

Crop of Winter Wheat Expected To Show Decline

Washington—UPI—The 1962 winter wheat crop will be down substantially from the large 1961 crop. This should cause a considerable reduction in the big breadgrain surplus.

The Agriculture Department's April crop summary Tuesday estimated the fall-planted crop will total 921 million bushels. This is 14 per cent, or 155 million bushels, below the 1961 crop, but 5 per cent above the 10-year average. Tuesday's estimate also is 23 million bushels below the first forecast of the 1962 crop made last December.

1.1 Billion Bushels

A crop the size of the April 1 forecast means an all-wheat crop of about 1.1 billion bushels will be produced. This assumes a spring wheat crop of around 195 million bushels. The estimated total would be less than anticipated domestic consumption and export demand. This means consumers, both domestic and foreign, would have to call on carryover stocks now in government bins. Estimates of the carryover reduction on July 1, 1963, range up to 150 million bushels.

The reduced crop reflects operation of the 1962 wheat stabilization program whereby farmers collect government payments under mandatory reduction of 10 per cent of their wheat acreage and additional voluntary reductions of acreage.

Nothing Firm

The department pointed out there is nothing firm about the current estimate of production. It assumes normal weather, insect, and disease conditions for the remainder of the crop season. Also, farmers have not yet made a final determination relative to the acreage to be harvested.

The department said the 1962 crop season got off to a slow start with cold, damp weather in early March. Plant growth was behind the usual pace until more seasonal late March temperatures brought a promise of spring. Field work was delayed by frequent snow or rain which kept soils too wet for plowing and seed bed preparation.

Grain Stocks Down

The crop summary showed food grain stocks on farms were about 20 per cent lower than last April 1 and 7 per cent below average. Farm stored wheat was 18 per cent less than last April while rye stocks were down 43 per cent. Soybean stocks on farms rocketed to a new high, more than double the small holdings a year earlier and 18 per cent above the previous record farm stocks of April 1, 1960.

Tonnage of feed grains held on farms April 1 was 1 per cent lower than a year earlier but 29 per cent above average. Farm-stored corn reached a new high of 2.15 billion bushels—3 per cent above the previous high last year and 40 per cent above average. Stocks of sorghum, oats, and barley were down sharply.

Citrus production for 1961-62 is expected to be 6 per cent greater than last season and 3 per cent above average.

Lollipop Is Still Reliable Pacifier

New York—UPI—The most reliable pacifier for a frightened child apparently is still a lollipop.

The pharmacy at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical center in 1961 dispensed more than a quarter-million lollipops to child patients, according to John J. Rio, chief pharmacist, who said a lollipop is a sure psychological weapon for overcoming a child's fears.

"Candy is something familiar that a youngster recognizes and understands," Rio said. "It's almost amazing how fast tears stop for a lollipop."

Dairymen Must Know Some Cow Psychology

College Station, Tex.—UPI—A. M. Meekma of the Texas A. & M. college extension service says a little "cow psychology" could make the difference between breaking even and making a good profit from dairying.

"It is shown in many ways," Meekma said. "The dairyman's handling, feeding, milking and caring for his cows, the general appearance of his herd and his knowledge of when to call the veterinarian all reflect understanding of cow psychology. There is only one way to gain it, however, and that is through experience working with animals."



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