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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics
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# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

WALTER H. EBLING, Agricultural Statistician

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## The Crop Year in Review

THE CROP YEAR of 1927 was one of many ups and downs. There were many disappointments, and yet the final outturn of crop production was that of a more or less average year. Grain and crop prices generally have advanced somewhat as compared with 1926, though so far as the Wisconsin farmer is concerned this is not directly reflected in his income to any large extent.

The year started out with a late, cold, wet spring, delayed seeding, and a generally unpromising outlook. Plenty of rain and some favorable growing weather, however, helped to produce the biggest hay crop Wisconsin has ever harvested and much of it was harvested under favorable weather conditions so as to insure a quality that is above average. The early harvested grains yielded well, but the late grain crops suffered from hot and dry weather during the latter part of July and early August.

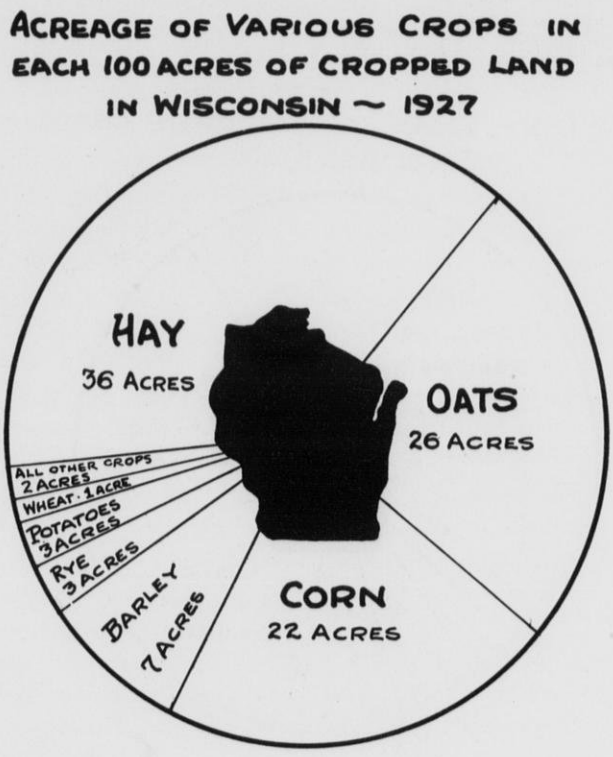
Corn had a poor outlook throughout most of the season. It had a late start and progressed slowly all through the summer. The fall, however, was fairly favorable and the corn production exceeded expectations. The increase in silage during the month of September was unusual.

Our potato crop suffered much from dry weather and fell far below expectations of the early part of the season. Generally speaking, one may say that 1927 was a year of fairly good grain and feed crops and rather unfavorable to most Wisconsin cash crops.

### CROP VALUES COMPARED

In spite of a number of marked price and production changes, the December 1 farm value of Wisconsin's 1927 crops equals almost exactly that of 1926. Because of rather good yields in most of the grain crops and somewhat of an advance in the price of corn, oats, barley and rye, the farm value of seven cereals for 1927 exceeds that of the previous year by nearly thirteen million dollars. Potatoes, on the other hand, made low yields and suffered a big price reduction so that the 1927 farm value of this crop is over twelve million below that of 1926. Certain other crops such as both dry and canning peas, cabbage, sugar beets, and fruits showed a decreased value. The clover seed and tobacco crops increased in value last year. On crops such as the latter the December 1 estimated price may require some revision as the market information for the entire crop becomes available, but normally the December price furnishes a satisfactory basis of comparison.

The record hay crop of 1927 exceeded the 1926 crop in value in spite of a fall in price. Acreage of hay harvested was slightly larger last year than in 1926, and the production per acre showed a marked increase due to favorable growing weather. The 1927 acreage in grain crops was smaller than in 1926 and the increased value was primarily due to yield and price changes.




### WINTER WHEAT AND RYE PLANTINGS

The December inquiry on winter wheat and rye seedings indicates that there were 79,000 acres of winter wheat planted in Wisconsin last fall, which is a 5% increase over the 1926 plantings. The condition of the Wisconsin crop was estimated at 94% of

normal as compared with the 5-year average of 92%. The United States winter wheat plantings are estimated at 47,897,000 acres, which is an increase of 10% over the 1926 plantings. The condition of the crop in the United States was estimated at 86% of normal as compared with the 5-year average of 84%.

The Wisconsin rye plantings last fall, according to reporters, are estimated at 230,000 acres, which is exactly the same as that planted the year previous. The condition is estimated at 94% of normal as compared with 92%. The United States rye acreage planted appears to be 3,802,000 which is 3.6% above the 1926 plantings. The condition of the crop in the United States was 89.3% of normal as compared with the 5-year average of 87.7%.

Seemingly, the winter wheat and rye crops entered the winter in a condition somewhat better than usual due to a favorable fall season. The lack of snow over a large part of Wisconsin, together with several periods of extremely cold weather may, however, cause considerable winter damage. A snow blanket would protect these crops greatly and likewise the clovers and grasses.

**Annual Per Capita Consumption of Dairy Products in the United States, 1917-26**

| Year | Milk | Butter | Cheese | Cond. and Evap. Milk | Ice Cream |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Gals. | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Gals. |
| 1917 | 42.4 | 14.6 | 2.89 | 10.49 | 2.07 |
| 1918 | 43.0 | 14.0 | 3.00 | 12.50 | 2.14 |
| 1919 | 43.0 | 14.8 | 3.50 | 12.30 | 2.49 |
| 1920 | 43.0 | 14.7 | 3.50 | 10.17 | 2.46 |
| 1921 | 49.0 | 16.1 | 3.50 | 11.40 | 2.28 |
| 1922 | 50.0 | 16.5 | 3.70 | 12.69 | 2.43 |
| 1923 | 53.0 | 17.0 | 3.90 | 13.25 | 2.68 |
| 1924 | 54.75 | 17.25 | 4.20 | 14.00 | 2.50 |
| 1925 | 54.75 | 17.04 | 4.26 | 14.87 | 2.80 |
| 1926 | 55.30 | 17.82 | 4.36 | 14.32 | 2.77 |

## CLOVER SEED MOVEMENT

On January 3, 1928, it was estimated that from 65% to 70% of the red clover seed in Wisconsin had been marketed. Prices were not showing much change and were reported to average from $25.10 to $26.70 per cwt. for clean seed.

Alsike continued to move to market slowly and it was estimated that 75% to 85% of the Wisconsin crop had been sold. Prices were advancing somewhat and were reported to average from $22.65 to $23.25 per cwt. for clean seed.

## CATTLE ON FEED
### January 1, 1928

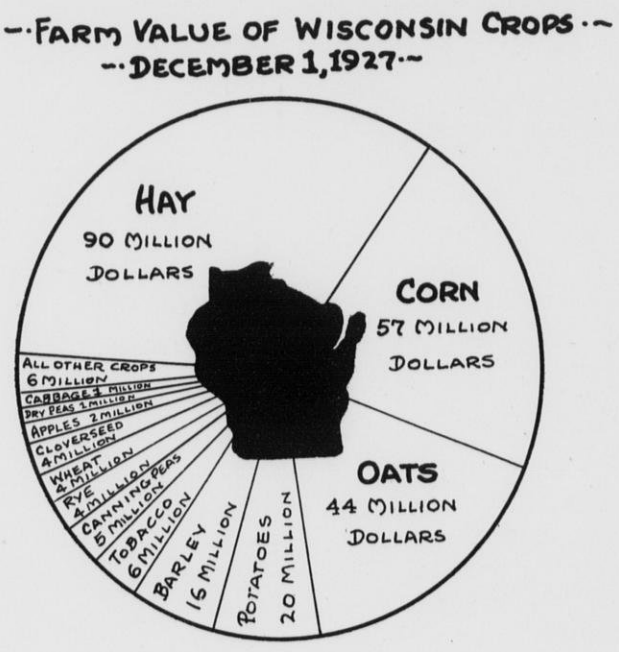
Reports from Wisconsin cattle feeders indicate a marked reduction in the number of cattle on feed on January 1, 1928. It is estimated that the number this year is only about 80% of the number a year ago. According to the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimate, the number on feed for market in the eleven Corn Belt States was 6% smaller than a year ago. The estimates of the number on feed on January 1, 1928, as compared with a year ago by states are as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ohio | 88 | per cent |
| Indiana | 83 | " " |
| Illinois | 80 | " " |
| Michigan | 85 | " " |
| Wisconsin | 80 | " " |
| Minnesota | 86 | " " |
| Iowa | 85 | " " |
| Missouri | 96 | " " |
| South Dakota | 95 | " " |
| Nebraska | 109 | " " |
| Kansas | 111 | " " |

All states east of the Missouri River had a smaller number on feed than last year, but there was a considerable increase in numbers on feed in Kansas and Nebraska, where the corn crop was unusually large this year.

In the Western States the number on feed January 1, 1928 was about 70,000 head, or 16% smaller than last year. All states in this area had a smaller number on feed than last year, but the largest reductions were in the states west of the Continental Divide where the decrease was nearly 25% for the area as a whole. In Colorado, the principal western feeding state, the number this year was only about 5% smaller than last year's large total.

The movement of stocker and feeder cattle through markets into the Corn Belt States for the six months, July to December, was about 11% smaller in 1927 than for this period in 1926 and the smallest for the period since 1921. During November and December the movement was larger than for the same months in any of the previous three years. This heavy late movement reflected the increased production of corn from what seemed probable earlier in the season and the steady advance in fat cattle prices.




## SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FEED
### January 1, 1928

The number of sheep and lambs on feed for market in Wisconsin on January 1, 1928, is estimated to be at least 20% below the number on feed a year ago. For the United States the number on feed was about 450,000 head, or 10% larger than on January 1, 1927, according to the estimate of the United States Department of Agriculture. The number estimated on feed this year was 4,740,000 head compared to 4.294,000 head a year ago and 4,630,000 head two years ago.

## SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN CROP PRODUCTION—1927 AND 1926

| Crop | Acreage (000 omitted) | | Yield per Acre | | Production (000 omitted) | | Farm Price Dec 1 | | Farm Value, Dec. 1 (000 omitted) | | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | |
| CEREALS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Corn | 2,100 | 2,119 | 32.5 | 34.5 | 68,250 | 73,106 | $ .84 | $ .75 | $57,330 | $54,830 | Bu. |
| Oats | 2,422 | 2,577 | 38.5 | 37.5 | 93,247 | 96,638 | .47 | .40 | 43,826 | 38,655 | Bu. |
| Barley | 620 | 521 | 34.5 | 34.5 | 21,390 | 17,974 | .75 | .65 | 16,042 | 11,683 | Bu. |
| Rye | 238 | 256 | 17.0 | 15.0 | 4,046 | 3,840 | .90 | .84 | 3,641 | 3,226 | Bu. |
| Spring wheat | 72 | 63 | 19.8 | 20.0 | 1,426 | 1,260 | 1.17 | 1.26 | 1,668 | 1,588 | Bu. |
| Winter wheat | 73 | 65 | 23.5 | 20.6 | 1,716 | 1,339 | 1.17 | 1.25 | 2,008 | 1,674 | Bu. |
| Buckwheat | 23 | 23 | 16.6 | 15.0 | 382 | 345 | .82 | .87 | 313 | 300 | Bu. |
| OTHER GRAINS AND GRASSES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dry peas | 29 | 36 | 20.0 | 20.5 | 580 | 738 | 2.50 | 2.35 | 1,450 | 1,734 | Bu. |
| Dry edible beans | 6 | 9 | 6.7 | 7.5 | 40 | 68 | 3.30 | 3.00 | 132 | 204 | Bu. |
| Soy beans for grain | [1]1 | [1]1 | 10.0 | 11.0 | 10 | 11 | 3.30 | 3.00 | 33 | 33 | Bu. |
| Flax | 9 | 11 | 13.2 | 12.0 | 119 | 132 | 1.90 | 2.00 | 226 | 264 | Bu. |
| Clover seed | [2]138 | [2]92 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 262 | 156 | 15.50 | 17.70 | 4,061 | 2,761 | Bu. |
| HAY AND FORAGE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clover and timothy | 3,024 | 2,911 | [5]1.99 | [5]1.60 | 6,031 | 4,676 | 12.10 | 14.65 | 72,975 | 68,503 | Ton |
| Alfalfa | 300 | 341 | 2.60 | 2.29 | 780 | 887 | 16.05 | 17.30 | 12,519 | 15,345 | Ton |
| Other tame hay | 122 | 116 | 1.46 | 1.54 | 178 | 179 | 10.50 | 12.75 | 1,869 | 2,282 | Ton |
| All tame hay | 3,446 | 3,368 | [6]2.03 | [6]1.70 | 6,989 | 5,742 | 12.50 | 15.00 | 87,363 | 86,130 | Ton |
| Wild hay | [2]205 | [2]228 | 1.45 | 1.32 | 297 | 301 | 8.50 | 9.00 | 2,524 | 2,709 | Ton |
| OTHER FIELD CROPS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Potatoes | 260 | 230 | 92 | 118 | 23,920 | 27,140 | .85 | 1.20 | 20,332 | 32,568 | Bu. |
| Tobacco | 31 | 29 | 1,020 | 1,150 | 31,620 | 33,350 | .190 | .138 | 6,008 | 4,602 | Lb. |
| Cabbage (commercial) | 13.5 | 13.3 | 8.5 | 9.6 | 115 | 128 | 8.98 | 9.32 | 1,031 | 1,189 | Ton |
| Onions (commercial) | 1.6 | 1.2 | 317 | 290 | 507 | 348 | .68 | .51 | 294 | 177 | Bu. |
| Hemp | 2.2 | 4.2 | 850 | 775 | 1,870 | 3,255 | .06 | .06 | 112 | 195 | Lb. |
| Sugar beets | 13 | 17 | 6.8 | 9.3 | 88 | 158 | 7.20 | 7.24 | 634 | 1,144 | Ton |
| Other root crops | 8 | 8 | 7.2 | 8.0 | 58 | 64 | 14.70 | 11.50 | 853 | 736 | Ton |
| Sorghum for syrup | 2 | 2 | 55 | 66 | 110 | 132 | 1.35 | 1.40 | 148 | 185 | Gal. |
| Cucumbers for pickles | 8.5 | 11.9 | 40 | 50 | 340 | 598 | 1.08 | .92 | 367 | 550 | Bu. |
| Peas for canning | 80 | 106.1 | 20 | 22 | 1,600 | 2,334 | 2.85 | 2.87 | 4,560 | 6,699 | Cwt. |
| Corn for canning | 10.4 | 17.3 | 26 | 34 | 270 | 590 | 5.33 | 5.90 | 144 | 348 | Cwt. |
| Beans for canning | 3.9 | 3.5 | 26 | 24 | 102 | 84 | 3.75 | 3.69 | 382 | 310 | Cwt. |
| FRUITS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apples | | | | | 1,200 | 2,158 | 1.70 | 1.00 | 2,040 | 2,158 | Bu. |
| Cherries | [3]350 | [3]355 | | | 225 | 715 | 3.00 | 2.35 | 675 | 1,680 | Crate |
| Cranberries | 3 | 3 | 8.0 | 26.7 | 24 | 80 | 13.50 | 8.00 | 324 | 640 | Bbl. |
| Maple syrup | [4]570 | [4]575 | | | 154 | 155 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 385 | 388 | Gal. |
| Maple sugar | | | | | 19 | 18 | .38 | .35 | 7 | 6 | Lb. |
| Strawberries | 2.8 | 1.8 | 1,920 | 1,950 | 5,299 | 3,588 | .15 | .18 | 795 | 646 | Qt. |
| Grand Total | 9,478.9 | 9,497.3 | | | | | | | $259,708 | $260,012 | |

[1]Not including acreage grown for hay or interplanted with corn for silage. [2]Not included in total acreage. [3]Trees. [4]Trees tapped. [5]Yield per acre computed from sums of acreage and production of clover, timothy, and clover and timothy mixed. [6]Yields per acre computed from sums of acreage and production of hay by kinds.

The number on feed January 1 in the Corn Belt States, including Nebraska, was 193,000 head less than last year; totaling 2,516,000 head this year compared to 2,709,000 a year ago, and 2,378,000 two years ago. All of the Corn Belt States east of the Missouri River had fewer on feed this year than last, the total for this group being 567,000 less than a year ago. All of the Corn Belt States west of the River had more on feed than a year ago, the increase being about 375,000 head. The largest increase was in Nebraska, about 300,000 head, the greater part of which was in the western part of the state.

The number on feed January 1 in the Western States as a whole was about 640,000 head more than last year—2,224,000 this year compared to 1,585,000 a year ago, and 2,252,000 head two years ago. Nearly all of the increase this year was in Colorado, where the number this year was 1,520,000 compared to 770,000 a year ago, and 1,475,000 two years ago. Most of the increase in Colorado is in the northern part of the state which had 1,240,000 this year compared to 520,000 last; the Arkansas Valley had about 75,000 head more than last year, but the San Luis Valley and Western Slope had about 40,000 less than a year ago. The other Rocky mountain States had about the same number on feed as a year ago, but there was an increase of about 40,000 head in Texas.

### DECEMBER PIG SURVEY

The December pig survey indicated that the 1927 fall pig crop was 11% larger than that of 1926. The number of sows bred to farrow next spring is also reported to be somewhat larger than a year ago. The increase in sows bred to farrow next spring comes largely from the region where the corn crop was good. Most of the states reporting increases were west of Missouri River, while most of the states to the east reported decreases. Wisconsin reports indicate that the number of pigs saved in the fall of 1927 was about the same as in the fall of 1926, while the number of sows bred or to be bred in this state for next spring is about one per cent below a year ago.

