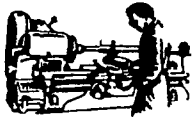




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## Snowfall slows European harvest

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Good harvest conditions prevailed in the U.S. Corn Belt last week, while snowfall in parts of the Soviet Union and Europe hampered both harvest activity and crop growth, according to a weekly report issued Thursday by the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility of the U.S. Department of Commerce and Agriculture.

Highlights of the report follow.

**United States.** Dryness and seasonal temperatures provided good conditions for the late harvest in the Corn Belt.

Precipitation fell only in

northern and eastern parts of the country, and totals rarely exceeded the normal. Moisture deficits were noted in the area centered on the Oklahoma Panhandle where newly sown wheat is still insufficiently developed.

**USSR.** Above-normal precipitation occurred as rain last week in the North Caucasus and southeastern Ukraine, and as snow from the western Ukraine eastward through the Chernozem Region and Volga Valley into the southern Urals. Depths in some important crop areas curtailed harvest activity.

Because of low temperatures, the snow will

remain for awhile and stop winter grain growth earlier than normal in the south, at least temporarily. Substantial portions of spring-planted crops reportedly remained either unharvested or exposed in the fields.

**Europe.** Above-normal moisture amounts fell as snow in many areas last week, making conditions in the east unfavorable for maize harvesting.

In all central and northern countries, temperatures dipped far below normal and brought winter grain growth to an abrupt halt.

**South America.** Rains benefited the Argentine maize crop in northern Buenos Aires and adjacent provinces last week. In Brazil, abundant moisture has provided good conditions for the emergence and early growth of soybeans and maize in most central and southern crop areas.

**South Africa.** Dryness in southern portions of the Transvaal and most of the

Orange Free State continues to hamper maize planting.

In the northern portion of the "Maize Triangle," however, continuing rainfall over the past three weeks has allowed sowing to take place.

**Australia.** Soil moisture supplies remained short last week in all areas except southeastern Australia. The wheat harvest is underway in many areas.

**Eastern Asia.** Low precipitation levels provided excellent conditions for the southern China rice harvest last week, with similar weather in South Korea.

**South Asia.** November is a dry month in this area and last week only the southern tip of India received substantial rainfall. Winter grains still should have adequate soil moisture in most regions.

**Southeast Asia.** Showers last week in the Central Plains north of Bangkok should help sustain reservoir levels for later irrigation purposes and benefit late-planted, wet season crops.

## Martin Farm

(Continued from Page D2)

wine and to make apple cider.

Old farm records show the fields used to produce some flax which was used to make feed bags and the rough cloth of the era.

Andrew was born on the farm and he and his wife have been living on the land for the past 20 years.

But 20 years is just a drop in the bucket of time the farm has been running. Deeds written in handsome penmanship record the transfer from generation to generation.

Many of them are on sheepskin. One huge deed includes not only the typical meets and bounds of the property but also the owner's will stating how his estate was to be dispersed.

Irregular margins at the top of the deed papers match with duplicates filed at the courthouse, assurance that the deed is not a forgery.

Each document, in turn, was passed through the family. Now, 239 years later, another generation of Martins continues to work the soil.

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