "It's a major problem for exporters this year," he said. "They just won't accept it."

"Other than that," Hooper said, "the crop looks excellent. I'd say yields are up by a third over last year, and with the increased acreage here in the county, we're getting maybe 40 percent more wheat here. It's the best wheat we've seen in a long time."

Hooper said they had been paying about \$3.85 for wheat, but it's down to \$3.50 now, mostly because the exporters stopped buying on Tuesday. He added that they've been able to unload trucks coming into the plant

about as fast as they arrive. There are reportedly some places where drivers have to wait up to eight hours to unload.

One of the biggest wheat farmers in the area, Joel Coleman, said this was the best wheat year he'd ever had. Coleman is general manager of Chester County's Georgia Farms, and planted 140 acres of wheat this year. "We've had some fields with up to 65 bushels. We have a lot of different soils, so some of our yields may have been down around 40 bushels, but I'd say we're averaging over-all around 50."

Coleman said they'd had no problems at all with garlic, getting their wheat out of the field, or to the elevator. They own their own combine and grain truck.

"We started out getting \$3.80 for the crop, it dropped to \$3.65 and then overnight it went down to \$3.00. We're not selling right now, we're storing grain at White Horse.

Pa. Broiler Placements Down 7 pct.

Placements of broiler chicks in the Commonwealth during the week ending July 13, 1974 were 1,225,000. The placements were 7 percent below the corresponding week a year earlier, and 2 percent below the previous week. Average placements during the past 10 weeks were approximately the same as a year earlier.

Settings for broiler chicks were 1,663,000 - 10 percent below the previous week and 19 percent below the comparable period a year earlier. The current 3-week

We've got 1500 bushels in storage right now, and we're going to keep it there until the price goes up."

Summing up the wheat harvest, it appears that yields have soared this year, and the farmer who can sell at a good price, or hold onto his crop until the price gets to where he wants it, is going to have a good season.

total of eggs set is 5 percent below the same period a year ago.

Inshipments of broiler-type chicks during the past

10 weeks averaged 1,000 compared with zero a year ago. Outshipments averaged 289,000 during the past 10 weeks, 9 percent below a year earlier.



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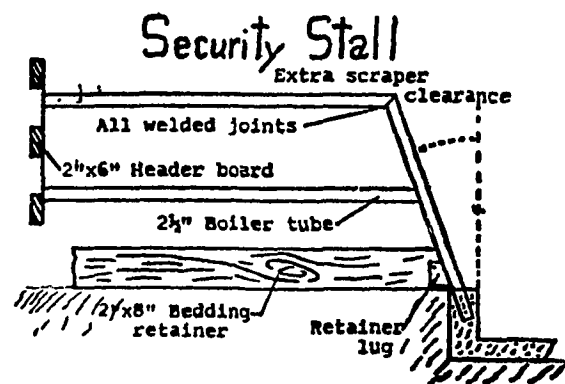
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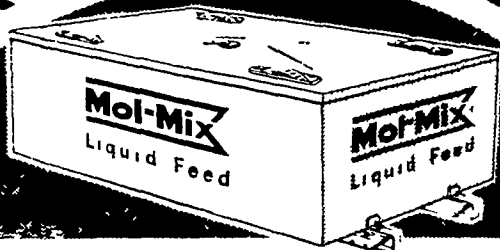
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