### CATTLE EXPORTS INCREASE

According to the records of the State Veterinarian's office, Wisconsin sales of dairy cattle to other states and to foreign countries reached a new high point in 1927

when over 83,000 head were shipped. Forty-seven states and eight foreign countries comprise the outside buyers.

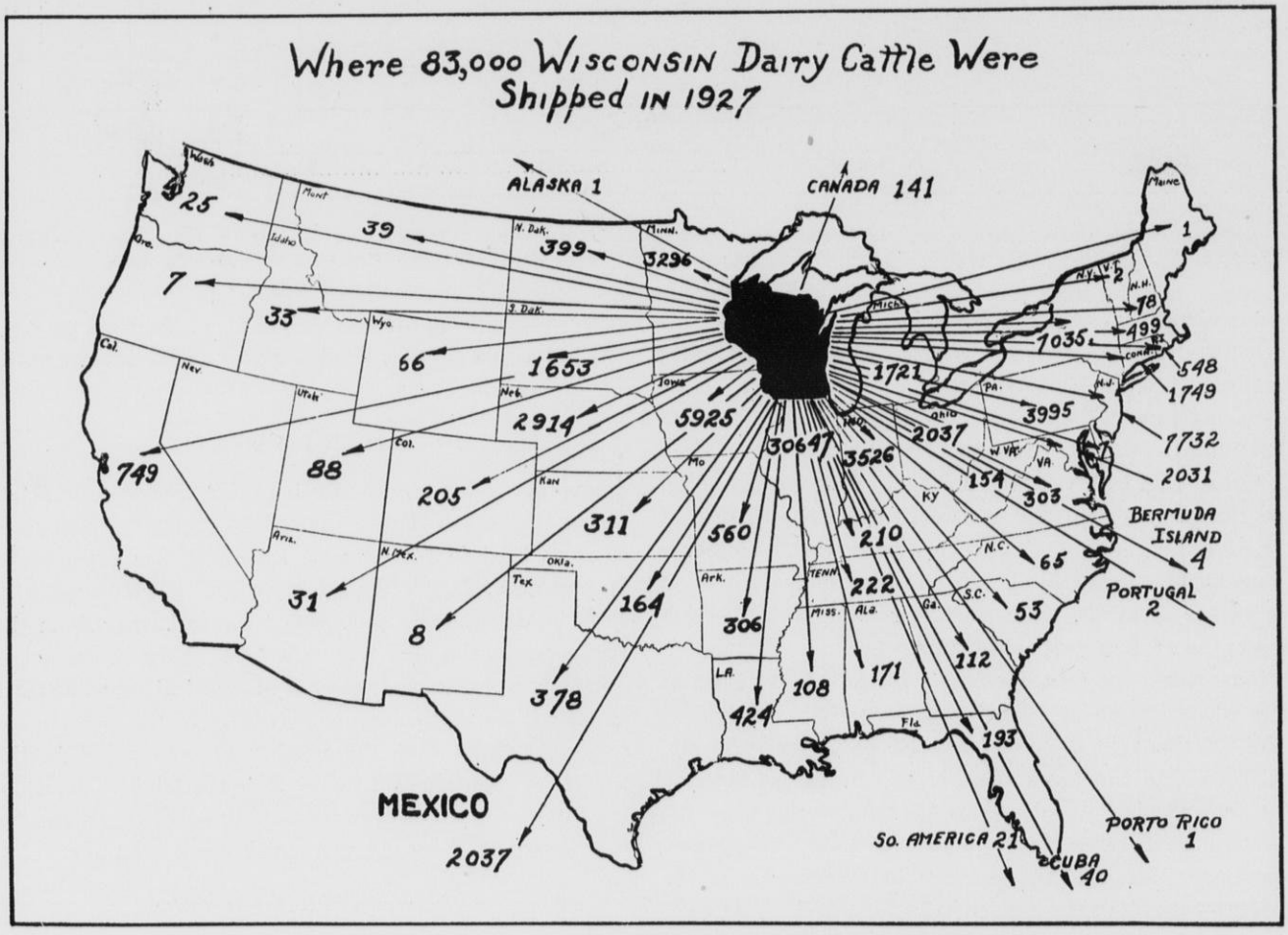
The number of cattle slaughtered as a result of the T. B. test, according to the State Veterinarian's office, was decidedly smaller in 1927 than in the previous year. The total number killed from reacting in 1927 was 34,127. In the previous year these animals numbered 61,081.

**Summary of United States Crop Production, 1927 and 1928**

| | Acreage (000 omitted) | | Yield per Acre | | Production (000 omitted) | | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | |
| Corn | 98,914 | 99,713 | 28.2 | 27.0 | 2,786,288 | 2,692,217 | Bu. |
| Potatoes | 3,505 | 3,122 | 114.7 | 113.5 | 402,149 | 354,328 | Bu. |
| Tobacco | 1,610 | 1,656 | 769 | 784 | 1,237,832 | 1,297,889 | Lb. |
| Oats | 42,227 | 44,177 | 28.3 | 28.2 | 1,195,006 | 1,246,848 | Bu. |
| Barley | 2,492 | 7,970 | 28.0 | 23.2 | 265,577 | 184,905 | Bu. |
| Rye | 3,670 | 3,578 | 16.0 | 11.4 | 58,572 | 40,795 | Bu. |
| Winter wheat | 37,872 | 36,987 | 14.6 | 17.0 | 552,384 | 627,433 | Bu. |
| Spring wheat | 20,711 | 19,350 | 15.4 | 10.5 | 319,307 | 203,607 | Bu. |
| Buckwheat | 832 | 694 | 19.4 | 18.3 | 16,182 | 12,676 | Bu. |
| All tame hay | 61,196 | 58,791 | 1.74 | 1.47 | 106,219 | 86,497 | Ton |
| Dry beans | 1,605 | 1,649 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 16,872 | 17,396 | Bu. |
| Flax | 2,907 | 2,907 | 9.1 | 6.7 | 26,583 | 19,335 | Bu. |
| Clover seed | 1,208 | 530.5 | 1.44 | 1.37 | 1,738 | 728 | Bu. |
| Sugar beets | 722 | 677 | 10.7 | 10.7 | 7,737 | 7,223 | Ton |

## CRANBERRY CROP SMALL

The United States cranberry production in 1927 was only about two-thirds as large as in 1926. The acreage harvested was slightly larger than in the previous year, but yields were extremely low in most states. Wisconsin ranked third in production being led by Massachusetts and New Jersey. It is estimated that the 1927 Wisconsin crop was 24,000 barrels as compared with 80,000 in 1926. The price, however, was distinctly higher being $13.50 per barrel in the state last year as compared with $8.00 the year previous. According to the report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin berries brought the highest average price of any state. The production in Massachusetts last year was 370,000 barrels; New Jersey, 75,000; Wisconsin, 24,000; Washington, 20,000; and Oregon, 6,000.




Wisconsin is the nation's leading source of dairy cattle. In 1927 the shipments to other states and foreign countries reached a new high point of over 83,000 head. Forty-seven states and eight foreign nations took Wisconsin dairy animals last year.

# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

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# THE FARM OUTLOOK FOR 1928

WITH approximately 85 per cent of its gross farm income derived from livestock and livestock products, the agriculture of Wisconsin becomes very largely a question of the outlook for the livestock industries. Milk and cream checks make up about half of the gross farm income in Wisconsin, and accordingly the trend in milk prices becomes the most prominent factor in the entire situation.

## Milk Prices Firm in 1927

During 1927 the farm price of milk in Wisconsin was unusually steady and decidedly better than for any year since 1920—the last year of war prices. For only three months in 1927 did the average price fall below $2.00 per cwt. as compared with seven months in 1926 and nine months in 1925. The weighted average price for 1927 was $2.11 per hundred pounds as compared with $1.92 for 1926 and $1.90 for 1925 (See table on this page.) This price advance is about 10 per cent over 1926 and about 11 per cent over 1925.

## Farm Production Better Balanced

According to the 1928 outlook report of the United States Department of Agriculture, there was a better balance between the different lines of agricultural production in 1927 than in any other recent year. Prices of farm products advanced during the year as shown by the increase of ten points in the index of farm prices from 127 in December, 1926, to 137 in December, 1927. Agricultural income in 1928 is likely to show some improvement over 1927 provided the total agricultural output is maintained at about its present volume and the adjustment toward the further balancing of farm production continues. Expansion especially in cash crops is to be guarded against, the report states. The net advance in farm prices is the result not of better demand but rather of reduced production in some major lines. The total agricultural production for the year 1927 appears to have been approximately 5 per cent below that of 1926.

## No Change in Demand Expected

"The agricultural industry as a whole may anticipate a domestic market situation for the 1928 production at least equal to that of the present winter with the possibility of some improvement. Foreign demand for the agricultural products of 1928 probably will be no better than it was for those of 1927. The purchasing power of foreign consumers seems likely to be no greater than during the present season and foreign competition is likely to be greater.

"The agricultural credit situation in most sections of the country is somewhat improved over that of a year ago. The credit supply in financial centers continues abundant.

"Farm labor will probably be available in a slightly larger supply at least during the first half of 1928. Farm wages and the prices of farm machinery are not likely to change much and building materials when purchased in quantities probably will be lower than last year."

## The Dairy Outlook Seems Favorable

The position of the dairy industry appears to be as strong as it was a year ago. There has been no increase in the number of cows milked for the United States as a whole and a decrease of about 1 per cent has occurred in Wisconsin. The estimated number of heifers shows a slight increase and the number of calves saved likewise appears to be a little larger. On the whole, however, it appears that the number of calves saved in 1927 will only be enough to increase the number of milk cows of the country slightly by 1930. Herds can of course be increased by keeping old cows a little longer.

With the increase in consumption of dairy products it appears that the situation holds promise of remaining fairly stable for some time.

Total butter production has shown a continuous upward trend since 1920; it was very pronounced until 1924, and has been considerably less marked since then. Creamery butter production during 1927 showed only a slight increase despite the usually favorable pasture season. Cheese production, which has shown a strong upward trend from 1920 through 1925, turned downward in 1926 and 1927 with declines of 3 and 6 per cent respectively. Condensed and evaporated milk production continued its upward trend with a heavy increase in 1927. Production of fluid milk in most areas averaged slightly higher in 1927 than in 1926, and the percentage used for fluid purposes continued to increase. As a whole, milk production in 1927 was but little higher than in 1926, but a larger proportion was devoted to the more valuable uses.

During the summer of 1927, increased production and reduced movement into consumptive channels caused storage stocks of butter to reach 163,700,000 pounds on September 1, a record level, and stocks of condensed and evaporated milk to become heavier than usual. Most of the extra accumulation of butter has now been worked into consumption without

**MONTHLY WISCONSIN MILK PRICES—1919-1927**
**Average price per hundred weight received by producers**

| | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | $2.25 | $2.11 | $1.84 | $2.26 | $2.38 | $1.62 | $2.07 | $3.22 | $3.13 |
| February | 2.22 | 2.04 | 1.85 | 2.15 | 2.29 | 1.58 | 2.01 | 2.96 | 2.80 |
| March | 2.11 | 1.96 | 1.88 | 2.02 | 2.18 | 1.57 | 2.10 | 2.70 | 2.75 |
| April | 2.05 | 1.84 | 1.86 | 1.72 | 2.00 | 1.50 | 1.86 | 2.70 | 2.64 |
| May | 1.98 | 1.80 | 1.83 | 1.59 | 1.91 | 1.42 | 1.37 | 2.62 | 2.59 |
| June | 1.96 | 1.74 | 1.82 | 1.61 | 1.93 | 1.44 | 1.26 | 2.44 | 2.66 |
| July | 1.98 | 1.79 | 1.87 | 1.63 | 1.95 | 1.52 | 1.39 | 2.46 | 2.72 |
| August | 2.04 | 1.82 | 1.88 | 1.61 | 2.00 | 1.54 | 1.62 | 2.56 | 2.86 |
| September | 2.14 | 1.89 | 1.91 | 1.66 | 2.10 | 1.65 | 1.62 | 2.57 | 2.87 |
| October | 2.28 | 2.04 | 2.06 | 1.66 | 2.15 | 1.86 | 1.75 | 2.46 | 3.03 |
| November | 2.32 | 2.15 | 2.14 | 1.73 | 2.21 | 2.12 | 1.82 | 2.38 | 3.22 |
| December | 2.35 | 2.25 | 2.12 | 1.83 | 2.25 | 2.29 | 1.81 | 2.22 | 3.28 |
| Weighted yearly average | $2.11 | $1.92 | $1.90 | $1.73 | $2.07 | $1.64 | $1.64 | $2.56 | $2.82 |

This tabulation was prepared by the Wisconsin Crop and Live Stock Reporting Service from monthly reports of crop reporters.

material effect on price, however, and the stocks of concentrated milk have not affected markets unfavorably. Cheese stocks on January 1, on the contrary, were 12 per cent lower than a year earlier, reflecting the reduced production.

In addition to domestic production, dairy products equivalent to almost a billion pounds of milk were imported, in spite of the prevailing tariffs. The United States will probably continue to import large quantities of cheese, fresh cream, and milk, and to import some butter. Out exports of condensed and evaporated milk will probably continue to decline, owing to foreign competition in the production of condensed and evaporated milk and to the protected position of the producers of other dairy products.

Since production and prices of dairy products in foreign countries tend to affect the price level to which our domestic prices can rise, producers should watch developments as to foreign production and markets. Foreign dairy production has recovered from the effects of the war and continues to increase. The rate of increase, however, appears to have been checked in the past two years, with supplies of butter and cheese in the principal foreign markets in 1927 practically no greater than in 1926, and only slightly greater than in 1925. The checking of supplies, however, has been due in part to temporary conditions such as drought in Australia. Present indications are that foreign dairy production next year will be maintained and may be increased. A favorable season in Australia such as in 1920-21 and 1924-25, together with favorable conditions in other important producing countries, would probably result in a considerable increase in supplies.

## The Milk Frontier Advances

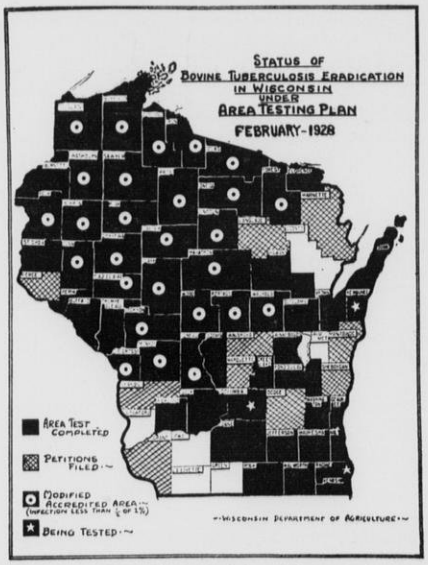
Competition for Wisconsin milk is forcing more and more of it into higher uses. The various uses, butter, cheese, condensed milk and marked milk have advanced in waves. Some farms in Eastern Wisconsin having experienced all of these in the last 30 or 40 years. With a growing population and gradually increasing per capita consumption of dairy products, these changes must continue in the dairy regions. More and more the milk available in Wisconsin is being demanded for fluid consumption by the cities of this state and others as well. The amount of fresh milk going to Chicago and other outside points has increased greatly in the last few years, and shipments of cream and ice cream mix seem to have increased even more.

One of the results in this change is a definite reduction in the production of cheese during the last two years and the increase of the area furnishing fluid milk for city markets. One notable difference in the advance of the present milk frontier as compared with a few years ago is the fact that the expansion of the market milk no longer is limited to contiguous territory. By means of tank cars and refrigeration facilities fresh milk and its products are more easily shipped long distances and as a result we find a breaking up of old boundary lines. Market milk for Chicago in 1927 was drawn from at least 32 counties in Wisconsin, some of the shipping and concentration points being located a long way from what was formerly known as market milk territory.

## Some Feed Prices Higher, Others Lower

While prices on some grain and concentrate feeds advanced during the past year, hay and roughages are cheaper. In general the spread between dairy prices and feed prices was rather favorable in most sections for the year 1927. According to the United States report, present indications are that these conditions will continue for perhaps another year or two. The higher price of concentrates as compared with hays and roughages probably affects the market milk areas more than other dairy sections. A markedly wider spread between the cost of feed and the price of dairy products would no doubt stimulate production, but there seems no particular reason to expect the present spread to be widened by any marked decrease in the price of feed, and in view of the foreign situation a materially higher price for dairy products as a whole is not expected. Although the ratio of the price of feed to the price of dairy products might easily become somewhat less favorable than at present, dairy producers can reasonably look forward to only a very gradual expansion in dairy production during the next two years and to a continuation of conditions somewhat similar to those which now prevail.

Summarizing the dairy situation, the U. S. outlook report states as follows:




The area of cattle tested for tuberculosis now includes most of the state.

"The generally favorable outlook for dairying seems to be shared by practically all sections of the country, and all sections show moderate increases in the number of heifers and calves being raised for milk cows.

"In the northeast the percentage of the production needed to meet urban demands for fluid milk and cream has been steadily increasing and will probably continue to increase for some time to come. Although conditions have been improving gradually for some time there has been no corresponding increase in production principally because of the failure of dairymen to raise heifer calves during the past few years when milk prices were low. Recently interest in dairying has been renewed and there has been an increase in the number of calves saved, but on January 1, the total young stock on hand seemed no more than sufficient for normal replacements.

