Rain falls on Austrailia's wheat belt

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Two storms pushed across Australia the last week in May, bringing heavy rains to the wheat belt, according to a weekly report issued by the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility of the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Agriculture. Weekly rainfall amounts were close to normal monthly totals for May.

Highlights of the report follow:

-Australia. Widespread soaking rains across the wheat belt provided much needed soil moisture for planting and early growth of wheat. Some replanting may be needed due to localized intense rainfall. The normal planting season extends into July.

-Canada. Beneficial showers fell on much of the Canadian Prairies where spring planting is in final stages. Soil moisture conditions are favorable for spring growth in Alberta and Manitoba. Wheat sowing is nearly complete ın Saskatchewan with most areas reporting generally good germination and emergence. Southcentral Saskatchewan is the exception, however, with dry soil conditions causing spotty germination.

-United States. Near normal temperatures prevailed except for the Southwest and Northeast where temperatures averaged as much as 10 degrees above normal. Abundant rain over the northern Great Plain and southeastern states improved soil moisture and crop development, but delayed both planting in the central and eastern Corn Belt and early wheat harvesting across the southern states. Pasture conditions were improved by showers in portions of the Southwest. Light frost may have further damaged the fruit . crop in northwest lower Michigan.

-USSR. Fair weather allowed rapid fieldwork progress last week with rainfall mostly limited to the far west, northern crop areas, and southeastern winter grain areas. Winter grains should have adequate soil moisture, but newly sown spring grains in parts of the Volga Valley and Chernozem Region may be somewhat short of moisture as surface soils dry out. Temperatures in this area are just above normal while conditions in western portions of the country were substantially warmer, encouraging rapid crop development. Persistent showers in the eastern portion of the New Lands improved conditions for germination and early growth of spring grains. In the vicinity of Pavlodar, however, conditions are too dry.

-Europe. Rainfall increased in many areas, maintained somewhat unfavorably wet conditions in parts of most northwestern countries. French officials are concerned about potential cereal crop damage. Above normal rains in parts of northern Italy and other limited areas, however, were generally beneficial.

-China. Light to moderate rainfall in central Hebei helped late filling of winter grains. Harvesting got underway about a week early in central portions of the winter grain belt which remained dry. Heavier rains returned to areas south of the Yangtze River, but flooding should not have been common since only light rain has fallen in recent weeks.

-Southeast Asia. Monsoon rains are well established with daily afternoon showers benefiting agricultural areas.

-South Asia. Premonsoon showers increased in Bangladesh and eastern India, while monsoon rains appear to have begun about a week early in southern India.

-South America. Most crop areas of Argentina and Brazil received light rainfall. Crop harvests progressed well except in Buenos Aires where wet weather

reserves are generally favorable for wheat growth with planting to continue through June.

-Mexico. Dry weather continued to stress some crops in the western part of the Southern

slowed fieldwork. Soil moisture Plateau and citrus orchards from Montemorelos to Cd. Victoria. Sunny and warm conditions overthe northwest and north central regions favored development of cotton, soybeans and other irrigated summer crops.



Buck Winners June 6

5000 Super Stock

1. Dale Smoker, Cochranville, PA, AC 180, 259.0; 2. Jim Brubaker, Quarryville, PA, AC180, 216.7; 3. Tim Stauffer, New Holland, PA, Deutz 8006, 211.4. 5000 Modified

1. Zane Forry, York, PA, Hmde/427 Ford, 212.3; 2. Curt

Stoltz, Myerstown, PA, Hmde/468 Chev, 209.7; 3. Curt Spickler, Elizabethtown, PA, M44/3-327 Chev, 209.5.

7000 Super Stock

1. Tim Stauffer, New Holland, PA, Deutz 8006, 300.0; 2. Coleman Wheatley, Bethel, DE, JD 4240, 289.3; 3. Dale Smoker, Cochranville, PA, AC180, 255.10. 5800 FWD

1. Dan Fellenbaum, Lititz, PA, 1969 Chev, 280.2; 2. Willie Omps, Winchester, VA, 1957 Ford, 264.5; 3. Edward Hansloran, Morrisdale, PA, 1980 Chev., 250.10.

7000 Modified

1. Ed Brensinger, Lebanon, PA, Hmde/2-468 Chev., 300.0; 2. Mike Hoff, Westminster, MD, Hmde/2-K.B. Hemis, 297.6; 3. David Stockelt, Davidsonville, MD, Ck40/2-429 Fords, 296.9.

9000 Super Stock

Tom Middleton, Ridgley, MD, IH 966, 237.9; Coleman Wheatley, Bethel, DE, JD 4240, 226.4; 3. Harry Griest, Coatesville, PA, IH 456, 216.0.

9,000 Open

1. Mike Hoff, Westminster, MU, Hmde/2-K.B. Hemis, 300/268.7; 2. Ed Brensinger, Lebanon, PA, Hmde/2-468 Chev., 300/265.7; 3. Tom Middleton, Ridgley, MD; IH 966, 300.00.

6200 FWD

1. Robert Smith, Winchester, VA, 70 Chev., 300.0/214.11; 2. Dan Fellenbaum, Lititz, PA, 69 Chev., 300.0; 3. Willard Cahall, Townsend, DE, 79 Ford, 275.4.

PA broiler

placements up

one percent

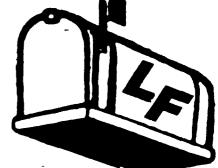
HARRISBURG - Placements of broiler chicks in the Commonwealth during the week ending May 30 were 2,269,000, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

The placements were one percent above the corresponding week a year earlier but nine percent below the previous week. Average placements during the past nine weeks were one percent above a year ago.

Placements in the 21 key poutry producing states were 84,994,000, one percent below the previous week but three percent above the same week a year ago. Average placements in the 21 key states during the past nine weeks were four percent above a year ago.

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