

Pa. farm labor force down

HARRISBURG - Pennsylvania's farm labor force during the survey week of January 8 to 14, 1978 was estimated at 100,000, seven per cent less than the 107,000 farm workers in the comparable survey week in 1977, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Farm family workers totaled 78,000 compared to 76,000 a year earlier, a three per cent increase. Hired farm workers were estimated at 22,000 down, 29 per cent from the 31,000 hired in January 1977. Field and livestock workers comprised 15,000 of the total hired workers this January. Last year the field and livestock workers accounted for 23,000 of the 31,000 workers.

Field workers decreased 18,000 from October 1977 to 5,000 while livestock workers increased by 3,000 during the three month period to 10,000.

The average workweek for Pennsylvania farm operators during the survey week was 34.2 hours, 12.2 hours less than last October and 6.1 hours less than January 1977. Other unpaid family workers averaged 30.0 hours and hired workers averaged 42.0 hours during the survey week.

Pennsylvania farm wage rates for all methods of pay converted to an hourly rate averaged \$2.94 during the survey week. The average was \$2.94 a year ago. Field and livestock workers averaged \$2.63 per hour, down five cents from the previous January.

The U.S. farm labor force during the survey week was estimated at 2,999,500, down 230,000 from the 3,299,700 farm workers last January. Farm family workers totaled 2,235,200 compared to 2,412,400 in the previous January survey period. Hired farm workers in the U.S. totaled 764,300, down 53,000 over last year.

The average workweek for U.S. farm operators during the survey week was 27.6 hours, up one hour per week from January 1977. Other

unpaid family workers average 31.7 hours and hired workers averaged 34.6 hours during the week.

Farm wages for all methods of pay converted to an hourly rate averaged \$3.18 during the week of January 8-14, 1978. The

average was \$2.96 per hour a year ago. Hourly workers receiving only cash wages averaged \$3.18 per hour compared to \$2.86 a year earlier. Field and livestock workers averaged \$2.90 per hour, up 22 cents from the previous January figure of \$2.68.

Potatoes down

HARRISBURG - Potatoes held in storage by Pennsylvania growers, local dealers and processors on February 1 are estimated at 2,400,000 cwt., according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The stocks are 17 per cent less than the February 1, 1977 figure. Stocks on hand represent 38 per cent of the state's revised Fall potato production estimate, compared to last year when February 1 stocks amounted to 41 per cent of fall 1976 production.

Pennsylvania Fall potato

production is now estimated at 6,375,000 cwt., 11 per cent below 1976. Potato growers harvested 25,500 acres with an average yield of 250 cwt. per acre.

Stocks of potatoes for all uses held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors in the U.S. fall production areas totaled 149.3 million cwt. on February 1. This is four per cent above a year earlier and 13 per cent more than 1976.

Stocks in the eight eastern states on February 1 totaled 23.8 million cwt., up 14 per cent from a year ago.

Market milk course offered

UNIVERSITY PARK - Various milk marketing companies are appointing "taste panels" or "scoring bees" to periodically compare their milk products with those of their competition. The key persons on the panel provide a quality control which gives them more insight into some of the problems with which the company has to deal in a competitive market and also makes plant personnel more quality conscious.

Manfred Kroger, associate professor of Food Service at Penn State, points out other techniques available to progressive plant managers in a Penn State

Correspondence Course on Market Milk.

Market Milk also covers commercial handling and processing of milk from the farm to the consumer from the viewpoint of the milk processor or dealer. Lessons include information on the sanitary aspects of production, transportation, receiving station, processing plant methods, pasteurization, special products, and a brief look at distribution.

To order this course, one should write MILK, Box 5000, University Park, Pa., 16802. Make one's check for \$8.00 payable to Penn State.