"In the central butter and cheese regions conditions seem likely to continue substantially as at present. In the eastern part of this region the shipment of fluid milk and cream seems likely to increase and those localities which are prepared to furnish a large and uniform volume of high-quality product are likely to receive the benefits of somewhat higher prices. The continued increase in butter production in the western portion of the Corn Belt does not seem likely to cause an undue increase in United States butter production.

"Increasing consumption of dairy products and development of more efficient methods of production are aiding in the development of the dairy industry in the South. Indications are that there will be a fairly steady expansion, with satisfactory returns to areas which are growing into dairying. Some evidence of the expansion which has already taken place is to be found in the establishment of several condenseries in southern states.

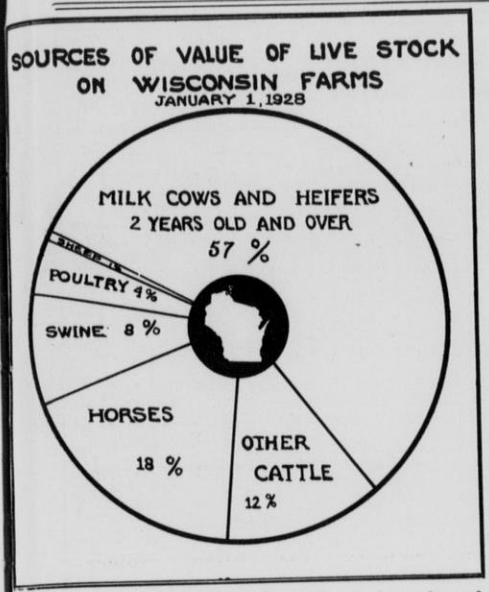
"Dairy production on the Pacific Coast is not keeping pace with demand, with the result that the Coast is reaching back into the mountain country for its supplies. The upward trend in demand and rapid development of the industry in this region seems likely to continue for some time."

## Beef Cattle

Farm receipts from the sale of cattle and calves make approximately 10 per cent of the gross farm income in the state. Prices on these commodities improved during the past year and the outlook for the coming year appears favorable.

Wisconsin cattle shipments to packers and stock yard in 1927 were 393,288 head as compared with the record shipments of 405,868 head in 1926. The shipments of calves in 1927 were 833,108 head as compared with 848,828 head in 1926.

Market supplies of cattle in 1928 will probably be 6 to 10 per cent smaller than in 1927. The number of




Cattle are the source of 69 per cent of the value of livestock in Wisconsin.

cattle and calves on farms and ranges January 1, 1928, was 2 per cent smaller than a year earlier and was the smallest number since 1912. In view of the expected relatively high price of beef compared with other important meats, demand for beef may be somewhat less than in 1927. It seems reasonably certain that prices of slaughter cattle will average higher than in 1927, although peak prices of that year may not be equalled. Stocker and feeder cattle are expected to enjoy a good active market in 1928 with average prices for the year above those of 1927.

If the demand for beef in 1928 falls below that of 1927 it is not likely that such reduction will offset the expected decrease in market supplies. Average cattle prices therefore, are expected to be considerably higher in 1928 than in 1927 although the peak prices of 1927 may not be exceeded.

## Hogs

Hogs furnish the second largest source of our gross farm income, the amount varying usually from 13 to 15 per cent of the total. Prices during the past year took a decided downward trend, largely because of unexpectedly large supplies and because of a marked slump in the European market.

Wisconsin swine shipments to packers and stock yards in 1927 were 2,156,100 head as compared with 1,961,848 in 1926. Only once has this number of hogs from Wisconsin been exceeded, 2,177,000 head were shipped in 1923.

The U. S. Outlook Report states the following regarding the swine situation: "With increased slaughter, smaller exports, larger storage supplies, and prices of hogs and hog products much lower than in 1926 domestic consumption of hog products in the summer of 1927 was 15 per cent larger than a year earlier. A slightly larger-than-average seasonal drop in prices from October to December resulted in the hog price level at the end of 1927 being 30 per cent lower than a year earlier but per capita consumption was only about 10 per cent larger."

No changes are anticipated in purchasing power in our principal foreign markets which will materially affect their demand for hogs. With the greater competition from foreign production, however, and the consequent lower foreign demand for our cured pork and to a lesser extent for lard, it is likely that exports of hog products will be even lower in 1928 than in 1927.

**Prices to June 1:** Supplies of hogs during the first half of 1928 will probably be somewhat above last season, with slaughterings perhaps 8 to 12 per cent higher than a year ago. Domestic demand is likely to strengthen but foreign demand will probably continue to weaken so no material improvement in the demand situation as a whole can be expected.

**Prices June 1 to October 30:** Supplies next summer will probably be somewhat larger than a year ago, but with continued low demand only a moderate strengthening in prices from those of the current winter can be expected, with summer and fall prices probably averaging lower than a year earlier.

**Prices After November 1:** If farmers carry out the reduction in the next spring pig crop that is indicated by the fall survey, supplies next winter will be substantially reduced. At the same time somewhat reduced supplies in Europe may improve foreign demand to a slight extent. While prices will be on the upward swing of the cycle, the upward trend will be just starting and no sharp advances seem likely before the summer of 1929, depending on the next corn crop and subsequent changes in numbers of hogs.

## Sheep and Wool

Wisconsin has not been a heavy producer of sheep and wool in recent years, only about 1 per cent of the gross farm income coming from this source. Yet wool is a product of which we import a great deal and a tariff protects the home producer. Mutton and lamb have met fair markets and our production goes almost wholly into domestic consumption.

The number of sheep in Wisconsin have increased from the low point reached in 1923, the estimate for January 1, 1928, being 430,000 head. This shows a reduction from a year ago which is accounted for largely by the decrease of the activities of the sheep feeders who normally ship large numbers into the state from the West. The number of native sheep in the state appears to be increasing and the Wisconsin shipments to packers and stock yards were 364,481 head as compared with 316,295 head in 1926. It appears that Wisconsin could probably increase the income from sheep and wool to good advantage at present prices and this phase of our animal industry could easily become more popular.

According to the U. S. Outlook report the situation regarding sheep and wool is stated as follows: "Sheep numbers continue to increase and prospects indicate a lamb crop for 1928 somewhat larger than a year ago. Consumer demand for lamb is not likely to improve sufficiently to offset the prospective increase in production. With wool stocks in this country light and with a strong foreign market the outlook for wool appears favorable.

"The number of sheep and lambs in the United States continued to increase during 1927, and on January 1, 1928, the number was estimated at 44,545,000 head. This number was 2,699,000 head or 6.5 per cent larger than the revised estimate of numbers January 1, 1927, and the largest number in sixteen years.

"Market prices of live lambs during the last half of 1927 averaged about the same or slightly higher than a year earlier. The relatively high level through October to the middle of December was largely caused by reduced supplies of feeder lambs at central markets and the strong feeder demand

**NUMBER AND VALUE OF LIVESTOCK ON WISCONSIN FARMS ON JANUARY 1, 1928 AND 1927**

| | Number (000 omitted) | | Farm price per head* | | Farm value (000 omitted) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 | 1927 | 1928 | 1927 | 1928 | 1927 |
| Cows and heifers 2 years old and over milked or to be milked | 1,994 | 2,014 | $90.00 | $74.00 | $ 179,460 | $149,036 |
| Heifers 1 to 2 years old kept for milk cows | 373 | 345 | | | | |
| Other cattle | 573 | 601 | | | | |
| All cattle | 2,960 | 2,960 | $72.70 | $60.00 | $ 215,083 | $177,563 |
| Horses | 572 | 579 | $98.00 | $95.00 | $ 56,250 | $ 55,208 |
| Mules | 7 | 7 | 95.00 | 82.00 | 665 | 572 |
| Swine | 1,863 | 1,826 | $13.00 | $17.00 | $ 24,219 | $ 31,042 |
| Sheep and lambs | 430 | 469 | $10.20 | $ 9.60 | $ 4,389 | $ 4,528 |
| Poultry | 14,815 | 14,711 | $ .91 | $ .93 | $ 13,481 | $ 13,681 |
| Colonies of bees | 130 | 129 | $ 6.00 | $ 6.75 | $ 780 | $ 871 |
| Total | | | | | $ 314,867 | $283,465 |

*Farm price per head of all cattle, horses, mules, sheep and lambs computed in round numbers from farm value

as feeder lambs sold at a rather wide premium over fat lambs. Lamb pelts were also higher than a year earlier. Near the middle of December increased supplies of killing lambs, accompanied by an apparent slackening in feeder demand, caused a rather sharp break in prices of all lambs with the greatest decline on heavyweights.

"The outlook for wool appears favorable. Supplies abroad are light, foreign markets continued strong, domestic prices of wool are below the tariff differential from foreign prices, and no further recession in general business conditions seems probable in the near future.

## Horses

The number of horses in Wisconsin showed a decrease of about 1 per cent on January 1, 1928, as compared with a year ago in spite of the fact that over 20,000 head were imported into the state last year. The U. S. Outlook report offers the following regarding the situation on horses:

"Higher farm income in the South and in the Great Plains this season has brought about an increased demand for horses and mules, and prices for the first half of 1928 are likely to be higher than a year ago. Present numbers of colts indicate further decreases in the horse and mule population for several years to come. Eventually, this reduction will reach a point where scarcity will cause prices to rise to higher levels. Increased breeding of work animals is advisable as a side line in areas of cheap pasture, east of the Rocky Mountains.

"The increase in the January 1, 1928, farm prices of both horses and mules over a year ago indicates that the price decline of the past eight years has been checked and possibly that the upswing of the price cycle has begun.

## Eggs and Poultry

About 10 per cent of the gross farm income, in recent years, of Wisconsin has come from poultry. The number of chickens on farms increased rapidly until 1927 when a period of low egg prices prevailed and the rate of increase in numbers seems to have been checked.

The Outlook report states the following: "The number of laying hens and pullets on January 1, 1928, probably was not much different from that of January 1, 1927. Feed grains and mill feeds, which enter the ordinary rations used by poultrymen and which constitute the principal items of cost in poultry farming, will probably average somewhat higher in price during the first six months of the year. Present conditions indicate that egg production will be about the same in 1928 as in 1927. However, the low storage holdings of eggs on January 1, and the favorable outcome of the 1927 storage season, are factors which should result in better egg prices during the coming year.

"The egg outlook is more favorable to producers than a year ago, because of smaller holdings on January 1, and the favorable outcome of the storage deal during the past year which should strengthen the demand for eggs during the storage season. The more favorable situation suggested by the storage holdings is strengthened by the recent receipts at the principal markets. While receipts of eggs at the five markets for October and November were slightly larger than during the same months of 1926, the receipts for December were about 20 per cent less, and this condition has continued during the first half of January."

**MONTHLY WISCONSIN LIVESTOCK PRICES—1926-1927***
**Average Price for All Purposes as Received by Producers**

| Month | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep | | Lambs | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 | 1926 | 1927 |
| January | $5.40 | $5.70 | $10.20 | $10.20 | $10.60 | $10.80 | $6.70 | $5.30 | $13.00 | $11.90 |
| February | 5.50 | 5.80 | 10.30 | 10.80 | 11.70 | 11.10 | 7.00 | 5.60 | 12.00 | 11.50 |
| March | 5.60 | 6.20 | 10.30 | 10.20 | 11.70 | 10.90 | 6.80 | 5.90 | 12.30 | 12.10 |
| April | 6.00 | 6.40 | 9.10 | 9 50 | 11.50 | 10.50 | 6.20 | 8.60 | 11.80 | 12.70 |
| May | 6.10 | 6.50 | 8.30 | 8.70 | 11.90 | 9.30 | 7.00 | 6.40 | 12.20 | 12.40 |
| June | 6.20 | 6.90 | 10.40 | 9.60 | 12.70 | 8.20 | 6.80 | 6.40 | 13.20 | 12.50 |
| July | 5.60 | 6.60 | 10.00 | 10.30 | 12.50 | 8.30 | 5.60 | 5.50 | 12.40 | 11.90 |
| August | 5.70 | 6.50 | 10.60 | 11.10 | 11.40 | 9.00 | 5.30 | 5.70 | 11.50 | 11.60 |
| September | 5.90 | 6.40 | 11.30 | 12.10 | 12.00 | 9.40 | 6.50 | 5.00 | 12.00 | 11.00 |
| October | 5.60 | 6.80 | 11.80 | 12.30 | 12.10 | 10.10 | 5.50 | 5.30 | 11.70 | 11.30 |
| November | 5.60 | 6.70 | 9.90 | 10.60 | 11.40 | 8.80 | 5.60 | 5.60 | 11.70 | 11.30 |
| December | 5.60 | 7.40 | 9.50 | 10.80 | 10.90 | 7.90 | 5.30 | 5.50 | 11.30 | 11.90 |
| Weighted yearly average.. | $5.76 | $6.55 | $10.04 | $10.35 | $11.61 | $ 9.50 | $5.88 | $5.75‡ | $11.89 | $11.80† |

*Monthly figures from United States Department of Agriculture "Crops and Markets", weighted averages computed by Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.
‡Straight average.
†Adjustment estimated srom straight average of $11.84.

## The Potato Outlook

Advance information indicates that United States potato growers contemplate a further increase in acreage. About 3,505,000 acres were grown in 1927 as compared with about 3,148,000 acres in 1926. With better seed and improved methods as now employed it appears that any increase in acreage is dangerous for the 402 million bushel crops of 1927 brought a sharp reaction in price. Prices during 1925 and 1926 were favorable because production was low. These prices cannot, however, be expected to return if the acreage is further increased and yields are normal. It is well to remember that the small crop of 1925 brought the farmers of the state nearly four times as much money as the bumper crop of 1924.

## Tobacco

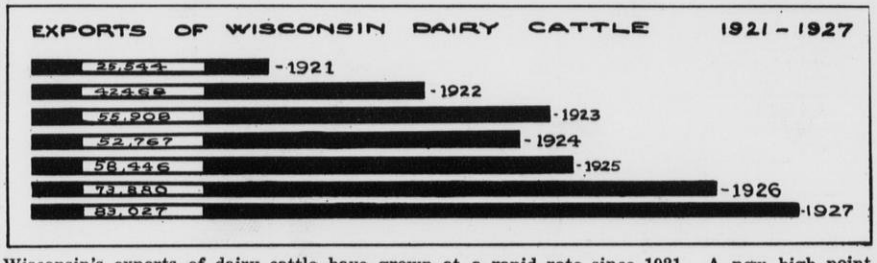
In general the tobacco outlook is reported to be better than it has been for several years. Reduced production in 1927 has brought about a marked strengthening of the market and most of the crop is moving at favorable prices. Stocks of cigar tobacco are reduced to a low point and some increase in production of the important types appears to be justified according to the Outlook report.

## Cabbage

Prices on cabbage were reduced in 1927 due to a somewhat larger production. Apparently one million tons of this commodity is about the present market requirement and production above that point is dangerous to the price. A small reduction in production would undoubtedly restore prices to those of the last few years.

## Clover Seed

The 1927 crop of red clover seed was the largest since 1922, but followed four consecutive small crops, which in 1926 culminated in the smallest crop ever recorded, with the lowest available supply in 25 years. In the spring of 1927, consumption was curtailed because of high prices which were next to the record peaks of 1919 and 1920. Owing to the lack of supplies from previous years, preference of farmers for domestic seed, the expected increase in consumption this year, and as protection against a recurrence of a shortage like that of a year ago, the production of red clover seed should be maintained.




Wisconsin's exports of dairy cattle have grown at a rapid rate since 1921. A new high point of 83,027 head was reached in 1927.

# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
NILS A. OLSEN, Chief

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics
W. A. DUFFY, Commissioner

WALTER H. EBLING
Agricultural Statistician

Vol. VII, No. 3 | State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin | July, 1928

# JULY CROP OUTLOOK

STRIKING acreage changes and pronounced variations between the condition of different crops mark the July crop situation this year. Likewise the present picture varies greatly from that of a year ago. In 1927 the state harvested the greatest hay crop on record, while this year hay promises to be decidedly scarce. Corn on the other hand looks much better than it did a year ago. Spring sown small grains look good in most sections, but the condition of winter grains is unusually low.

## Winterkilling Heavy

Not for a long time have Wisconsin crops suffered so heavily from winter damage. Lack of snow and a spring marked by much freezing and thawing of the exposed soil were followed by a prolonged period of dry weather in which the normal recovery of the winter damaged crops was greatly reduced.

As a result, the preliminary estimate of the alfalfa acreage indicates a loss of about 90,000 acres, or 30 per cent of last year's total. In addition, much of the acreage remaining is thin of stand and is making low average yields. Clovers suffered also, but seemingly less than alfalfa.

