

The grain harvest

Third biggest in wheat

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The country's lowest wheat acreage since 1973 is expected to yield the biggest crop since 1976, says the United States Department of Agriculture. If it holds true, it will be the third biggest wheat harvest in the nation's history. USDA predicts that 2.10 billion bushels of wheat will be harvested this year from 62.25 million acres. The all-time record harvest in 1976 yielded 2.14 billion bushels. The yield per acre is also seen as being near record-high: 33.8 bushels. A year ago that figure stood at 31.6 bushels. The record was set in 1971 with 33.9 bushels per acre.

Of the total crop expected to be harvested, the Winter wheat output is pegged at 1.56 billion bushels, which is a 25 per cent increase over last year.

Second biggest in corn

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Corn for grain production is seen at 6.66 billion bushels this year, says the United States Department of Agriculture. By comparison, corn



for grain last year measured 7.1 billion bushels. Nonetheless, the forecasters predict that the United States will have its second biggest corn crop of all time.

Nationwide, the yield per acre is expected to be 95.8 bushels, which is down significantly from last year's record 101.2 bushels per acre.

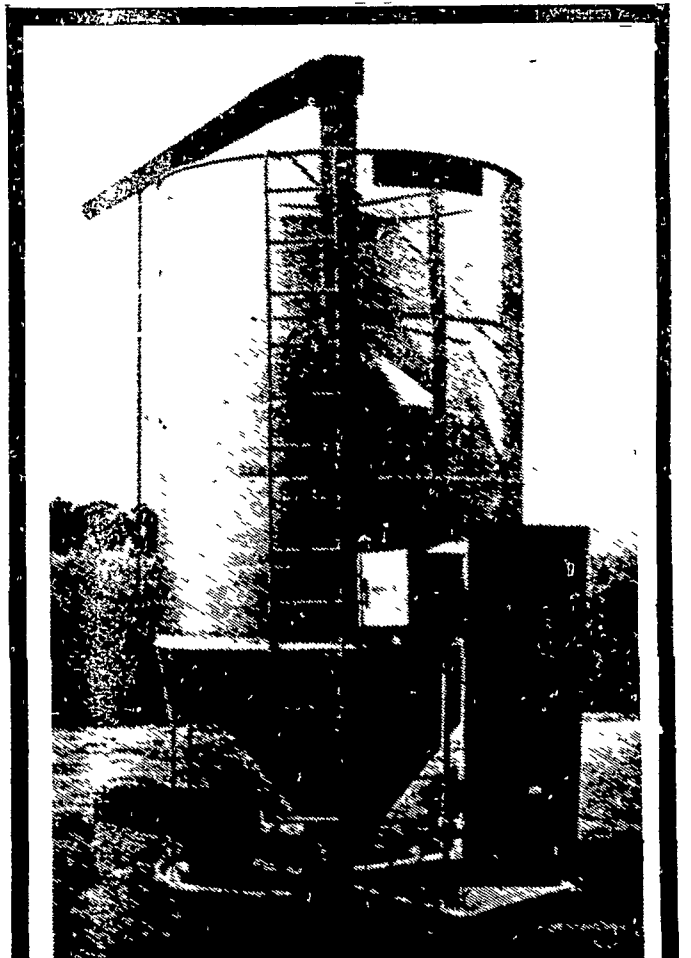
Oats lowest since 1881

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The nation's oat crop for 1979 will be down by 15 per cent from last year and rank as the lowest since 1881, says the United States Department of Agriculture. USDA predicts the acreage for harvest this year at just 10 million, compared to 11.5 million acres last year, and the lowest since 1869. The yield per acre is predicted to be 50.8 bushels, compared to 52.2 bushels last year. The record was set in 1971 when U.S. farmers harvested 55.9 bushels of oats per acre.

Barley yields very low

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. barley crop this year was down by 23 per cent, compared to a year ago, the United States Department of Agriculture estimates. That's the lowest since 1953.

USDA estimates that 7.45 million acres of barley were harvested, which is the lowest since 1934. The yield per acre, however, is the second highest on record, 46.3 bushels. The record was set last year when 48.8 bushels were harvested per acre.

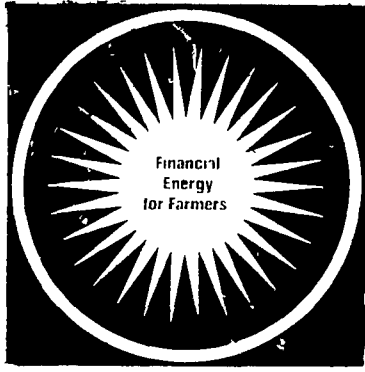


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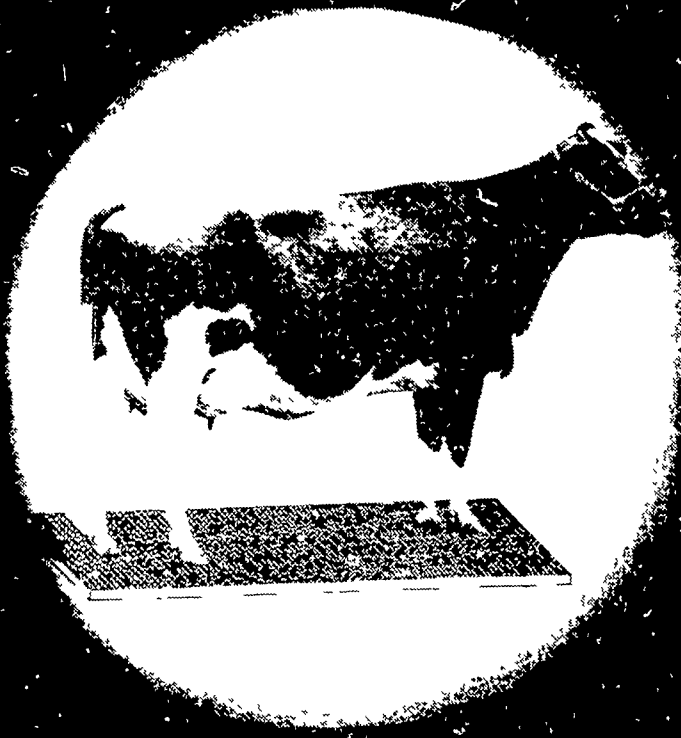


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