Wet weather dampens harvest activities

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Wet weather is hampering the harvest in many regions of the world, according to a weekly report issued last Thursday by the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility of the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Agriculture. Frost and lower temperatures are causing concern for crops in the USSR and Korea.

Highlights of the report follow:

United States. Heavy rain fell over much of the Northeast when a weekend storm combined with a system from the West which had provided needed moisture in some winter wheat areas. Dampness and snow slowed harvesting in the western Corn belt, but western great Plains wheat remained too dry. Colder temperatures curtailed growth in northern areas.

USSR. In the southeastern winter grain areas, drier weather aided harvesting of spring-planted crops. Temperatures fell to subfreezing levels in most agricultural areas at least once last week, possibly damaging exposed sugarbeets. Above-normal precipitation caused unfavorable harvest conditions in the northwest.

Europe. Frost and normal low temperatures in the north nearly halted winter grain development last week. Conditions remain too wet for late harvest activities in some areas, with above-normal precipitation

continuing in much of Switzerland, France, western Austria and northern Italy.

South America. Heavy rains in Brazil interfered with wheat harvesting in northern portions and slowed grain ripening in the south. Dry weather prevailed in Argentina and nighttime temperatures neared freezing in southern Buenos Aires.

Australia. Rain in droughtstricken Queensland and New South Wales last week interfered with the wheat harvest and caused concern about the quality of the grain.

Eastern Asia. Harvest conditions for the late rice crop were hampered by persistent wet weather south of the Yangtze River in Beneficial China. precipitation fell on winter grain areas north of the Yellow River and into Shandong. In Korea, rain disrupted the rice harvest and was followed by freezing temperatures which may hurt the crop further.

Southeast Asia. Somewhat drier weather in the Central Plains is expected to help reduce the moisture in waterlogged fields. Continued dry weather and sunshine are essential for a good yield potential from the rice crop.

Canada. The grain harvest is nearly complete except for northern districts of Alberta where unfavorable weather is delaying field activity. Mexico. Light showers

Sheila's Shorts

(Continued from Page B11)

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benefited the corn belt in the southern plateau, while vegetable development was favored by dry weather over the west coast. The arrival of the drv season conversely,

reservoirs. South Africa. Moisture

....rthern and eastern por-

supplies are adequate for early maize growth in the

is slowing the filling of tions of the Transvaal. More rain is needed in other areas to aid the start of the maize growing season.

Northwestern Africa.

Surface soil in parts of western Algeria remain too dry for germination of winter grains. In most other areas, soil moisture is adequate.

The Dean further ex-

Com-

Hayes promoted to ag communications post

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UNIVERSITY PARK -Kevin G. Hayes, publications editor for Penn State. College of Agriculture, has been promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Com-Agricultural munications, effective November 1.

James M. Beattue, Dean of Penn State's College of Agriculture, who announced the promotion, said that Hayes will assist Director Glenn Goss in administrative duties of Agricultural Communication to include budget proposals, employee supervision and evaluation, planning, and production.

He will be particularly responsible for general administration of the development, production, and distribution of educational materials including audio and video tapes, slide sets, filmstrips, motion pictures, exhibits, and publications.

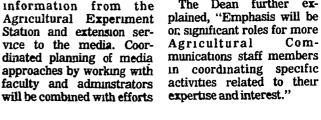
Dean Beattie made the announcement in connection with a reorganization of the Agricultural Communications department.



Kevin G. Hayes

The existing units of news, publications, radio-television, and visuals within the department combined into a single unit as of October 31. As an arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture

as well as Penn State, Agricultural Communications supports and backstops communications efforts of Extension Service staff in all 67 counties of the Commonwealth.





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