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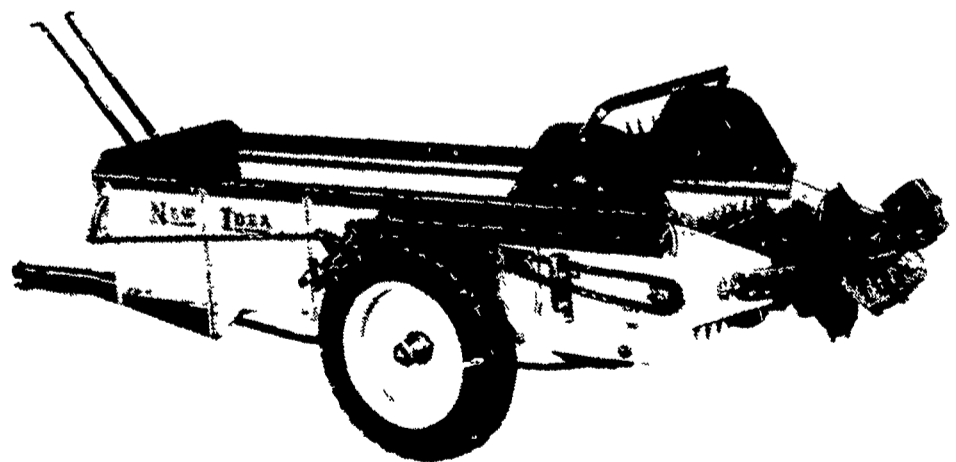


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Robert Hay	Gettysburg, Pa	334-1588
Melvin Starner	New Oxford, Pa	624-8683
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Albright's Mill	Kempton, Pa	756-4421
Jim Batz	Richland, Pa	933-8168
F M Brown's & Sons, Inc	Sinking Springs, Pa	678-4567
Harvey Brubzcker	Richland, Pa	866 6635
Ernest Miller	Hamburg, Pa	562 8254
Ira Nissley	Morgantown, Pa	286 9328
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(Bucks County)		
I G's Ag Sales	Silverdale, Pa	257 5135
Dick Schmalz	Doylestown, Pa	794 7259
(Chester County)		
Nevin Myer	Chester Springs, Pa	827-7414
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Norwood Wilson	Oxford, Pa	932 8285
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Ronald Deitch	Carlisle, Pa	249-3898
Eugene Henry	Newville, Pa	776-5308
Knisely's Agricultural Center	Carlisle, Pa	243 2233
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John Alwine	Middletown, Pa	944-6270
M G Henninger & Sons	Berrysburg, Pa	362-8188
(Franklin County)		
Sam Campbell	Dry Run, Pa	349-2549
Paul Martin	Chambersburg, Pa	264-4269
Mercersburg Elevator	Mercersburg, Pa	328-2411
John Mummau	Shippensburg, Pa	532-8022
Albert Zeger	Greencastle, Pa	597-3494
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(Lebanon County)		
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Stanley Fox	Palm, Pa	679-9682
John Johnson & Sons	Orefield, Pa	395-1823 or 395-2927
Marsteller Grain, Inc	Trexlerstown, Pa	395-2462
Phillips Feed Service, Inc	Germansville, Pa	767-3819
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Emery Jarrett	Linden, Pa	398-0408
Wayne Vandine	Muncy, Pa	546-2564
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Fulmer Brothers	Nazareth, Pa	759-3504 or 759-4365
Phillips Feed Service, Inc.	Bath, Pa	837-6061
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Roy Adams	Sunbury, Pa	286-9698
Clifford Herb	Pitman, Pa	684-3092
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(Schuylkill County)		
Kiefer's Mill	Hegins, Pa	682-3672
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Bahn's Mill Inc	Windsor, Pa	244-5928
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Vance Fisher	Etters, Pa	938-2762
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Harold Good	Arrville, Pa	927-6147
Jacobs & Stambaugh	Dover, Pa	292-2564
Charles Keeney	York, Pa	741-1426
Sterling Keeney	York, Pa	755-1173
Luckenbaugh Farms, Inc	Spring Grove, Pa	225-3179
Robert Morris	Fawn Grove, Pa	382-4592
Vernon Stieling	New Freedom, Pa	235-4041
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