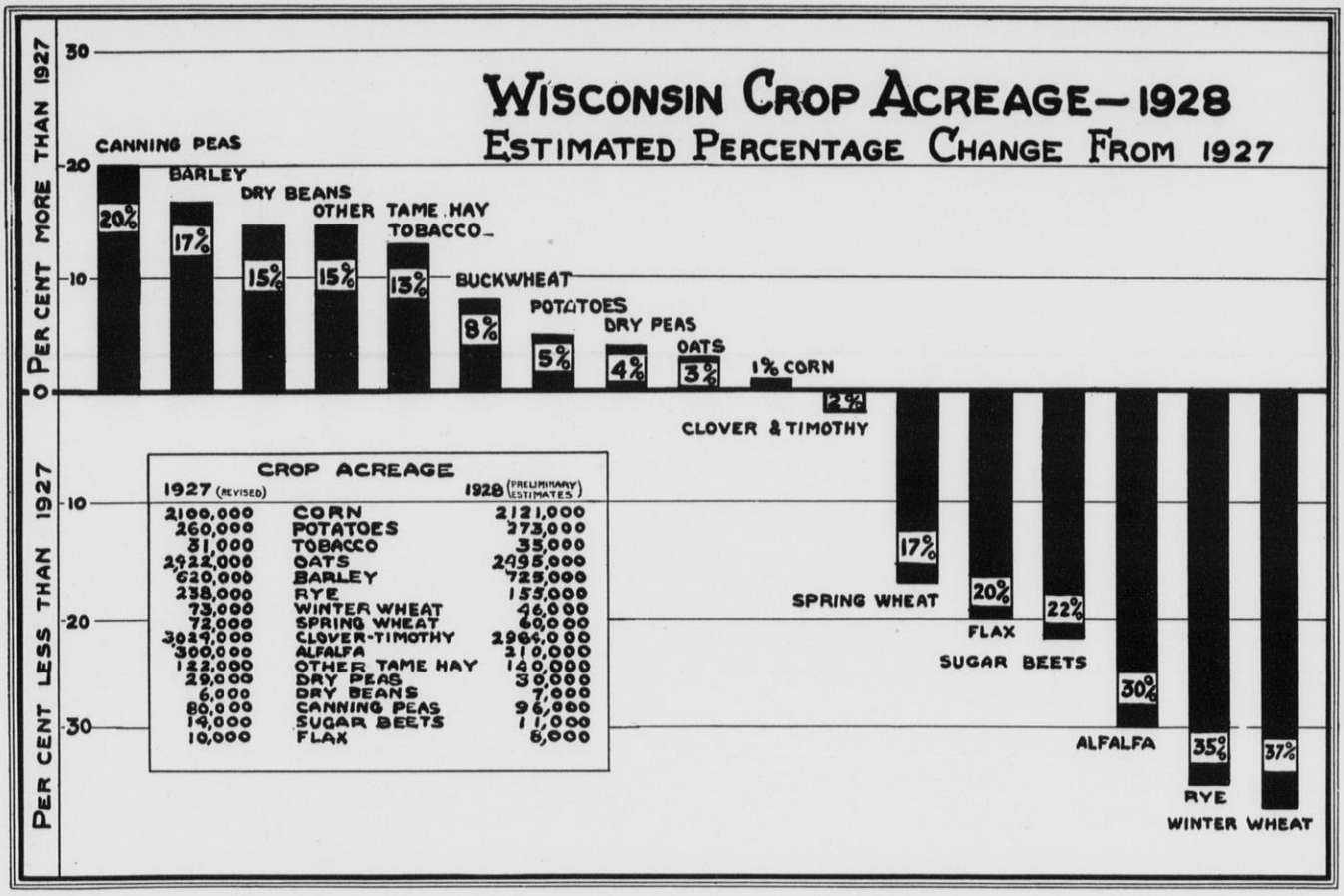
It is estimated that 37 per cent of the winter wheat acreage and 35 per cent of the rye were lost. On the light soils of District No. 5 the damage to rye was especially severe due, in a large part, to the dry weather of April and May.

## Cash Crops Increase

Notable increases are shown by most of Wisconsin's important cash crops. Apparently, this is also true for these crops throughout the United States. The potato acreage is estimated at 5 per cent more than last year, or a total of 273,000 acres. For the United States the increase is estimated at 9 per cent, a considerable portion of it occurring in the states producing early potatoes.

Tobacco in Wisconsin shows an acreage increase of 13 per cent, or a total of 35,000 acres. For the United States the indicated increase is 18 per cent. With the general shortage of cigar binder and filler tobacco such as is grown in Wisconsin, the increase in the tobacco acreage seems to be well justified.

Canning peas this year show an acreage increase of 20 per cent after a drop of 25 per cent last year. The acreage is estimated at 96,000 as com-



## CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR JULY 1

| Crop | Acreage | | | Production | | | | Condition, July 1 Per Cent of Normal | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | Per cent increase (+) or decrease (—) of 1928 acreage compared to 1927 acreage | July 1, 1928 forecast | 1927 | 5-year average 1923–27 | Unit | 1928 | 1927 | 5-year average 1923–27 |
| Corn | 2,121,000 | 2,100,000 | + 1 | 73,345,000 | 68,250,000 | 76,626,000 | Bu. | 76 | 68 | 77.4 |
| Potatoes | 273,000 | 260,000 | + 5 | 32,064,000 | 23,920,000 | 26,453,000 | Bu. | 87 | 83 | 86.2 |
| Tobacco | 35,000 | 31,000 | +13 | 41,430,000 | 33,170,000 | 38,866,000 | Lb. | 89 | 81 | 84.8 |
| Oats | 2,495,000 | 2,422,000 | + 3 | 97,679,000 | 93,247,000 | 102,379,000 | Bu. | 87 | 89 | 88.0 |
| Barley | 725,000 | 620,000 | +17 | 22,392,000 | 21,390,000 | 16,419,000 | Bu. | 87 | 89 | 88.6 |
| Rye | 155,000 | 238,000 | —35 | 1,884,000 | 4,046,000 | 4,476,000 | Bu. | 65 | 89 | 85.2 |
| Winter wheat | 46,000 | 73,000 | —37 | 729,000 | 1,716,000 | 1,426,000 | Bu. | 66 | 90 | 82.8 |
| Spring wheat | 60,000 | 72,000 | —17 | 1,021,000 | 1,426,000 | 1,127,000 | Bu. | 83 | 90 | 86.0 |
| Clover and timothy | 2,964,000 | 3,024,000 | — 2 | | | | | 61 | 92 | 92.0 |
| Alfalfa | 210,000 | 300,000 | —30 | 422,000 | 780,000 | 730,000 | Ton | 67 | 87 | 87.0 |
| Other tame hay | 140,000 | 122,000 | +15 | | | | | | | |
| All tame hay | 3,314,000 | 3,446,000 | — 4 | 4,109,000 | 6,989,000 | 5,769,000 | Ton | 62 | 92 | 78.8 |
| Dry peas | 30,000 | 29,000 | + 4 | | | | | 89 | 88 | 86.6 |
| Dry beans | 7,000 | 6,000 | +15 | 72,000 | 40,000 | 83,000 | Bu. | 86 | 87 | 85.8 |
| Flax | 8,000 | 10,000 | —20 | 100,000 | 132,000 | 123,000 | Bu. | 83 | 85 | 86.0 |
| Canning peas | 96,000 | 80,000 | +20 | 1,680,000 | 1,600,000 | 2,089,000 | Cwt. | 88 | 88 | 83.4 |
| Sugar beets | 11,000 | 14,000 | —22 | 77,000 | 90,000 | [1]141,000 | Ton | 83 | 82 | 83.4 |
| Apples | | | | 1,818,000 | 1,200,000 | 1,836,000 | Bu. | 76 | 66 | 71.6 |
| Pasture | | | | | | | | 71 | 93 | 86.0 |

[1]Four-year average, 1924–27.

pared with 80,000 harvested last year. The early peas are making low yields, but the outlook for late peas is much better. The early varieties were planted very late, and because of the dry weather at planting time they came up unevenly thus making it almost impossible to harvest the peas so as to get maximum yields.

### Spring Grains Look Good

For most parts of the state the spring sown grains are reported as being in good condition, though not as far advanced as a year ago. Furthermore, on the clay soil along Lake Michigan the crops are late and have suffered from excessive rains during the latter part of June. In a few localities in the western district some hail and storm damage is reported.

Barley leads in the acreage increase among the small grains with 17 per cent, which brings the state total up to 725,000 acres. If the barley acreage continues to advance at the rate of the last few years, the Wisconsin acreage of this crop will soon exceed the large acreage formerly grown for malting purposes. For the United States as a whole this crop has increased nearly 30 per cent this year and we will probably have a larger crop than ever previously grown.

In spite of the unusually favorable weather for corn planting this crop shows an increase in acreage of only one per cent. The condition on July 1 was 8 per cent above a year ago.

### Hay Production Poor

With the large amount of winter damage and the dry spring, the hay crop will be small. Nearly a third of the alfalfa acreage was lost and also much clover and timothy. On the acreage harvested many fields have poor stands and are making low yields.

The favorable rains of late June and early July helped some fields but were generally too late for the hay. Many farmers cut the first crop earlier in order to try for a good second crop after the rains. Pastures likewise have been poor but are now showing improvement following the rains.

### 1928 Milk Prices Above 1927

It now looks as if for the first time in eight years the average Wisconsin milk price would not fall below $2.00 for any month in the spring or summer season.

## CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR JULY 1

| Crop | Acreage (000 omitted) | | | Production (000 omitted) | | | | Condition, July 1 Per cent of Normal | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | Per cent increase (+) or decrease (—) of 1928 acreage compared to 1927 acreage | July 1, 1928 forecast | 1927 | 5-year average 1923–27 | Unit | 1928 | 1927 | 10-year average 1918–27 |
| Corn | 102,380 | 98,868 | + 4 | 2,735,617 | 2,773,708 | 2,751,687 | Bu. | 78.1 | 69.9 | 82.6 |
| Potatoes | 3,842 | 3,517 | + 9 | 443,640 | 406,964 | 383,526 | Bu. | 84.8 | 84.9 | 85.8 |
| Tobacco | 1,856 | 1,575 | +18 | 1,311,824 | 1,195,880 | 1,335,760 | Lb. | 74.1 | 73.6 | 79.3 |
| Oats | 41,974 | 42,029 | | 1,320,097 | 1,184,146 | 1,347,563 | Bu. | 79.9 | 79.9 | 81.0 |
| Barley | 12,243 | 9,454 | +29 | 303,110 | 264,392 | 208,722 | Bu. | 81.3 | 84.2 | 82.9 |
| Rye | 3,535 | 3,690 | — 4 | 39,274 | 58,811 | 54,873 | Bu. | 66.7 | 89.7 | 82.2 |
| Winter wheat | 36,125 | 37,938 | — 5 | 543,782 | 553,288 | 549,117 | Bu. | 75.0 | 75.0 | 77.5 |
| Spring wheat | 15,478 | 15,440 | | 182,623 | 243,152 | 199,680 | Bu. | 71.7 | 89.8 | 82.6 |
| Flax | 2,831 | 2,906 | — 3 | 21,461 | 26,570 | 23,390 | Bu. | 76.8 | 86.3 | 82.5 |
| Tame hay | 58,631 | 61,310 | — 4 | 84,383 | 106,468 | 93,061 | Ton | 76.7 | 89.9 | 79.5 |

