

Pennsylvania 1978 crop production results told

HARRISBURG - Production of the four small grains during 1978 declined to 32,492,000 bushels. This is down 5 per cent from the 1977 production level of 34,082,000, and 1 per cent from the 1976 total. Production value of the four small grains total \$64.7 million, up five per cent from last year.

The Keystone state witnessed a record high corn crop in 1978, six per cent over last year's crop. Production totaled 113 million bushels from 1.2 million acres harvested. Yield was estimated at 95 bushels per acre, up three bushels from the preceding year. Crop value equals \$254.4 million.

Corn for silage is down four per cent in production. With acreage harvested at 410,000 acres, yield at 15.5 tons, resulting production amounts to 6,355,000 tons.

Tobacco production declined to 25.2 million pounds from last year's 26.2 million pound crop. Yield remains the same at 1,940 pounds per acre; and acreage harvested, reduced by 500 acres from a year ago, totals 13,000 acres.

Soybeans for beans yield is two per cent higher this year (31.5 bu.), but not enough to offset the seven per cent decrease in acreage harvested to 62,000 acres. Hence, production declined six per cent to 1,953,000 bushels. Total crop value is \$12.1 million, with a unit price of \$6.20 per bushel.

All hay showed increases from last year in area harvested by one per cent at 1.94 million acres, in yield by 10 per cent at 2.23 tons per acre, and in total production by 11 per cent at 4.32 million tons. On the other hand all hay showed decrease from a year ago in unit price by 16 per cent at \$63.00 per ton and in crop value by seven per cent to \$272.3 million.

Production of alfalfa hay totals 2.4 million tons from 840,000 acres while production of all other hay totals 2.0 million tons harvested from 1.1 million acres. Pennsylvania farmers harvested 41 per cent more acres of Red Clover Seed (12,000 ac.) this year. The 1978 crop of 900,000 pounds is a 51 per cent increase over the 595,000 pounds produced last year. Yield increased seven per cent to 75 pounds per acre. Total value of production is \$630,000 compared with \$440,000 last year.

Mushroom production totaled 220 million pounds for the crop year ending June 30, 1978 11 per cent above the previous years crop. Owing to a unit price increase by 3.3 cents per pound, total crop value of 159 million dollars reflects a 16 per cent increase over last year's value.

Apple production in 1978 totaled 400 million pounds, 13 per cent less than production a year ago. With a 12 per cent lower unit price from last year at eight cents per

pound, value of production at 32 million dollars represents a 24 per cent decrease in total value. Total production of all pears for 1978 is 3,300 tons, 30 per cent below last year's crop and 11 per cent less than the 1976 crop. At a unit price of \$286 per ton, value of utilized production totals \$944,000.

Tart cherry production (6.2 million pounds) decreased three per cent from the previous year. A record unit price of 41.7 cents per pound, a record high value of the tart cherry crop at 2.6 million dollars. A similar trend appears for sweet cherry crop with a record high value of \$627,000 resulting from a record high unit price of \$836 per ton. Production totaled 750 tons.

Pennsylvania's peach crop totaled 85 million pounds for 1978. This was an 11 per cent decrease in production, but the record \$13.4 million crop value tops last year's crop value by 10 per cent.

Total production of grapes for 1978 is 57,500 tons. At a unit price of \$232 per ton, crop value is a record high \$13.3 million, 95 per cent greater than the previous year and 35 per cent greater than the crop value of 1976.

Planted acreage (1978) for strawberries totals 960 acres, harvested acreage totals 900 acres and yield, at 31 cwt. per acre, decreased by 14 per cent from the previous year. The reduced acreage harvested along with a lower yield produced a 30 per cent

smaller crop than last year. The 1978 production was 28,000 cwt. at a total crop value of \$1.8 million.

Maple syrup production totaled 42,000 gallons at a

total value of \$546,000. When compared with 1977, production decreased by 11 per cent, and value of production decreased by three per cent.

N.Y. meat packer to stop violations

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Hayes Packing Corp. of Binghamton, N.Y. has been ordered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to stop violating financial, payment, and trust account requirements of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

The packing firm formerly purchased livestock for slaughter in New York state and northern Pennsylvania. It is not operating now.

The firm consented to the order and waived oral hearing without admitting or denying the charges filed by the department.

Packers are required under the P&S Act to maintain a solvent financial condition and to pay promptly for livestock, unless credit has been arranged in advance.

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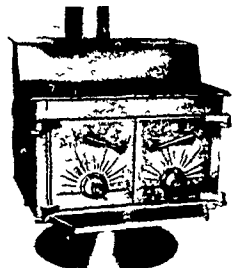
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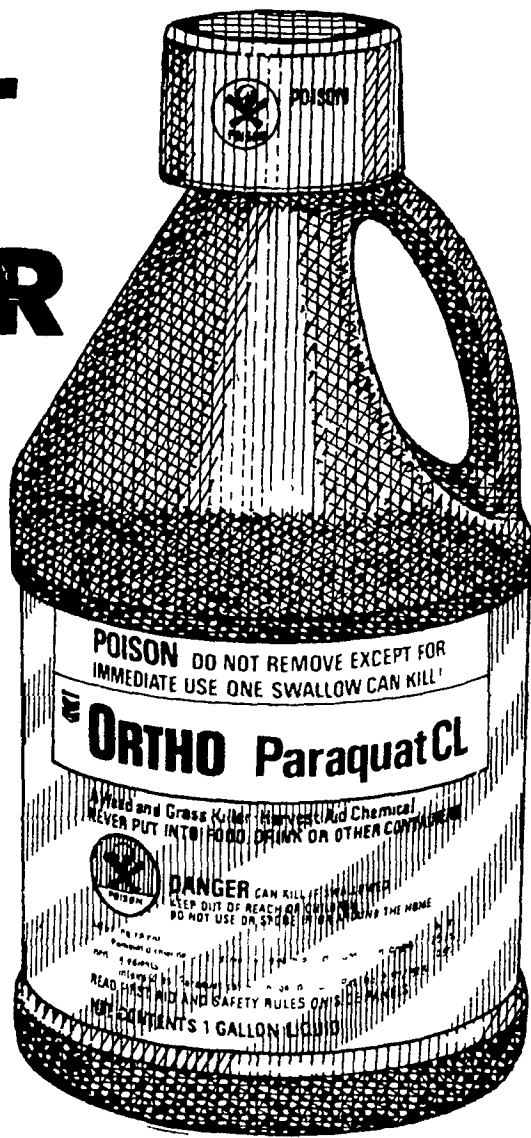
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