Excellent field conditions reported

HARRISBURG - Pennsylvania farmers were busily making hay as excellent weather continued through most of the week ending June 24. All areas reported at least six days suitable for farm fieldwork.

A majority of time was spent in hayfields. but other activities on the farm include filling silos, planting soybeans, combining barley, cultivating and spraying. Harvesting was concluded in strawberry and sweet pea crops, while continuing in sweet cherries and pod peas.

Tight supplies of gasoline were reported by 51 per cent of the respondents, 79 per cent more than last week. Ten per cent of the farmers reported deficit supplies of gasoline. Deisel supplies are also decreasing with 48 per cent indicating tight supplies, up 19 per cent from the previous week. Twenty per cent of the farm respondents reported tight supplies of LP gas, with a few reports of

Reports from across the state indicate a wide range of corn heights. On the average, corn is 10 inches tail in the north, 13 inches in central counties and 18 inches tall in the south, with an average of 13 inches statewide. Corn height is four days ahead of 1978.

Soybean planning is virtually complete, with only a small amount to be planted. par with last year. Tobacco is 90 per cent planted with all reports indicating good

To date, five per cent of the barley crop has been harvested, mostly in southern areas. Forty-one per cent is ripe in the south. 13 per cent in central counties and five per cent in the north, for a statewide average of 20 per cent.

Wheat is five days ahead of last year, at 36 per cent turning. Sixteen per cent is turning in the north, 38 per cent in the central region and 54 per cent in the south. The south is also showing a small percentage of wheat

This puts the 1979 crop on a ahead with 45 per cent headed. In the north, 31 per cent of the oats are headed, while central and southern areas show 55 and 54 per cent headed, respectively. The south reports five per cent turning yellow.

First cutting of alfalfa is now four-fifths completed with a few reports of second cutting hay being made. Clover-timothy hay is twothirds complete. Hay quality is reported as two-thirds good and one-third fair. Pastures are providing an average amount of feed in most locales.

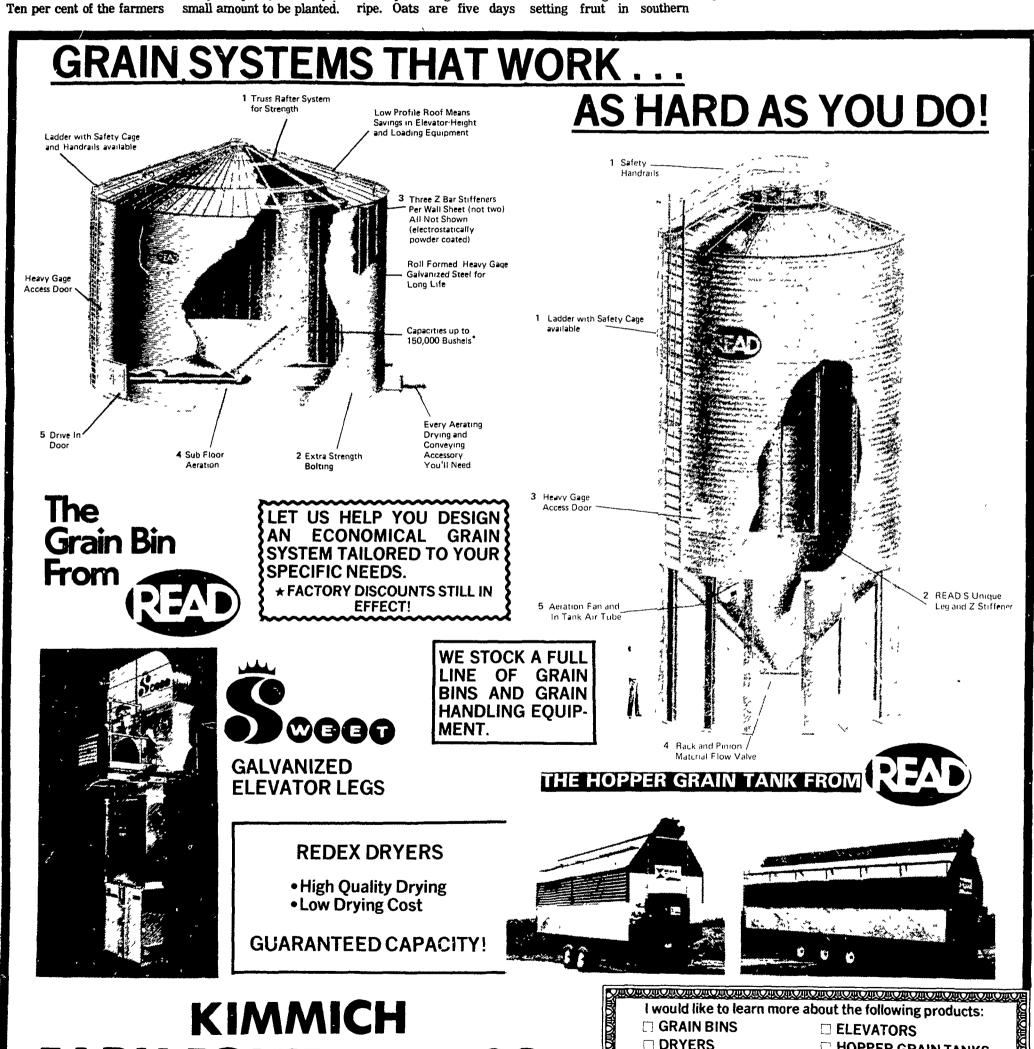
Vegetable crops are growing well, with sweet corn tasseling and tomatoes setting fruit in southern

areas. Potatoes are in blossom with scattered reports of Colorado potato beetle and potato leaf hopper problems.

Sweet cherries and black cherries are being harvested with some bud damage reported. Grapes are beginning to develop and apples are sizing well with only a few reports of apple scab and fire blight.

Nearly one fourth of the respondents reported soil moisture supplies as short, with the remainder reporting adequate conditions.





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