## COUNTY STATISTICS—CONDITION OF WISCONSIN CROPS ON JULY 1

Condition, July 1, in Per Cent of Normal

| COUNTY | Corn | | Oats | | Barley | | Tame Hay | | Pasture | | Rye | | Potatoes | | Canning Peas | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year |
| Barron | 79 | 63 | 95 | 96 | 95 | 96 | 76 | 99 | 87 | 103 | 93 | 87 | 95 | 87 | 103 | 85 |
| Bayfield | 60 | 50 | 82 | 70 | 75 | 70 | 65 | 101 | 72 | 104 | ..... | 70 | 72 | 71 | ..... | ..... |
| Burnett | 58 | 65 | 72 | 90 | 72 | 87 | 70 | 101 | 77 | 97 | 69 | 89 | 77 | 90 | 82 | 70 |
| Chippewa | 76 | 66 | 89 | 95 | 89 | 92 | 68 | 95 | 75 | 98 | 80 | 96 | 89 | 94 | 90 | 100 |
| Douglas | 70 | 50 | 80 | 70 | 70 | 70 | 70 | 97 | 67 | 95 | ..... | ..... | 80 | 53 | 70 | 65 |
| Polk | 68 | 53 | 85 | 91 | 86 | 96 | 77 | 98 | 82 | 95 | 92 | 100 | 81 | 74 | 84 | 100 |
| Rusk | 67 | 60 | 89 | 90 | 91 | 90 | 74 | 90 | 87 | 105 | 80 | ..... | 86 | 75 | ..... | ..... |
| Sawyer | 62 | 51 | 81 | 84 | 73 | 83 | 65 | 98 | 77 | 101 | 65 | 85 | 75 | 76 | ..... | ..... |
| Washburn | 75 | 56 | 91 | 94 | 86 | 83 | 61 | 102 | 81 | 98 | 87 | 98 | 84 | 76 | ..... | ..... |
| **Northwest District** | **70.6** | **58.5** | **87.8** | **86.8** | **86.9** | **84.5** | **70.0** | **98.8** | **79.6** | **99.9** | **83.1** | **90.2** | **85.2** | **81.0** | **89.7** | **81.3** |
| Ashland | 70 | 70 | 85 | 90 | 85 | 85 | 61 | 85 | 84 | 100 | 85 | 90 | 79 | 75 | 87 | ..... |
| Clark | 70 | 72 | 84 | 82 | 78 | 88 | 62 | 97 | 79 | 85 | 70 | 82 | 83 | 85 | 89 | 90 |
| Iron | 60 | ..... | 80 | ..... | 75 | 85 | 70 | ..... | 90 | 91 | ..... | ..... | 70 | 78 | ..... | ..... |
| Lincoln | 55 | 60 | 82 | 90 | 82 | 88 | 58 | 98 | 68 | 92 | 70 | 80 | 75 | 76 | 83 | 83 |
| Marathon | 68 | 61 | 87 | 88 | 82 | 85 | 62 | 100 | 65 | 89 | 80 | 90 | 75 | 70 | 93 | ..... |
| Oneida | 70 | 50 | 95 | 100 | 90 | 100 | 69 | 95 | 73 | 85 | 80 | 90 | 93 | 78 | ..... | ..... |
| Price | 58 | 67 | 79 | 93 | 80 | 90 | 72 | 92 | 84 | 100 | ..... | ..... | 72 | 89 | 77 | ..... |
| Taylor | 63 | 62 | 92 | 83 | 76 | 77 | 59 | 85 | 73 | 95 | 75 | 90 | 83 | 74 | 100 | 105 |
| Vilas | 50 | 68 | 90 | 96 | 95 | 88 | 75 | 93 | 70 | 98 | 75 | ..... | 75 | 88 | ..... | ..... |
| **North District** | **64.9** | **63.6** | **94.9** | **88.8** | **81.1** | **86.2** | **63.0** | **91.2** | **75.1** | **92.6** | **76.7** | **85.5** | **79.9** | **79.4** | **90.4** | **90.0** |
| Florence | 79 | 67 | 90 | 83 | 95 | 95 | 90 | 80 | 85 | 87 | 100 | 100 | 90 | 80 | ..... | 100 |
| Forest | 70 | 65 | 78 | 90 | 86 | 85 | 75 | 86 | 85 | 92 | ..... | ..... | 78 | 83 | ..... | ..... |
| Langlade | 70 | 60 | 75 | 86 | 85 | 84 | 65 | 85 | 68 | 90 | ..... | 85 | 75 | 75 | ..... | ..... |
| Marinette | 75 | 69 | 92 | 88 | 87 | 81 | 65 | 88 | 63 | 94 | 70 | 77 | 90 | 82 | ..... | 98 |
| Oconto | 72 | 64 | 90 | 83 | 85 | 80 | 59 | 96 | 76 | 95 | 77 | 94 | 84 | 80 | 95 | 100 |
| Shawano | 71 | 50 | 81 | 82 | 87 | 80 | 57 | 90 | 69 | 85 | 76 | 95 | 80 | 80 | ..... | 75 |
| **Northeast District** | **72.5** | **64.3** | **85.1** | **85.7** | **87.8** | **83.0** | **63.9** | **87.4** | **74.5** | **90.6** | **77.3** | **88.7** | **82.9** | **80.1** | **95.0** | **94.6** |
| Buffalo | 67 | 75 | 80 | 102 | 98 | 102 | 65 | 95 | 75 | 100 | 60 | 88 | 95 | 91 | ..... | ..... |
| Dunn | 76 | 61 | 87 | 89 | 89 | 85 | 58 | 95 | 78 | 92 | 80 | 85 | 84 | 81 | ..... | 75 |
| Eau Claire | 67 | 69 | 80 | 85 | 81 | 85 | 61 | 90 | 73 | 90 | 55 | 92 | 83 | 85 | 80 | 92 |
| Jackson | 77 | 58 | 91 | 88 | 85 | 88 | 59 | 87 | 84 | 91 | 69 | 80 | 90 | 84 | 90 | 88 |
| La Crosse | 84 | 79 | 79 | 86 | 83 | 95 | 54 | 103 | 69 | 90 | 52 | 88 | 90 | 90 | 67 | 90 |
| Monroe | 86 | 64 | 91 | 87 | 92 | 91 | 68 | 96 | 81 | 97 | 77 | 86 | 96 | 89 | 60 | 90 |
| Pepin | 70 | 59 | 92 | 81 | 92 | 81 | 56 | 98 | 82 | 95 | 78 | 88 | 92 | 70 | 80 | 100 |
| Pierce | 70 | 58 | 93 | 93 | 94 | 92 | 59 | 94 | 75 | 99 | 72 | 97 | 89 | 86 | ..... | 90 |
| St Croix | 65 | 54 | 78 | 90 | 89 | 89 | 58 | 96 | 65 | 98 | 76 | 90 | 72 | 88 | 95 | 100 |
| Trempealeau | 79 | 70 | 86 | 90 | 93 | 98 | 65 | 99 | 76 | 97 | 77 | 93 | 93 | 89 | 85 | 101 |
| **West District** | **73.9** | **63.9** | **86.0** | **89.8** | **89.8** | **91.1** | **60.0** | **95.4** | **75.7** | **95.1** | **70.2** | **89.2** | **87.7** | **85.4** | **82.7** | **92.6** |
| Adams | 61 | 55 | 90 | 78 | 95 | 86 | 62 | 90 | 86 | 92 | 45 | 77 | 89 | 85 | ..... | ..... |
| Green Lake | 66 | 60 | 89 | 91 | 89 | 91 | 57 | 88 | 61 | 85 | 54 | 90 | 87 | 85 | 90 | 85 |
| Juneau | 68 | 60 | 87 | 83 | 97 | 90 | 56 | 85 | 71 | 93 | 48 | 80 | 93 | 81 | 80 | ..... |
| Marquette | 73 | 67 | 94 | 93 | 95 | 94 | 59 | 94 | 78 | 93 | 49 | 96 | 87 | 88 | ..... | ..... |
| Portage | 67 | 59 | 89 | 83 | 85 | 86 | 58 | 92 | 85 | 93 | 51 | 83 | 76 | 77 | ..... | ..... |
| Waupaca | 79 | 63 | 86 | 83 | 84 | 86 | 61 | 92 | 73 | 85 | 66 | 91 | 79 | 78 | ..... | ..... |
| Waushara | 68 | 71 | 87 | 80 | 92 | 75 | 55 | 87 | 72 | 89 | 62 | 90 | 91 | 89 | 90 | 100 |
| Wood | 65 | 73 | 92 | 91 | 90 | 86 | 57 | 101 | 72 | 103 | 89 | 94 | 87 | 84 | 87 | 96 |
| **Central District** | **69.2** | **64.2** | **89.4** | **84.7** | **89.9** | **87.3** | **58.4** | **91.4** | **74.1** | **92.0** | **55.7** | **87.4** | **85.6** | **83.1** | **89.3** | **91.3** |
| Brown | 74 | 67 | 82 | 85 | 80 | 86 | 57 | 84 | 61 | 86 | 60 | 90 | 90 | 89 | 87 | 95 |
| Calumet | 67 | 68 | 81 | 90 | 87 | 92 | 57 | 90 | 61 | 90 | 80 | 90 | 78 | 80 | 89 | 88 |
| Door | 81 | 75 | 90 | 92 | 86 | 92 | 70 | 78 | 79 | 83 | 75 | 83 | 97 | 94 | 90 | ..... |
| Fond du Lac | 69 | 59 | 88 | 90 | 91 | 89 | 57 | 86 | 62 | 89 | 77 | 97 | 86 | 84 | 87 | 91 |
| Kewaunee | 75 | 73 | 81 | 92 | 81 | 95 | 56 | 90 | 58 | 85 | 71 | 93 | 95 | 86 | 100 | ..... |
| Manitowoc | 78 | 75 | 88 | 86 | 90 | 84 | 78 | 80 | 74 | 88 | 72 | 81 | 84 | 83 | 91 | 81 |
| Outagamie | 71 | 78 | 88 | 80 | 89 | 80 | 60 | 95 | 65 | 94 | 77 | 95 | 86 | 86 | 86 | 90 |
| Sheboygan | 88 | 75 | 93 | 96 | 90 | 100 | 75 | 88 | 73 | 88 | 72 | 95 | 82 | 80 | 86 | 78 |
| Winnebago | 70 | 54 | 86 | 88 | 83 | 90 | 62 | 93 | 65 | 90 | 75 | 97 | 84 | 81 | 87 | 100 |
| **East District** | **73.6** | **67.8** | **86.8** | **88.2** | **87.4** | **89.2** | **62.8** | **86.0** | **66.0** | **87.6** | **71.7** | **90.9** | **85.9** | **85.6** | **87.6** | **88.1** |
| Crawford | 74 | 65 | 84 | 86 | 78 | 90 | 58 | 99 | 79 | 91 | 65 | 98 | 92 | 86 | 100 | ..... |
| Grant | 88 | 65 | 96 | 88 | 92 | 88 | 58 | 96 | 66 | 91 | 90 | ..... | 93 | 88 | 85 | 100 |
| Iowa | 77 | 62 | 90 | 91 | 89 | 90 | 57 | 96 | 67 | 94 | 67 | ..... | 98 | 82 | 90 | 80 |
| Lafayette | 89 | 60 | 92 | 86 | 88 | 90 | 54 | 93 | 64 | 91 | ..... | 100 | 88 | 90 | 70 | ..... |
| Richland | 74 | 71 | 87 | 92 | 95 | 86 | 56 | 89 | 63 | 96 | 62 | 93 | 90 | 87 | ..... | ..... |
| Sauk | 79 | 68 | 89 | 93 | 91 | 94 | 54 | 98 | 66 | 93 | 69 | 96 | 91 | 89 | 86 | 100 |
| Vernon | 76 | 60 | 80 | 88 | 82 | 91 | 52 | 97 | 63 | 96 | 85 | 95 | 90 | 81 | ..... | ..... |
| **Southwest District** | **79.6** | **64.0** | **88.2** | **89.1** | **88.7** | **89.8** | **55.7** | **95.4** | **66.3** | **93.1** | **69.4** | **95.7** | **91.9** | **86.2** | **85.3** | **90.0** |
| Columbia | 82 | 77 | 87 | 85 | 91 | 92 | 60 | 94 | 61 | 86 | 56 | 91 | 89 | 88 | 84 | 89 |
| Dane | 83 | 63 | 85 | 91 | 89 | 90 | 60 | 94 | 65 | 92 | 72 | 97 | 91 | 84 | 86 | 100 |
| Dodge | 83 | 70 | 93 | 89 | 95 | 93 | 72 | 94 | 70 | 91 | 75 | 92 | 88 | 81 | 84 | 91 |
| Green | 77 | 61 | 84 | 90 | 86 | 91 | 61 | 98 | 64 | 97 | 72 | 88 | 91 | 82 | ..... | ..... |
| Jefferson | 84 | 64 | 90 | 90 | 94 | 91 | 70 | 94 | 80 | 88 | 72 | 90 | 98 | 87 | 91 | 91 |
| Rock | 91 | 69 | 90 | 84 | 90 | 88 | 64 | 86 | 70 | 86 | 80 | 85 | 93 | 85 | 92 | 85 |
| **South District** | **83.5** | **67.7** | **88.5** | **88.5** | **91.2** | **91.0** | **65.2** | **93.6** | **68.9** | **90.2** | **70.0** | **90.7** | **91.7** | **84.2** | **87.4** | **90.6** |
| Kenosha | 79 | 77 | 88 | 84 | 89 | 80 | 71 | 89 | 82 | 92 | 87 | 80 | 92 | 86 | ..... | ..... |
| Milwaukee | 75 | 72 | 86 | 91 | 87 | 94 | 77 | 95 | 84 | 102 | 73 | 87 | 84 | 92 | ..... | ..... |
| Ozaukee | 60 | 68 | 89 | 88 | 91 | 88 | 72 | 86 | 73 | 90 | 62 | 83 | 82 | 76 | 89 | 85 |
| Racine | 78 | 76 | 98 | 83 | 98 | 84 | 69 | 86 | 67 | 92 | 90 | 100 | 88 | 87 | ..... | ..... |
| Walworth | 82 | 64 | 91 | 86 | 90 | 88 | 57 | 89 | 72 | 88 | 58 | 81 | 92 | 78 | 89 | 70 |
| Washington | 69 | 64 | 90 | 90 | 91 | 94 | 64 | 88 | 77 | 87 | 90 | 95 | 84 | 81 | 92 | 88 |
| Waukesha | 74 | 74 | 92 | 88 | 91 | 87 | 64 | 98 | 81 | 92 | 67 | 88 | 85 | 83 | 96 | 86 |
| **Southeast District** | **74.2** | **70.6** | **91.3** | **87.1** | **91.8** | **87.6** | **66.3** | **90.4** | **75.8** | **90.6** | **70.0** | **86.2** | **87.3** | **82.2** | **91.4** | **83.7** |
| **STATE** | **76.0** | **68.0** | **87.0** | **89.0** | **87.0** | **89.0** | **62.0** | **92.0** | **71.0** | **93.0** | **65.0** | **89.0** | **87.0** | **83.0** | **88.0** | **88.0** |

Comparative prices per hundred pounds of milk for the past three seasons are as follows:—

| | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | $2.34 | $2.25 | $2.11 |
| February | 2.25 | 2.22 | 2.04 |
| March | 2.15 | 2.11 | 1.96 |
| April | 2.07 | 2.05 | 1.80 |
| May | 2.00 | 1.98 | 1.74 |
| June | 2.03 | 1.96 | 1.79 |

May seems to have been the low point for 1928, dry weather and short pastures undoubtedly causing the June milk flow to fall below normal. In 1927 the average monthly price for three months fell below $2.00, while it was below for seven months in 1926 and nine months in 1925.

## 1928 Pig Crop Smaller

According to the recent pig survey made by the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Post Office Department, Wisconsin has about 18 per cent fewer brood sows this spring than last spring. The average number of pigs per litter is 6.3, which is exactly the same as a year ago. The reports also indicate that about 14 per cent fewer sows will be bred for fall farrowing in Wisconsin this year than last year.

A decrease of about 7 per cent in the spring pig crop of 1928 from that of 1927 for the United States as a whole and also for the Corn Belt States is shown by the survey. This decrease is equivalent to about 4,000,000 head of pigs for the United States of which over 3,000,000 represents the decrease for the Corn Belt States. A decrease in the fall pig crop of this year from that of last year is also indicated.

The number of sows farrowed in the spring of 1928 was 7.7 per cent smaller than in the spring of 1927 for the United States and 9 per cent smaller for the Corn Belt States. While the reported average number of spring pigs saved per litter for the United States was about the same as last year, the average in the Corn Belt was somewhat larger than last year.

## Fall Pigs Will Be Less

The reports of the number of sows bred or to be bred for farrowing in the fall of 1928 point to a decrease from last year in the fall pig crop, assuming a similar relationship between breeding intentions and actual farrowings that has prevailed in other years. While the reports from farmers this year show increases of sows bred or to be bred of 12 per cent for the United States and 9 per cent for the Corn Belt over the number of sows actually farrowed last fall, in other years the number of sows farrowed in the fall as reported in December has always been much below breeding intentions reported in June.

## Wisconsin Farm Labor

Wages of farm labor are slightly lower than a year ago, according to Wisconsin crop reporters. The average wage of hired farm labor by the month with board is $48.50 this year as compared with $49.75 last year; without board $66.75 as compared with $67.60 a year ago. Day labor appears to be about the same as a year ago. The average day wages on July 1st were:—With board, $2.45; without board $3.10. The potential supply of farm labor this year according to reports is 101 per cent of normal as compared with 97 per cent in July, 1927.

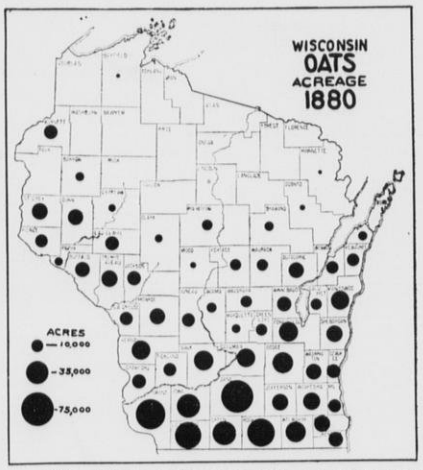
## Maple Sugar Production

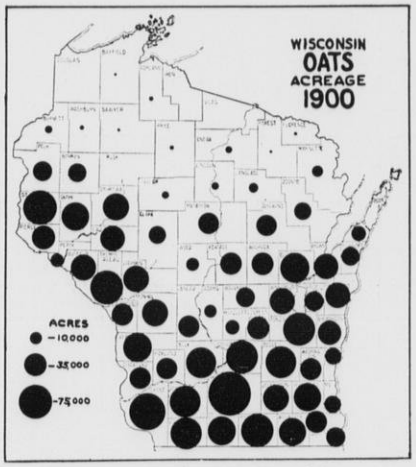
According to Wisconsin maple sugar growers, the 1928 maple sugar and syrup production was slightly larger than a year ago. The quality of the syrup made was reported as being very good in most parts of the state.

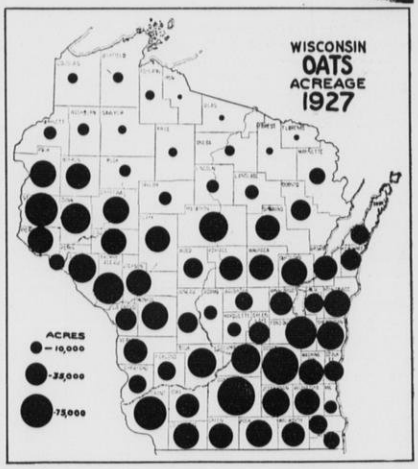
The season was rather long, which helped to increase the production. Reports from New York indicate that the season in that state was short due to warm weather early in April and the production in the East is below last year. Information from the New England States indicates that the maple sugar season in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont was short and unsatisfactory. The quality of syrup in these states was not high. In Massachusetts the sap flow was reported better than a number of years. The total production for the New England States is below that of the last two years.

The leading maple sugar states are Vermont which ranks first, followed by New York, New Hampshire, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Maine. The Wisconsin production for the past two years is estimated to be as follows:—

| | 1927 | 1928 |
|---|---|---|
| Number of trees tapped | 570,000 | 587,000 |
| Maple syrup produced, gallons | 154,000 | 164,000 |
| Maple sugar produced, pounds | 19,000 | 29,000 |
| Total production in terms of sugar, pounds | 1,249,000 | 1,312,000 |
| Price to farmers per gallon of syrup | $2.50 | $2.35 |
| Price to farmers per pound of sugar | 38c | 38c |




The Wisconsin acreage of oats has expanded greatly in the last fifty years and followed the frontier northward. The increase in the live stock industry requires an increasing acreage of this crop. 1928 plantings exceed 1927 by about 3 per cent

# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
NILS A. OLSEN, Chief

WALTER H. EBLING
Agricultural Statistician

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics
W. A. DUFFY, Commissioner

Vol. VII, No. 4 | State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin | August, 1928

# Crops Show Much Improvement

CROP improvement since the rains of late June and July has been outstanding in Wisconsin as well as in most important grain states. The favorable weather and rain beginning the third week in June were quite general and brought about a great change in the backward crop condition which prevailed up to that time. Nearly all crops have been benefited by the favorable weather, and excellent yields are in prospect for most of them except hay, which made a short first cutting. A net improvement of 8.7 per cent was made by all crops in Wisconsin during July, which compared with 9.2 per cent for the United States as a whole.

## Small Grain Crops Excellent

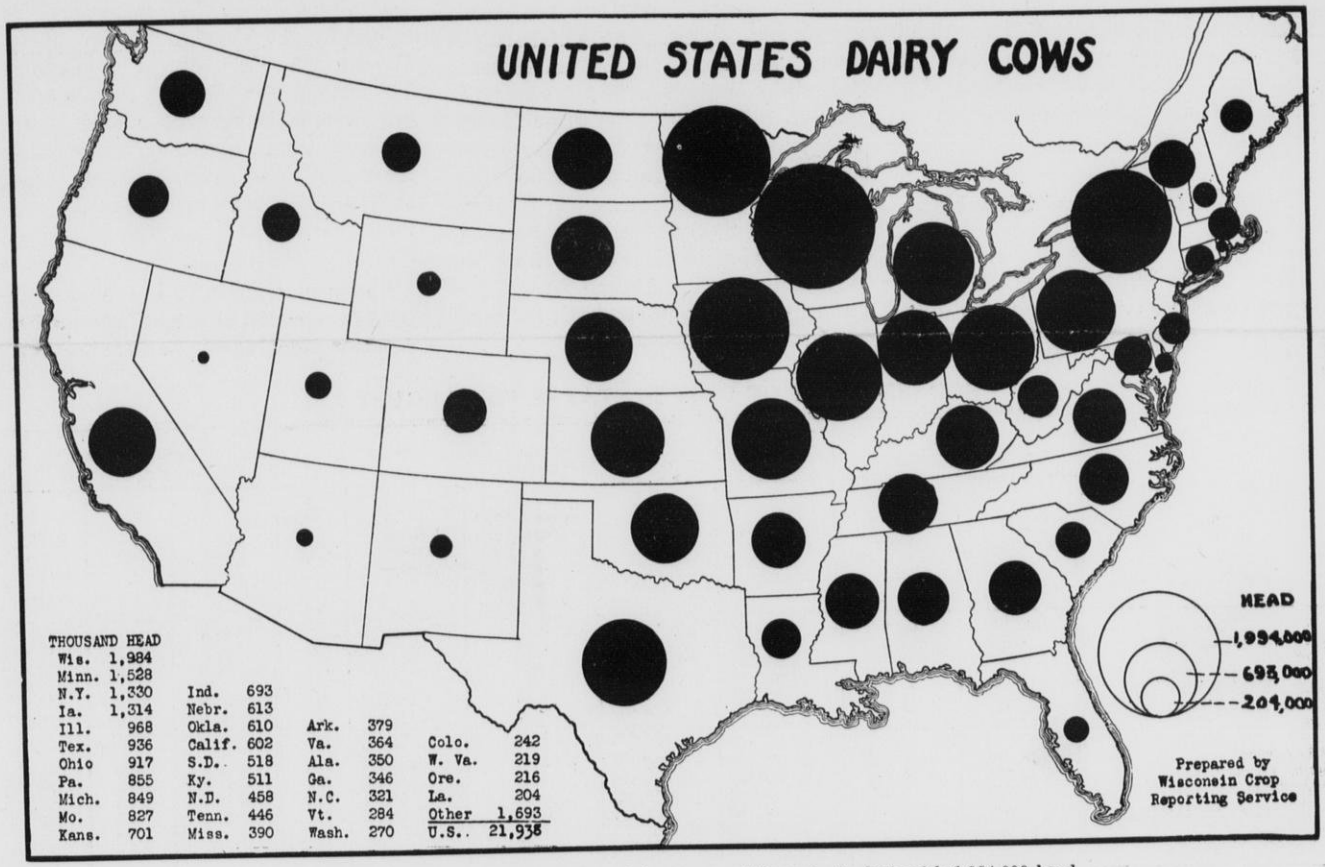
In spite of the backward condition early in the season, the outturn is excellent for barley, oats, spring wheat, and corn. Winter wheat and rye were so badly damaged by winterkilling that they recovered only partly, and the yields on these crops are generally low in the state.

