

Crop stocks listed

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania's 1976 winter wheat crop is forecast at 10.4 million bushels based on conditions May 1, according to the Crop Reporting Service. This is nine per cent below the 1975 crop.

The reduction is due to the intended 315,000 acres for harvest as grain, down nine per cent.

For the U.S., production is forecast at 1.5 billion bushels, 12 per cent below last year's record crop.

Hay stocks on Pennsylvania farms May 1 at 924,000 tons were 43 per cent below the relatively low level of a year ago. U.S. hay stocks of 25.6 million tons were 38 per cent above a year ago.

U.S. winter potato production for 1976 as estimated at three million hundredweight (cwt) is up five per cent from 1975. The Spring potato production is expected to be up 19 per cent to 23.9 million cwt.

Peach production in the nine southern states is forecast at 566.6 million pounds, 38 per cent above last year.

Farmers exempted from water, sewer assessment

HARRISBURG - Passage of legislation to exempt farmers from immediate payment of assessments for construction of water and sewer lines was termed by the Pennsylvania State Grange Thursday as an important step toward preservation of agricultural land in Pennsylvania.

The legislation (House Bill 217) cleared the General Assembly earlier this week and was sent to Governor Milton J. Shapp.

The State Grange was one of the prime supporters of the measure when it was introduced in the House of Representatives in February 1975. It was passed by the House last July and an amended version was adopted by the Senate this month. The House concurred

Wednesday (May 12) with the Senate amendments.

J. Luther Snyder, master of the State Grange, said "passage of this legislation eases the threat of financial disaster that faces farmers when sewer or water lines are constructed along roads adjacent to their properties."

"In the past we have seen assessments for such work that ranged upward from \$10,000, with some in excess of \$20,000 for individual farmers. In such cases, farmers frequently were forced to sell land to pay these charges."

The new legislation, Snyder pointed out, does not exempt farmers from liability for these assessments, but does defer payment as long as the land remains in agricultural use.

In its final form, HB 217 provides that the exemption applies to land that has been certified by the State Agriculture Secretary as "having been used primarily for agricultural purposes for at least three years immediately preceding the installation of water or sewer lines in a right-of-way fronting on or crossing such land."

It applies to farms of not less than 10 acres, or with anticipated annual gross income of \$2,000 or more.

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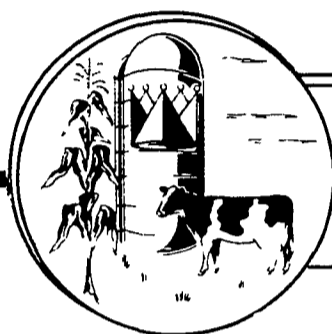
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NUTRIENT VALUE OF ONE ACRE ALFALFA HAY TESTING 18% CRUDE PROTEIN AND YIELDING 6 TONS PER ACRE = \$579.46

NUTRIENT VALUE OF 5 TON LOAD OF HAYLAGE TESTING 12% CRUDE PROTEIN = \$103.05

NUTRIENT VALUE OF 5 TON LOAD OF HAYLAGE TESTING 18% CRUDE PROTEIN = \$169.32

The above examples show approximate loss of actual nutrient feeding values including...digestible protein, energy, vitamins, and minerals based on soybean meal at \$200.00 per ton and shelled corn at \$1.40 per bushel. Crude protein values are based on 10% dry matter.

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Extension slates program

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - College Days 1976, an adult education program of the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland, is scheduled for June 9-10 on the College Park Campus.

The focus for the two-day conference is Living With Change - With A Choice. Dr. A. June Bricker, Department Head and State Leader, Extension Home Economics, says, "College Days will help participants recognize that the new freedoms for all people bring opportunities for enlightened choices, while retaining responsibilities for decisions in the context of self, family and community."

The Rt. Reverend John T. Walker, Suffragan Bishop of Washington, D.C., will be the keynote speaker at 10:30 a.m. on June 9.

The closing address will be given by Hiltgunt Zassenhaus, M.D., a Baltimore physician. She is the author of Walls and was a Nobel Peace Prize nominee in 1974.

Classes will include public speaking, effective leadership with small groups, roles and responsibilities of parents, quality crafts, health education, women's legal rights, coping with inflation, fitness for health, women and political effectiveness, volunteerism, death education, and ageism.

A Bicentennial program of fashion and music will be presented on June 9 at 7:30 p.m.

The conference is open to all Maryland residents. Participants may elect to stay overnight on campus in one of the dormitories, cost with meals \$35.00. Those attending by the day will pay a \$7.00-a day registration fee. Shuttle buses will be available for transportation between classroom buildings and dormitory. An interpreter for the deaf will be provided for plenary sessions and a limited number of classes.

For additional information or registration blanks, contact Maryland Extension home economists or Dr. A. June Bricker, Tel: 301-454-3604, College Park.