State projects grain records

HARRISBURG - Pennsylvania farmers will harvest record yields of wheat, oats, barley, rye and other hay, and smaller production of corn, soybeans, tobacco and alfalfa than last year based on August 1 conditions.

According to the Pennsylvania Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, acreages to be harvested, yield per acre, total estimated production and percentage change from 1984 are as follows: Oats-300,000 acres, a record high 673 bushels per acre, 18,900,000 bushels, up 18 percent; Barley-70,000 acres, a record high 62 bushels per acre, 4,340,000 bushels, up 19 percent; Rye-20,000 acres, a record high 40 bushels per acre, 800,000 bushels per acre, up 38 percent; and Other Hay-1,150,000 acres, 2.1 tons per acre, a record high 2,415,000 tons, up one percent.

Corn-1,370,000 acres, 105 bushels per acre, 143,850,000 bushels, down three percent; Wheat-210,000 acres, a record high 39 bushels per acre, 8,190,000 bushels, down two percent; Soybeans-170,000 acres,

29 bushels per acre, 4,930,000 bushels, down 17 percent; All Tobacco-11,500 acres, 1,914 pounds per acre, 22,015,000 pounds, down two percent; and Alfalfa-840,000 acres, 3.1 tons per acre, 2,604,000 tons, down three percent.

Pennsylvania apple production is forecast at 475 million pounds, down 17 percent from last year. Peach production is forecast at 30 million pounds, far below the 85 million pounds produced in 1984. This small crop is primarily the result of winter freeze and frost damage and some hail damage this spring. Indicated pear production for 1985 is 2,800 tons, down 15 percent from 1984; and grape production at 55,000 tons is eight percent below last year's level of 60,000 tons.

The total number of farms in the Commonwealth as of June 1, 1985, is 58,000, unchanged from last year. Land in farms also remained unchanged from 1984 at 8,700,000

At the United States level, corn for grain production is forecast at a record high 8.27 billion bushels, eight percent above last year. Oats production is forecast at 519 million bushels, up ten percent from 1984. Barley production at 599.7 million bushels is up one percent from last year.

All wheat production is forecast at 2.38 billion bushels, eight percent less than 1984. Rye production at 19.3 million bushels is 40 percent

below 1984 production. Soybean production is forecast at 1.96 billion bushels, five percent above last year. All tobacco production is forecast at 1.51 billion pounds, 12 percent below 1984. Alfalfa production is forecast at 84.5 million tons, six percent below 1984 production. Other hay production is forecast at 64 million tons, five percent above last year.

Commercial apple production is forecast at 8.07 billion pounds, three percent below last year's production. The number of farms in the United States is estimated at 2.28 million, down two percent from 1984. Land in farms declined 3.8 million acres from 1984 to 1.015 billion acres. The average farm size increased from 438 acres last year to 445 acres in 1985.

Ag enrollment up at Penn State

UNIVERSITY PARK - The College of Agriculture at The Pennsylvania State University is beginning the 1985-86 academic year at full strength.

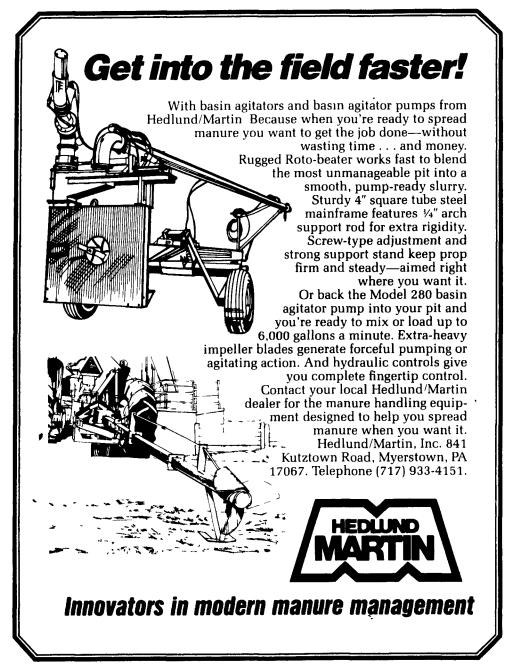
"Although we won't have final enrollment figures until late September or early October, we have a sizable increase in our paid accepts this fall," says James S. McCoy, director of undergraduate student affairs for the college.

"We are expecting about 500 new students in Ag at University Park this week," he continues. That figure includes about 250 freshmen, 55 transfers from other colleges and universities and about 200 upper class students from Penn State's Commonwealth Campuses. In addition, about 240 new students expected to enroll in orientation activities.

agriculture at the Commonwealth Campuses.

"To make our students feel welcome, we have planned a full afternoon of special orientation activities at the Ag Arena on August 19," says McCoy. The program is designed to help new students get off on the right track with their studies and to help them get involved in college activities.

Students will meet in small groups with college faculty and university staff on subjects such as: What's a College Education Worth?, Overview of the University, Working with an Advisor, and sessions on student life and clubs. They will also be guests of the college at a picnic supper before joining other new Penn State students for additional





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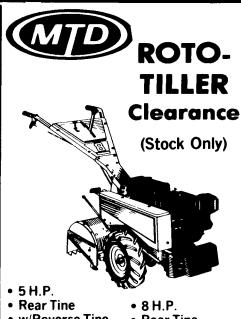


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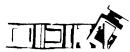
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