According to the August forecast, the Wisconsin production of oats this year will be 103,293,000 bushels or nearly six million bushels higher than the estimate of July. The state's barley crop is estimated at 24,947,000 bushels, which is over 3,500,000 bushels above the splendid crop harvested a year ago. Corn likewise showed a marked improvement during July, and the condition of this crop in Wisconsin is very much better than it was a year ago.

The large production of these feed grains, together with the prospects for a second crop of hay, will go a long way to overcome the shortage of the first cutting of hay which Wisconsin experienced this year.

## Potato Crop Promises to Be Large

While it is still too early in the season to make a very accurate forecast as to the production of late potatoes,




The Upper Mississippi Valley leads in dairy cows. Wisconsin is first with 1,984,000 head.

## CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR AUGUST 1.

| Crop | Acreage | | Production | | | | | Condition, August 1 Per Cent of Normal | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | Aug. 1, 1928 forecast | 1927 | Per cent increase (+) or decrease (—) of Aug. 1 forecast compared to 1927 final production | 5-year average 1923–27 | Unit | 1928 | 1927 | 5-year average 1923–27 |
| Corn | 2,121,000 | 2,100,000 | 84,734,000 | 68,250,000 | +24 | 76,626,000 | Bu. | 85 | 66 | 78.6 |
| Potatoes | 273,000 | 260,000 | 33,538,000 | 23,920,000 | +40 | 26,453,000 | Bu. | 91 | 85 | 86.6 |
| Tobacco | 35,000 | 31,000 | 44,436,000 | 33,170,000 | +34 | 38,866,000 | Lb. | 92 | 78 | 83.4 |
| Oats | 2,495,000 | 2,422,000 | 103,293,000 | 93,247,000 | +11 | 102,379,000 | Bu. | 90 | 87 | 87.6 |
| Barley | 725,000 | 620,000 | 24,947,000 | 21,390,000 | +17 | 16,419,000 | Bu. | 93 | 91 | 90.2 |
| Rye | 155,000 | 238,000 | 2,015,000 | 4,046,000 | —50 | 4,476,000 | Bu. | 13.0[1] | 17.0[1] | 15.7[1] |
| Winter wheat | 46,000 | 73,000 | 828,000 | 1,716,000 | —52 | 1,426,000 | Bu. | 18.0[1] | 23.5[1] | 21.1[1] |
| Spring wheat | 60,000 | 72,000 | 1,214,000 | 1,426,000 | —15 | 1,127,000 | Bu. | 88 | 87 | 85.2 |
| Buckwheat | 25,000 | 23,000 | 400,000 | 382,000 | + 5 | 377,000 | Bu | 89 | 85 | 84.8 |
| Alfalfa | 210,000 | 300,000 | 469,000 | 780,000 | —40 | 730,000 | Ton | 77 | 87 | 90.0 |
| All tame hay | 3,314,000 | 3,446,000 | 4,523,000 | 6,989,000 | —35 | 5,769,000 | Ton | 70 | 97 | 83.4 |
| Dry peas | 30,000 | 29,000 | | | | | | 91 | 89 | 86.2 |
| Dry beans | 7,000 | 6,000 | 77,000 | 40,000 | +92 | 83,000 | Bu. | 88 | 88 | 86.8 |
| Flax | 8,000 | 10,000 | 107,000 | 132,000 | —19 | 123,000 | Bu. | 89 | 86 | 87.0 |
| Sugar beets | 11,000 | 14,000 | 79,000 | 90,000 | —12 | 141,000[2] | Ton | 87 | 88 | 88.6 |
| Apples | | | 1,982,000 | 1,200,000 | +65 | 1,836,000 | Bu. | 74 | 52 | 64.8 |
| Pasture | | | | | | | | 80 | 86 | 80.6 |

[1]Average yield per acre. [2]Four-year average, 1924-27.

this crop looks unusually well at this time. The condition of potatoes in Wisconsin is uniformly high, and on the basis of the August estimates a crop of over 33,000,000 bushels is indicated as compared with a production of less than 24,000,000 last year. For the United States as a whole, the outlook is likewise for a considerably larger crop than was harvested last year, though the effect of disease and early frosts may reduce the present outlook. The August estimate for United States potato production is 460,000,000 bushels.

### United States Crop Situation Good

Most of the important grain states in the country have experienced a July improvement somewhat like Wisconsin, and the production of the important crops now promises to be much higher than was indicated on the first of July. The August forecast for corn indicates a United States production of 3,030 million bushels as compared with 2,774 million last year. The United States oat production this year is estimated at 1,442 million bushels, which is 258 million bushels abovve the production a year ago. A record crop of barley is being harvested in the United States—344 million bushels or 30 per cent more than in 1927. Rye production is estimated at 26 per cent below last year. Small decreases in production are shown this year in spring wheat, buckwheat, and flax, as well as a decrease of 17 per cent in tame hay. Both the Wisconsin and the United States crop situations are summarized in table form in this publication.

### Foreign Crop Prospects

#### Wheat

The 1928 wheat production in 18 foreign countries is estimated at 1,461,-869,000 bushels against 1,487,724,000 bushels in 1927 when those countries produced over 40 per cent of the estimated world total exclusive of Russia and China, according to reports received by the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The outlook for the 1928 crop in western Canada is very promising at the present time, and barring damage from frost and severe heat an above average crop may be expected.

#### Rye

Rye production in 10 European countries is reported at 513,857,000 bushels against 590,112,000 bushels in 1927

## CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR AUGUST 1.

| Crop | Acreage (000 omitted) | | Production (000 omitted) | | | | | Condition, August 1 Per Cent of Normal | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | Aug. 1, 1928 forecast | 1927 | Per cent increase (+) or decrease (—) of Aug. 1 forecast compared to 1927 final production | 5-year average 1922–26 | Unit | 1928 | 1927 | 10-year average 1918–27 |
| Corn | 102,380 | 98,868 | 3,029,561 | 2,773,708 | + 9 | 2,775,634 | Bu. | 83.3 | 71.2 | 79.5 |
| Potatoes | 3,842 | 3,517 | 459,737 | 406,964 | +13 | 393,776 | Bu. | 85.8 | 83.8 | 80.0 |
| Tobacco | 1,850.1 | 1,576.8 | 1,357,712 | 1,211,301 | +12 | 1,337,561 | Lb. | 74.6 | 74.6 | 77.0 |
| Oats | 41,974 | 42,029 | 1,442,173 | 1,184,146 | +22 | 1,351,723 | Bu. | 84.8 | 74.8 | 78.2 |
| Barley | 12,243 | 9,454 | 344,332 | 264,392 | +30 | 192,020 | Bu. | 86.5 | 83.3 | 79.0 |
| Rye | 3,535 | 3,690 | 43,274 | 58,811 | —26 | 63,831 | Bu. | 12.2[1] | 15.9[1] | 13.5[1] |
| Winter wheat | 36,125 | 37,938 | 578,599 | 553,288 | + 5 | 556,016 | Bu. | 16.0[1] | 14.6[1] | 14.9[1] |
| Spring wheat | 15,478 | 15,440 | 228,350 | 243,152 | — 6 | 189,660 | Bu. | 81.8 | 85.6 | 72.4[2] |
| Buckwheat | 840 | 827 | 15,409 | 16,029 | — 4 | 13,711 | Bu. | 84.2 | 85.0 | 87.1 |
| Flax | 2,831 | 2,906 | 24,505 | 26,570 | — 8 | 20,148 | Bu. | 83.3 | 86.4 | 75.4 |
| Tame hay | 58,631 | 61,310 | 88,818 | 106,468 | —17 | 90,967 | Ton | 81.7 | 91.6 | 80.8 |

[1]Average yield per acre. [2]Short time average.

## COUNTY STATISTICS—CONDITION OF WISCONSIN CROPS ON AUGUST 1 AND PRELIMINARY YIELDS

| COUNTY | Condition, August 1, in Per Cent of Normal | | | | | | | | | | | | Average Yield per Acre | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Potatoes | | Corn | | Oats | | Barley | | Tame Hay | | Tobacco | | Winter Wheat | | Rye | |
| | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year | Last year | This year (preliminary) Bus. | Last year | This year (preliminary) Bus. | Last year |
| Barron | 93 | 87 | 85 | 54 | 87 | 97 | 90 | 89 | 76 | 102 | 97 | 98 | 23 | 23 | 20 | 27 |
| Bayfield | 82 | 71 | 71 | 53 | 86 | 75 | 89 | 75 | 80 | 110 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 26 | ..... | 22 |
| Burnett | 89 | 84 | 79 | 67 | 96 | 91 | 90 | 88 | 79 | 101 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 23 | 11 | 17 |
| Chippewa | 94 | 86 | 89 | 67 | 95 | 92 | 97 | 89 | 71 | 97 | 97 | 95 | 15 | 22 | 17 | 19 |
| Douglas | 89 | 75 | 65 | 56 | 81 | 70 | 85 | 75 | 89 | 100 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 16 | ..... | 22 |
| Polk | 83 | 87 | 71 | 67 | 87 | 89 | 91 | 92 | 88 | 99 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 18 | ..... | 26 |
| Rusk | 95 | 95 | 78 | 50 | 89 | 100 | 89 | 100 | 82 | 100 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 19 | ..... | 22 |
| Sawyer | 84 | 87 | 70 | 57 | 93 | 97 | 92 | 88 | 78 | 105 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 19 | 17 | 20 |
| Washburn | 86 | 82 | 76 | 66 | 89 | 94 | 93 | 100 | 72 | 102 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 20 | 15 | 22 |
| Northwest District | **88.0** | **83.6** | **76.3** | **61.4** | **89.5** | **88.8** | **91.7** | **86.5** | **78.2** | **102.0** | **97.0** | **97.5** | **20.7** | **22.1** | **16.3** | **20.7** |
| Ashland | 87 | 78 | 97 | 50 | 88 | 79 | 97 | 85 | 76 | 90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | ..... | 24 |
| Clark | 87 | 81 | 77 | 62 | 88 | 85 | 92 | 89 | 67 | 98 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | 10 | 29 |
| Iron | 90 | 75 | 80 | 58 | 85 | 93 | 85 | 100 | 72 | 115 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 23 | ..... | 22 |
| Lincoln | 94 | 76 | 77 | 61 | 92 | 90 | 92 | 82 | 65 | 98 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | 20 | 24 |
| Marathon | 94 | 82 | 78 | 59 | 92 | 96 | 96 | 92 | 68 | 100 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 22 | 22 | 24 |
| Oneida | 89 | 85 | 90 | 66 | 90 | 102 | 95 | 100 | 82 | 101 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 23 | ..... | 30 |
| Price | 90 | 89 | 76 | 57 | 86 | 95 | 92 | 93 | 86 | 100 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20 | ..... | 17 |
| Taylor | 88 | 93 | 85 | 52 | 94 | 95 | 89 | 76 | 71 | 90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | 20 | 30 |
| Vilas | 94 | 89 | 92 | 86 | 91 | 97 | 95 | 100 | 90 | 97 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 24 | ..... | 24 |
| North District | **90.2** | **83.0** | **81.3** | **60.3** | **90.0** | **92.7** | **92.5** | **89.4** | **74.8** | **98.5** | ..... | ..... | **20.0** | **22.4** | **19.0** | **24.5** |
| Florence | 95 | 98 | 93 | 80 | 98 | 100 | 92 | 100 | 89 | 100 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 24 | ..... | 20 |
| Forest | 87 | 86 | 70 | 58 | 89 | 87 | 85 | 86 | 85 | 88 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 23 | ..... | 20 |
| Langlade | 91 | 86 | 73 | 57 | 83 | 87 | 92 | 84 | 73 | 95 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | 15 | 22 |
| Marinette | 91 | 78 | 82 | 57 | 88 | 87 | 86 | 87 | 67 | 86 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17 | 15 | 18 |
| Oconto | 95 | 92 | 86 | 64 | 92 | 87 | 95 | 92 | 63 | 98 | ..... | ..... | 11 | 22 | 22 | 21 |
| Shawano | 91 | 81 | 85 | 59 | 87 | 91 | 88 | 94 | 68 | 94 | ..... | ..... | 12 | 28 | 20 | 23 |
| Northeast District | **92.2** | **85.3** | **82.5** | **61.1** | **88.7** | **89.2** | **90.6** | **91.0** | **71.4** | **95.3** | ..... | ..... | **11.5** | **24.3** | **14.7** | **21.0** |
| Buffalo | 97 | 92 | 91 | 75 | 92 | 94 | 88 | 95 | 72 | 100 | 95 | 90 | 19 | 26 | 19 | 24 |
| Dunn | 85 | 87 | 80 | 63 | 88 | 85 | 91 | 90 | 76 | 101 | 90 | 86 | 19 | 30 | 11 | 16 |
| Eau Claire | 90 | 95 | 75 | 69 | 92 | 87 | 93 | 90 | 74 | 100 | 92 | 90 | 12 | 22 | 12 | 19 |
| Jackson | 96 | 86 | 91 | 66 | 95 | 87 | 97 | 91 | 80 | 98 | 100 | 70 | 17 | 24 | 14 | 18 |
| La Crosse | 95 | 96 | 92 | 86 | 88 | 97 | 92 | 103 | 65 | 110 | 88 | 78 | 22 | 33 | 11 | 19 |
| Monroe | 97 | 95 | 92 | 74 | 91 | 82 | 91 | 92 | 73 | 99 | 89 | 76 | 15 | 24 | 11 | 17 |
| Pepin | 93 | 79 | 83 | 59 | 89 | 78 | 97 | 90 | 67 | 104 | ..... | ..... | 11 | 26 | 15 | 17 |
| Pierce | 95 | 96 | 84 | 78 | 88 | 82 | 89 | 86 | 65 | 99 | 90 | 87 | 18 | 25 | 19 | 24 |
| St. Croix | 97 | 85 | 72 | 56 | 83 | 80 | 91 | 90 | 64 | 102 | 89 | 80 | 16 | 21 | 14 | 21 |
| Trempealeau | 93 | 89 | 83 | 79 | 94 | 89 | 95 | 96 | 70 | 99 | 97 | 80 | 22 | 23 | 14 | 18 |
| West District | **96.0** | **89.4** | **85.6** | **69.3** | **89.8** | **85.8** | **92.0** | **92.0** | **70.1** | **100.8** | **91.0** | **78.9** | **18.7** | **24.4** | **14.5** | **19.0** |
| Adams | 81 | 86 | 80 | 68 | 94 | 81 | 95 | 90 | 69 | 98 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 28 | 6 | 13 |
| Green Lake | 90 | 87 | 83 | 72 | 90 | 83 | 92 | 91 | 60 | 95 | ..... | ..... | 11 | 20 | 7 | 20 |
| Juneau | 85 | 84 | 74 | 58 | 89 | 81 | 89 | 85 | 71 | 88 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 21 | 8 | 16 |
| Marquette | 99 | 84 | 90 | 75 | 96 | 83 | 99 | 91 | 62 | 98 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 24 | 8 | 13 |
| Portage | 83 | 76 | 75 | 69 | 95 | 80 | 97 | 85 | 57 | 97 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | 7 | 14 |
| Waupaca | 86 | 86 | 86 | 75 | 90 | 86 | 91 | 89 | 62 | 95 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 27 | 8 | 19 |
| Waushara | 92 | 88 | 78 | 69 | 92 | 77 | 96 | 93 | 62 | 96 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20 | 7 | 13 |
| Wood | 92 | 92 | 80 | 72 | 92 | 80 | 93 | 91 | 68 | 105 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 21 | 15 | 21 |
| Central District | **88.5** | **85.6** | **80.5** | **69.8** | **93.3** | **81.0** | **93.7** | **89.6** | **61.6** | **96.8** | ..... | ..... | **16.7** | **22.8** | **7.8** | **14.1** |
| Brown | 86 | 88 | 80 | 60 | 86 | 86 | 91 | 89 | 68 | 93 | ..... | ..... | 17 | 21 | 15 | 21 |
| Calumet | 94 | 89 | 84 | 72 | 90 | 91 | 96 | 88 | 66 | 93 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 25 | 17 | 22 |
| Door | 96 | 91 | 91 | 73 | 93 | 90 | 94 | 95 | 74 | 91 | ..... | ..... | 15 | 18 | 15 | 19 |
| Fond du Lac | 94 | 82 | 82 | 65 | 92 | 92 | 96 | 91 | 69 | 94 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 21 | 17 | 22 |
| Kewaunee | 94 | 88 | 82 | 72 | 83 | 84 | 96 | 87 | 60 | 90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | 15 | 24 |
| Manitowoc | 91 | 85 | 86 | 68 | 87 | 87 | 95 | 91 | 66 | 90 | ..... | ..... | 17 | 21 | 17 | 22 |
| Outagamie | 93 | 91 | 84 | 79 | 93 | 89 | 93 | 86 | 66 | 100 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 22 | 22 | 23 |
| Sheboygan | 92 | 93 | 80 | 73 | 95 | 97 | 91 | 96 | 71 | 95 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | 17 | 20 |
| Winnebago | 92 | 89 | 90 | 69 | 93 | 92 | 94 | 83 | 71 | 96 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 25 | 22 | 27 |
| East District | **92.8** | **88.3** | **83.9** | **70.0** | **90.6** | **89.8** | **93.9** | **89.5** | **67.4** | **93.4** | ..... | ..... | **18.9** | **22.9** | **17.4** | **21.8** |
| Crawford | 91 | 77 | 90 | 70 | 86 | 84 | 90 | 89 | 63 | 92 | 88 | 71 | 15 | 24 | 15 | 21 |
| Grant | 97 | 70 | 94 | 58 | 94 | 86 | 96 | 90 | 63 | 100 | ..... | 90 | ..... | 21 | ..... | 27 |
| Iowa | 94 | 70 | 82 | 55 | 92 | 87 | 91 | 89 | 59 | 91 | 90 | 88 | ..... | 23 | 15 | 20 |
| Lafayette | 96 | 75 | 94 | 70 | 91 | 84 | 94 | 95 | 63 | 96 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 25 | 22 | 27 |
| Richland | 93 | 70 | 88 | 60 | 89 | 84 | 95 | 91 | 65 | 99 | 90 | 85 | 15 | 24 | 10 | 17 |
| Sauk | 96 | 87 | 90 | 65 | 92 | 80 | 95 | 91 | 65 | 94 | 97 | 87 | 18 | 22 | 13 | 17 |
| Vernon | 95 | 83 | 86 | 63 | 90 | 87 | 92 | 93 | 62 | 101 | 97 | 70 | 12 | 22 | ..... | 18 |
| Southwest District | **94.9** | **76.2** | **89.8** | **64.1** | **91.3** | **84.4** | **93.6** | **91.8** | **62.5** | **96.5** | **93.2** | **72.7** | **16.5** | **22.5** | **13.2** | **18.8** |
| Columbia | 94 | 97 | 89 | 66 | 94 | 85 | 94 | 93 | 73 | 96 | 93 | 88 | 17 | 20 | 10 | 18 |
| Dane | 94 | 83 | 93 | 62 | 94 | 87 | 99 | 90 | 70 | 92 | 88 | 84 | 12 | 27 | 20 | 20 |
| Dodge | 94 | 88 | 85 | 70 | 92 | 88 | 95 | 94 | 77 | 98 | ..... | ..... | 19 | 24 | 20 | 24 |
| Green | 97 | 72 | 93 | 64 | 96 | 86 | 99 | 95 | 70 | 99 | 90 | 65 | ..... | 23 | 15 | 19 |
| Jefferson | 92 | 77 | 88 | 69 | 92 | 89 | 95 | 92 | 71 | 93 | 90 | 70 | 17 | 26 | 17 | 24 |
| Rock | 96 | 75 | 89 | 58 | 95 | 88 | 96 | 90 | 73 | 91 | 91 | 77 | 22 | 20 | 17 | 19 |
| South District | **95.1** | **83.4** | **89.3** | **64.8** | **94.4** | **87.2** | **96.6** | **92.4** | **71.7** | **95.0** | **90.8** | **79.4** | **17.5** | **23.9** | **15.4** | **19.0** |
| Kenosha | 91 | 79 | 83 | 67 | 95 | 80 | 97 | 84 | 75 | 91 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20 | 10 | 23 |
| Milwaukee | 87 | 94 | 76 | 69 | 92 | 84 | 93 | 90 | 78 | 99 | ..... | ..... | 18 | 18 | 15 | 20 |
| Ozaukee | 92 | 82 | 72 | 79 | 93 | 91 | 98 | 92 | 77 | 90 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 16 | 18 | 22 |
| Racine | 96 | 82 | 88 | 69 | 97 | 88 | 98 | 94 | 76 | 90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 23 | ..... | 23 |
| Walworth | 94 | 71 | 89 | 62 | 94 | 83 | 96 | 85 | 72 | 95 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 23 | 15 | 20 |
| Washington | 97 | 84 | 80 | 70 | 97 | 92 | 98 | 91 | 74 | 95 | ..... | ..... | 20 | 26 | 22 | 24 |
| Waukesha | 92 | 84 | 80 | 71 | 96 | 87 | 93 | 89 | 79 | 96 | ..... | ..... | 22 | 27 | 19 | 23 |
| Southeast District | **93.4** | **80.7** | **81.7** | **69.2** | **95.8** | **86.5** | **96.4** | **88.9** | **74.7** | **93.4** | ..... | ..... | **21.0** | **24.1** | **17.7** | **22.7** |
| STATE | **91.0** | **85.0** | **85.0** | **66.0** | **90.0** | **87.0** | **93.0** | **91.0** | **70.0** | **97.0** | **92.0** | **78.0** | **18.0** | **23.5** | **13.0** | **17.0** |

