

Wet weather still delaying work

HARRISBURG — A stalled storm center brought wet cool weather to Pennsylvania last week, holding farmers to only two days suitable for fieldwork. However, farm operators took full advantage of those days, as well as an extra day in northern counties.

Statewide soil moisture is rated mostly surplus to adequate. Soils were rated totally surplus in the south with 55 to 60 percent surplus

soil moisture ratings for the rest of the state.

Reports of fuel supplies were mostly adequate. LP gas was rated 98 percent adequate and two percent surplus statewide. Diesel fuel was rated 92 percent adequate and gasoline rated 90 percent adequate. Diesel and gasoline showed eight percent and ten percent surplus ratings, respectively.

Plowing, at 59 percent

complete, is behind last year's 68 percent. Progress stands at 53 percent in the north and 66 percent in the central counties. Southern counties show 52 percent plowing completed

Corn planting is now at eight percent, lagging behind last year's 13 percent and the historical average of 17 percent at this time. Northern and central areas report only five percent planted, with the southern counties at 15 percent.

Potatoes are well behind last year at 21 percent. Forty-two percent of the 1979 potato crop was planted by this time. Northern counties are only five percent complete while the central counties show 30 percent and the southern counties are at 26 percent planted.

Oats are at 59 percent sown, behind last year's 72 percent. The north shows 48 percent, central counties show 59 percent and the southern counties are now 70 percent sown.

Statewide soybean planting is at six percent, with no change from last week. Some tract plantings took place in northern and central counties.

Winter grains continue mostly in the pre-boot stage, with some reports of barley and wheat in boot in some central and southern areas. Statewide barley is 12 percent booted and wheat is less than five percent. Grains still appear in good condition, but are slightly behind last year's progress.

Alfalfa hay stands are reported in mostly good to fair condition, with insect activity very low. Clover-timothy stands are mostly good to fair. The amount of feed being obtained from pasture is mostly average.

Peaches are reported at 33 percent in the pink stage and 54 percent in full or past full bloom. Cherries are 28 percent in the pink stage and 57 percent in or past full bloom, while apples are 51 percent in the pink stage and 11 percent in or past full bloom. All fruit is behind last year's progress. Strawberry planting is virtually complete.

13.7 million bushels corn placed in farm reserve

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As of April 24, 13,730,650 bushels of corn had been placed in the farmer-owned grain reserve by corn producers who did not sign up to participate in the 1979 feed grain program.

Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland opened up the reserve to the non-participants on April 15 to help farmers isolate additional corn stocks from the marketplace and strengthen market prices.

At that time, Bergland said USDA would accept approximately 295 million bushels of the previously ineligible corn on a first-come, first-served basis. This option will end after that amount has entered the

reserve, or May 15.

Corn farmers who participated in the 1979 feed grain program and who currently have corn under a regular 9-month price support loan will continue to be eligible to enter their grain into the reserve, regardless of how many bushels of previously ineligible corn go into the reserve.

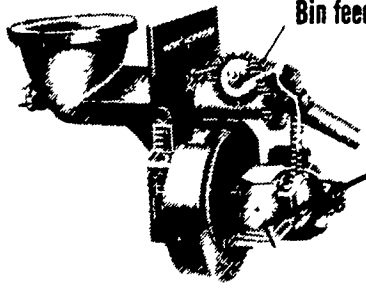
Total corn in the reserve through April 24, including the previously ineligible grain, was 835 million bushels.



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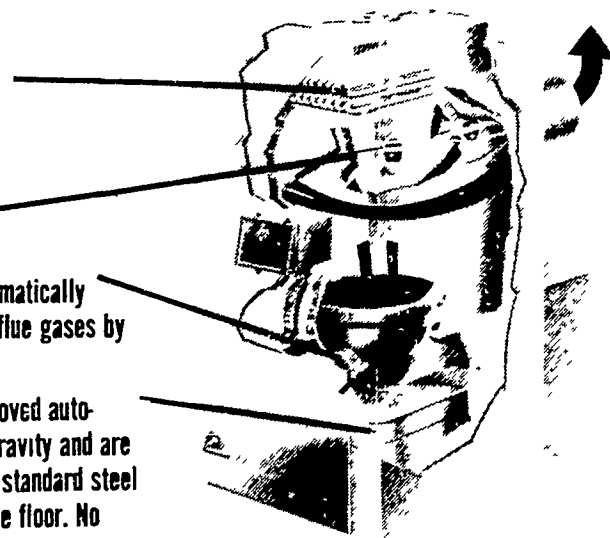
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GENETIC TRAIT SUMMARY, 1/80

27 Daughters	20 Herds	57% Repeatability
Fore Udder	53	
Rear Udder Height	50	
Rear Udder Width	50	Improves
Udder Center Support	51	Udders
Udder Depth	48	
Teat Placement	54	Exceptional
Teat Size	50	Medium
Stature	50	Average
Strength and Capacity	48	
Width of Rump	48	
Pelvic Angle	48	High Pins
Rear Leg Set	51	Some Set
Calving Ease	☆☆	
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