when those countries produced nearly 75 per cent of the estimated European crop exclusive of Russia. The rye outlook in Europe as a whole continues to be less satisfactory than for wheat, due mainly to the winterkilling. In Germany, the most important country aside from Russia, winterkilling was heavy aand poor conditions early in the season would indicate a crop below last year.

### Feed Grains

Early conditions in Canada point to a probable increase in the feed grain crop in that country, with an increase in barley acreage more than offsetting the combined decrease in oats and in corn for husking and with growing conditions generally favorable. Some reports from important European countries have been unfavorable to feed grains, and there is a possibility that the total European feed grain production may be no larger than last year's crop, although some recent reports have been more favorable. The potato outlook for Europe so far is also poorer than last year, which may cut down still further the feed supply.

### Barley

Total barley production so far reported for 10 foreign countries is 302,933,000 bushels or 11.2 per cent above production in those countries last year. Production in seven European countries so far reported is 218,961,000 bushels or 10.3 per cent above production last year. The possibility of poor harvests in Germany and Poland, the two most important European countries, which have not yet reported production, has seemed likely to bring the total of all Europe aside from Russia down to near the 1927 estimate of 678,000,000 bushels. Recent reports from Germany are more favorable however. The Balkan crop now appears to be larger than last year in spite of drought the latter part of the season.

### Oats

Oats production has been reported in nine foreign countries, totaling 220,597,000 bushels or 4.5 per cent above estimates for those countries last year. Production in eight European countries so far reported total 206,474,000 bushels which is 3 per cent above the total in those countries last year.

### Corn

Total corn area reported in 10 foreign countries amount to 14,320,000 acres compared with 14,246,000 acres last year. Acreage in five European countries reported to date totals 13,364,000 acres or practically the same as reported for the same countries last year.

## July Milk Prices

The weighted average farm milk price for the state in July was $2.09 as compared with $1.98 a year ago and $1.79 in 1926. The upturn in milk prices for July indicates that for no month in the current year are Wisconsin average milk prices likely to fall below $2.00 per hundredweight. This will be the first time since 1920 that the average remained above $2.00 for each month. The 1928 low point was $2.03 in June.

## Canned Peas Increases

After the very short crop of last year the 1928 Wisconsin crop of canned peas shows a substantial increase. A preliminary estimate of the 1928 Wisconsin pack indicates a production of 8,750,000 cases as compared with about 6,500,000 cases a year ago. The canning pea acreage this year is estimated at 96,000 as compared with 80,000 a year ago.

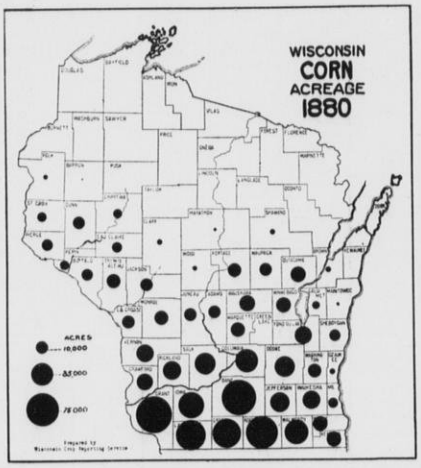
This year's pea crop was very uneven, many factories reporting low yields. On the other hand, some very fine yields of good quality peas were reported in some sections.

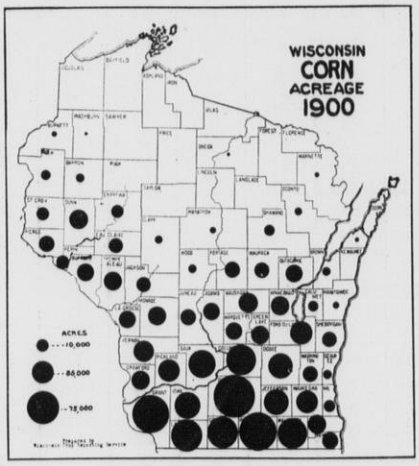
## Lamb Crop Smaller

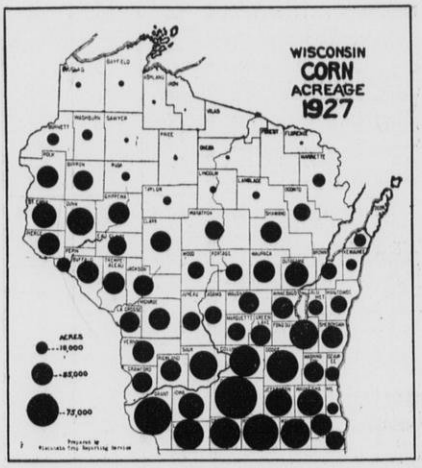
The lamb crop in Wisconsin this year is about 2 per cent smaller than a year ago. More ewes are on farms of the state than last year, but the number of lambs saved per 100 ewes is about 4 per cent below a year ago.

Thirty years ago Wisconsin had about twice as many sheep as there are in the state at present, the low point in our sheep production being reached in 1922. Since then sheep have been increasing and it is probable that the upward trend in numbers in this industry will continue. The estimated number of sheep on Wisconsin farms on January 1, 1928, was 430,000 head.

The 1928 wool production in Wisconsin is estimated to be slightly higher than a year ago. It is estimated that Wisconsin produced this year 2,808,000 pounds of raw wool as compared with 2,774,000 pounds last year. The average weight per fleece this year is 7.8 pounds as compared with 7.6 pounds a year ago.




The Wisconsin corn acreage has increased notably in the last fifty years. With the use of more silos the corn belt has moved gradually farther north.

# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
NILS A. OLSEN, Chief

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics
W. A. DUFFY, Commissioner

WALTER H. EBLING
Agricultural Statistician

Vol. VII, No. 5 | State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin | October 1928

MOST of Wisconsin crops developed normally during the last month. Heavy rains during the latter part of August and the first part of September caused considerable difficulty with the potato crop especially on heavy soils. Other crops, however, are maturing well, and corn is making a very satisfactory production in most of the counties. Grain crops with exception of the winter grains made above average yields.

The hay crop was below average due largely to the reduced production of alfalfa, of which about a third was winterkilled, and also to the lighter yields made by clover and timothy. The corn crop being rather good in addition to good yields of grain will make for a fairly favorable feed situation, which is of special importance to the Wisconsin farmer.

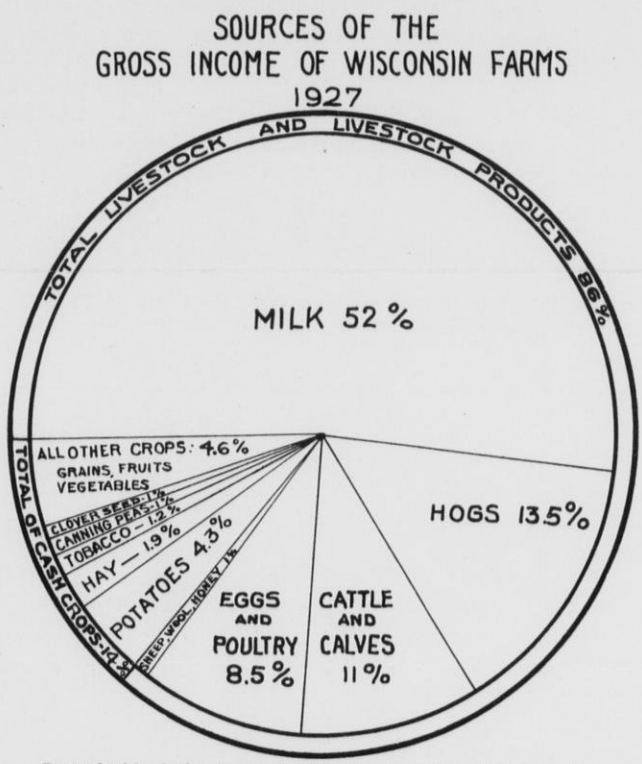
### OCTOBER CROP SITUATION

1. Wisconsin grain crops, except winter wheat and rye, made very good yields in 1928.
2. The 1928 corn crop is estimated at 87 million bushels as compared with 68 million a year ago. Most counties have a rather satisfactory crop.
3. Expected yields of potatoes are not being realized. Wet weather and diseases causing a late reduction.
4. Tobacco is curing well. The 1928 crop seems to be one of fine quality and yields are good. There is little frost damage.
5. Clover seed production will be small. Both the acreage and condition of crop are low.
6. Pastures are good except in some of the southern counties where it has been dry.
7. Cabbage is making good yields in Wisconsin.

### LIVESTOCK SITUATION FAVORABLE

With the higher prices which are being paid for cattle and other livestock as well as with the steady milk prices which have been maintained during the current year, the livestock situation has become the most favorable since the war. Feed crops are relatively plentiful and the marketing of them through livestock as is done in Wisconsin is especially favorable this year.

Eighty-six per cent of the gross farm income of Wisconsin is from livestock and livestock products. Only fourteen per cent is derived from cash crops. Of the cash crops potatoes is the most important. With the prospect of somewhat lower returns for potatoes due to the larger state and the United States production, the probability of further reduction in the income from cash crops is apparent. Under the circumstances, the favorable livestock situation becomes even more significant; and for the year 1928 it appears that the income from livestock on Wisconsin farms is going to make a larger percentage of the gross total than in any previous year.




Over half of the gross farm income on Wisconsin farms was derived from milk—a total of 8 per cent from livestock and live stock products in 1927. Potatoes are the leading cash crop.

In discussing the livestock situation the United States Department of Agriculture makes the following statement:

"The prosperous condition of the cattle industry is probably the most outstanding feature of the agricultural situation in 1928. The improvement in the industry is seen in the high level of cattle prices which has greatly increased cattle inventory value and made feeding operations unusually profitable this year.

"Range conditions, while in some sections not equal to those of a year ago when they were unusually good, can not be considered as unfavorable, and abundant supplies of roughage, corn, and other grains are in prospect for fattening cattle for market next year."

### MILK PRICES CONTINUE STEADY

Milk prices for September were four cents per hundredweight above August and nine cents above July. They are likewise four cents above the September price a year ago and twenty-nine cents above September, 1926. The monthly prices of milk for the last six months —from April to September inclusive—have been higher

## CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR OCTOBER 1

| Crop | Acreage | | Production | | | | | | Average Yields per Acre | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | Oct. 1, 1928 forecast | Sept. 1, 1928 forecast | 1927 | Per cent increase (+) or decrease (—) of Oct. 1 forecast compared to 1927 final production | 5-year average 1923-27 | Unit | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | 5-year average 1923-27 |
| Corn | 2,121,000 | 2,100,000 | 86,912,000 | 85,858,000 | 68,250,000 | +27 | 76,626,000 | Bu. | 87[3] | 63[3] | 74.4[3] |
| Potatoes | 273,000 | 260,000 | 32,460,000 | 34,780,000 | 23,920,000 | +36 | 26,453,000 | Bu. | 82[3] | 70[3] | 78.4[3] |
| Tobacco | 35,000 | 31,000 | 45,570,000 | 45,546,000 | 33,170,000 | +37 | 38,866,000 | Lb. | 93[3] | 78[3] | 79.6[3] |
| Oats | 2,495,000 | 2,422,000 | 108,532,000 | 106,661,000 | 93,247,000 | +16 | 102,379,000 | Bu. | 43.5 | 38.5 | 40.2 |
| Barley | 725,000 | 620,000 | 26,825,000 | 26,061,000 | 21,390,000 | +25 | 16,419,000 | Bu. | 37.0 | 34.5 | 33.3 |
| Rye | 155,000 | 238,000 | 2,015,000 | 2,015,000 | 4,046,000 | —50 | 4,476,000 | Bu. | 13.0 | 17.0 | 15.7 |
| Winter wheat | 46,000 | 73,000 | 828,000 | 828,000 | 1,716,000 | —52 | 1,426,000 | Bu. | 18.0 | 23.5 | 21.1 |
| Spring wheat | 60,000 | 72,000 | 1,290,000 | 1,320,000 | 1,426,000 | —10 | 1,127,000 | Bu. | 21.5 | 19.8 | 19.6 |
| Buckwheat | 25,000 | 23,000 | 400,000 | 402,000 | 382,000 | + 5 | 377,000 | Bu. | 82[3] | 79[3] | 78.2[3] |
| Alfalfa | 210,000 | 300,000 | 525,000 | 475,000 | 780,000 | —33 | 730,000 | Ton | 2.50 | 2.60 | 2.59 |
| All tame hay | 3,314,000 | 3,446,000 | 5,137,000 | 4,847,000 | 6,989,000 | —27 | 5,769,000 | Ton | 1.55 | 2.03 | 1.71 |
| Dry peas | 30,000 | 29,000 | 615,000 | 615,000 | 580,000 | + 6 | 633,000 | Bu. | 20.5 | 20.0 | 18.1 |
| Dry beans | 7,000 | 6,000 | 63,000 | 78,000 | 40,000 | +57 | 83,000 | Bu. | 9.0 | 6.7 | 8.5 |
| Flax | 8,000 | 10,000 | 94,000 | 108,000 | 132,000 | —29 | 123,000 | Bu. | 84[3] | 88[3] | 86.2[3] |
| Clover seed[4] | | | | | | | | | 75[3] | 82[3] | 78.8[3] |
| Sugar beets | 11,000[1] | 14,000[1] | 82,000 | 83,000 | 90,000 | — 9 | 158,000[2] | Ton | 90[3] | 77[3] | 85.4[3] |
| Apples | | | 2,095,000 | 2,016,000 | 1,200,000 | +75 | 1,836,000 | Bu. | 79[3] | 45[3] | 68.2[3] |
| Cabbage[4] | | | | | | | | | 10.5 | 8.5 | 9.3 |
| Pasture | | | | | | | | | 85[3] | 74[3] | 82.8[3] |

[1]Planted acreage. [2]Four-year average, 1924-26. [3]Condition on October 1 in per cent of normal. [4]Acreage and production for 1928 not determined.

than at any time during the corresponding months since 1920. This steady milk price is of particular importance in Wisconsin since 52 per cent of the gross farm income is derived from milk. Prices for the first nine months of the present year with comparisons for 1927 and 1926 are as follows:

### Wisconsin Milk Prices

| | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | $2.34 | $2.25 | $2.11 |
| February | 2.25 | 2.22 | 2.04 |
| March | 2.15 | 2.11 | 1.96 |
| April | 2.07 | 2.05 | 1.84 |
| May | 2.00 | 1.98 | 1.80 |
| June | 2.03 | 1.96 | 1.74 |
| July | 2.09 | 1.98 | 1.79 |
| August | 2.14 | 2.04 | 1.82 |
| September | 2.18 | 2.14 | 1.89 |

With the steady milk prices which have prevailed for some time, a tendency to increase production is apparent. It is reasonable to expect this to become more pronounced if the spread between grain prices and milk should become any wider. It appears wholly possible that 1928 may mark the high point in the present cycle of milk prices. The following comment by the United States Department of Agriculture is of interest in this connection.

"There have been some developments in dairy markets since the first of September which for the moment, at least, change the complexion of the dairy situation from what it has been through practically all of the present producing season. It can not be said that there is a general weakness, but recent price changes of both butter and cheese are evidence that the generally firm tone of previous months has given way somewhat to a feeling which can best be described as unsettled, with an apparent absence of the confidence which featured trading during the summer.

"Butter prices first reflected this change of sentiment about the middle of the month, and on several successive days there were slight declines on the wholesale markets. Just now (September 25th) prices are within half a cent of a year ago, whereas July and August prices averaged from three to five cents above those of last year. Some opinions have been expressed

## CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR OCTOBER 1

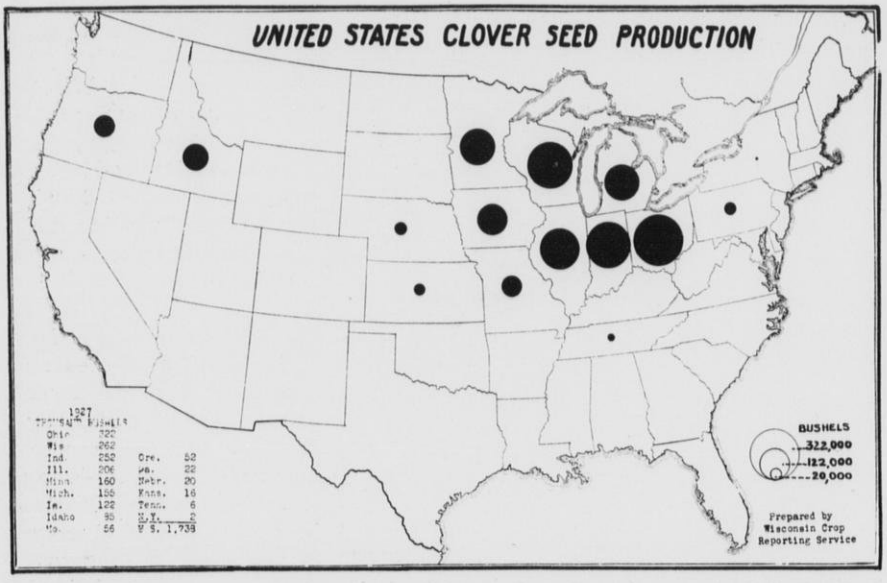
| Crop | Acreage (000 omitted) | | Production (000 omitted) | | | | | | Average Yield per Acre | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | Oct. 1, 1928 forecast | Sept. 1, 1928 forecast | 1927 | Per cent increase (+) or decrease (—) of Oct. 1 forecast compared to 1927 final production | 5-year average 1922-26 | Unit | 1928 (preliminary) | 1927 | 10-year average 1917-26 |
| Corn | 102,380 | 98,868 | 2,903,272 | 2,930,586 | 2,773,708 | + 5 | 2,775,634 | Bu. | 77.7[1] | 73.6[1] | 77.2[1] |
| Potatoes | 3,842 | 3,517 | 463,722 | 466,815 | 406,964 | +14 | 393,776 | Bu. | 79.7[1] | 75.3[1] | 75.5[1] |
| Tobacco | 1,850.1 | 1,576.8 | 1,353,258 | 1,371,782 | 1,211,301 | +12 | 1,337,561 | Lb. | 72.6[1] | 76.9[1] | 78.8[1] |
| Oats | 41,974 | 42,029 | 1,452,966 | 1,453,829 | 1,184,146 | +23 | 1,351,723 | Bu. | 34.6 | 28.2 | 31.8 |
| Barley | 12,243 | 9,454 | 350,593 | 346,027 | 264,392 | +33 | 192,020 | Bu. | 28.6 | 28.0 | 24.4 |
| Rye | 3,535 | 3,690 | 43,274 | 43,274 | 58,811 | —27 | 63,831 | Bu. | 12.2 | 15.9 | 13.5 |
| Winter wheat | 36,125 | 37,938 | 578,599 | 578,599 | 553,288 | + 5 | 556,016 | Bu. | 16.0 | 14.6 | 14.9 |
| Durum wheat[2] | 6,147 | 5,271 | 84,885 | 84,860 | 76,155 | +11 | 61,702 | Bu. | 13.8 | 14.4 | 12.0 |
| Other spring wheat | 15,478 | 15,440 | 240,381 | 237,607 | 243,152 | — 1 | 189,660 | Bu. | 15.5 | 15.7 | 12.3 |
| Buckwheat | 840 | 827 | 14,804 | 15,526 | 16,029 | — 8 | 13,711 | Bu. | 76.2[1] | 81.4[1] | 82.2[1] |
| Flax | 2,831 | 2,906 | 22,472 | 23,448 | 26,570 | —15 | 20,148 | Bu. | 75.0[1] | 84.4[1] | 72.0[1] |
| All tame hay | 58,631 | 61,310 | 92,688 | 87,859 | 106,468 | —13 | 90,967 | Ton | 1.58 | 1.74 | 1.50 |
| Sugar beets | 629 | 722 | 6,758 | 6,384 | 7,753 | —13 | 7,359[3] | Ton | 85.5[1] | 85.8[1] | 86.3[1] |

[1]Condition on October 1 in per cent of normal. [2]Four states. [3]Four-year average, 1922-26.

that perhaps overconfidence may have carried butter prices too high this year, but whether or not, it seems that recent increases in butter production have been an immediate influence at work. Estimates of production in August show a drop of about 2.8 per cent under August, 1927, and doubtless many operators had anticipated that September might follow along with a similar change. The most recent trade reports, however, indicate some very sharp increases during recent weeks, with a favorable outlook for heavy fall production.

"Cheese prices also show a slump since the first of the month. It will be recalled that along in June these prices advanced to a point which made them quite out of line. The higher level reached then was short-lived, however, and after a cent and a half break they were back again by the middle of July to where they had been in May. About a month later there was another cent and a half advance, and this, too, was more than the situation would stand, with the result that present prices at country points in Wisconsin are just about what they were immediately preceding flush production. A glance at conditions in cheese markets suggest that production may have also picked up materially this month, similar to the butter change, for receipts at warehouse points during the first two weeks this month were about 18 per cent heavier than the corresponding weeks in 1927. This, of course, would naturally have a tremendous influence on prices. Furthermore, this increase occurs in the face of a storage situation which some of the cheese trade are inclined to regard as unfavorable.

"Condensed milk statistics reveal changes which also have an important bearing at this time. Total stocks of condensed and evaporated milk in manufacturers' hands on September 1st amounting to 212,000,000 pounds were 88,000,000 pounds less than last year, but along with this is the fact that there was a reduction of approximately 20,000,000 pounds in stocks during August this year, whereas there was an increase during August last year of 23,000,000 pounds. August production of these concentrated milks was 6 per cent less than a year ago, but this change was not common to all sections. In Wisconsin, for example, production appears to have been some 22 per cent less than July, while the change during August for the country as a whole was a decrease of but 16 per cent. More favorable markets for milk in Wisconsin than condenseries could offer may explain in part the larger percentage decrease in




The nation's clover seed is largely produced in the Great Lakes States. Wisconsin is usually one of the leaders.

**Preliminary Average Yields Per Acre of Wisconsin Grains for 1928**

| County | Corn | Oats | Barley | Rye |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bus. | Bus. | Bus. | Bus. |
| Barron | 38 | 47 | 39 | ..... |
| Bayfield | ..... | 48 | 28 | ..... |
| Burnett | 25 | 35 | 28 | 14 |
| Chippewa | 38 | 39 | 33 | 15 |
| Douglas | ..... | 35 | 40 | ..... |
| Polk | 40 | 40 | 35 | 18 |
| Rusk | 40 | 45 | 28 | ..... |
| Sawyer | 25 | 34 | 26 | 13 |
| Washburn | 40 | 42 | 29 | 11 |
| Northwest District | **34.1** | **39.8** | **32.4** | **14.6** |
| Ashland | ..... | 30 | ..... | ..... |
| Clark | 38 | 41 | 41 | ..... |
| Iron | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Lincoln | 45 | 50 | 39 | 20 |
| Marathon | 45 | 45 | 31 | 17 |
| Oneida | ..... | 33 | 25 | ..... |
| Price | ..... | 37 | 31 | ..... |
| Taylor | ..... | 45 | 41 | 12 |
| Vilas | 40 | 32 | ..... | ..... |
| North District | **45.7** | **41.7** | **36.3** | **17.8** |
| Florence | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Forest | ..... | 40 | 31 | ..... |
| Langlade | ..... | 50 | 32 | 15 |
| Marinette | 20 | 44 | 36 | 5 |
| Oconto | 32 | 43 | 34 | 20 |
| Shawano | 35 | 49 | 31 | 15 |
| Northeast District | **31.9** | **44.7** | **32.9** | **13.4** |
| Buffalo | 48 | 41 | 34 | ..... |
| Dunn | 32 | 39 | 35 | 16 |
| Eau Claire | 47 | 41 | 37 | 13 |
| Jackson | 42 | 38 | 37 | 18 |
| La Crosse | 50 | 43 | 39 | 8 |
| Monroe | 44 | 43 | 33 | 10 |
| Pepin | 37 | 36 | 28 | 14 |
| Pierce | 40 | 40 | 36 | 18 |
| St. Croix | 44 | 40 | 36 | 13 |
| Trempealeau | 44 | 40 | 40 | 11 |
| West District | **43.0** | **40.2** | **35.4** | **13.9** |
| Adams | 31 | 33 | 40 | 5 |
| Green Lake | 44 | 47 | 35 | 15 |
| Juneau | 30 | 34 | 42 | 13 |
| Marquette | 45 | 34 | 37 | 8 |
| Portage | 49 | 41 | 45 | 6 |
| Waupaca | 47 | 44 | 43 | 15 |
| Waushara | 27 | 30 | 33 | 5 |
| Wood | 34 | 37 | 33 | ..... |
| Central District | **38.2** | **38.1** | **38.2** | **8.3** |
| Brown | 50 | 45 | 41 | 10 |
| Calumet | 50 | 43 | 42 | 25 |
| Door | ..... | 38 | 31 | 16 |
| Fond du Lac | 37 | 47 | 40 | 15 |
| Kewaunee | 25 | 42 | 36 | 12 |
| Manitowoc | ..... | 50 | 41 | 19 |
| Outagamie | 46 | 46 | 38 | 20 |
| Sheboygan | ..... | 46 | 40 | ..... |
| Winnebago | 44 | 48 | 39 | 20 |
| East District | **43.2** | **45.7** | **38.8** | **16.8** |
| Crawford | 52 | 50 | 42 | ..... |
| Grant | 48 | 49 | 36 | ..... |
| Iowa | 44 | 46 | 38 | 15 |
| Lafayette | 41 | 45 | 34 | ..... |
| Richland | 46 | 42 | 39 | 16 |
| Sauk | 47 | 42 | 37 | 10 |
| Vernon | 53 | 48 | 41 | ..... |
| Southwest District | **47.0** | **45.8** | **37.9** | **12.4** |
| Columbia | 40 | 44 | 38 | 11 |
| Dane | 48 | 45 | 38 | 25 |
| Dodge | 47 | 50 | 43 | 19 |
| Green | 48 | 50 | 41 | 15 |
| Jefferson | 52 | 50 | 41 | 20 |
| Rock | 41 | 44 | 37 | 19 |
| South District | **46.4** | **47.7** | **39.7** | **17.4** |
| Kenosha | 39 | 50 | 36 | 20 |
| Milwaukee | 51 | 50 | 44 | 14 |
| Ozaukee | 53 | 43 | 38 | 18 |
| Racine | 44 | 50 | 37 | 20 |
| Walworth | 48 | 44 | 36 | 20 |
| Washington | 50 | 52 | 40 | 20 |
| Waukesha | 43 | 51 | 38 | 18 |
| Southeast District | **49.8** | **49.8** | **38.3** | **18.4** |
| STATE | **41.0** | **43.5** | **37.0** | **13.0** |

Wisconsin; and should cheese, cream, or butter prices be less favorable later on, milk which was diverted may again be attracted to condensaries, for on the whole the condensed and evaporated milk situation appears fairly strong. During the next thirty days the fall tendency of dairy markets should be more clearly defined than at present."

### THE POTATO SITUATION

So far as the United States production is concerned the October estimate is only slightly changed from the previous forecast. In Wisconsin considerable reduction occurred during September due to unfavorable weather. This, however, does not seem to be true in the other late potato states where the yields appear to confirm the earlier forecasts.

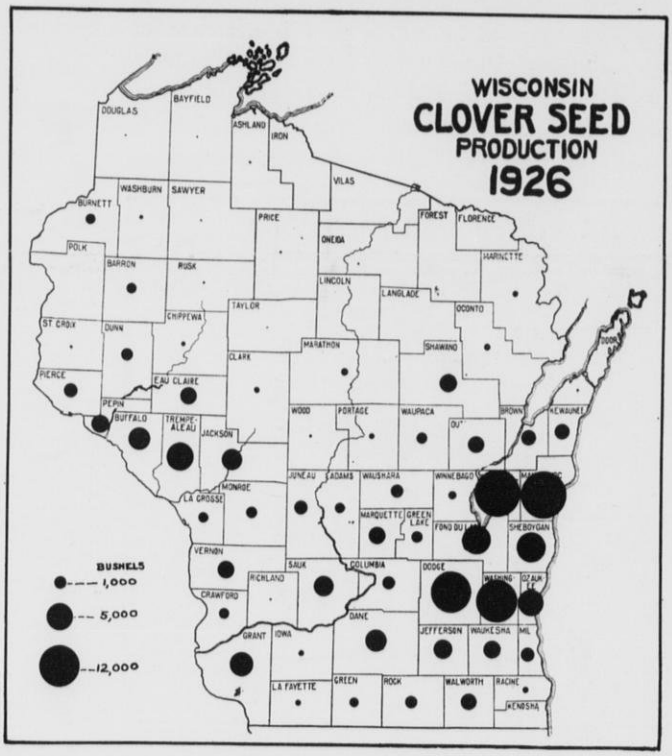
Poor quality is reported in some localities and it is possible that in states far from markets, where quality is reduced, considerable acreages may be left unharvested. It is significant that the United States per capita production has been higher than the present year—eight times since 1900. When the population is considered the present crop is not a record production. Potato consumption per person may have declined somewhat in the last few years due to the higher prices, but with the relatively low price which has prevailed so far this season it is quite probable that the per capita consumption will increase appreciably.

Inasmuch as business seems to be fairly good in the United States and the population seems to be fairly well employed, the demand for potatoes can be expected to be reasonably good. Other kinds of winter stored vegetables such as onions, cabbage and sweet potatoes are making a somewhat lower production, and in addition to these are higher in price. Potatoes are the only popular low priced bulky food and accordingly it may meet an unusual demand in the market. It is reasonable to assume that the potato market during the coming winter will be much influenced by business conditions. **If business remains good,** the demand for food may be expected to remain active and the potato market may become more favorable than would be indicated by the size of the crop. It is wholly possible the favorable marketing openings at various times during the season may develop. Close grading and the feeding of poor quality stock should be helpful in providing a market for the better quality potatoes.

The tobacco crop is curing well and the prospect now is for a large yield and good quality. According to the October estimate, the production in Wisconsin will be about 45½ million pounds. The market outlook for the Wisconsin crop is favorable because of its quality this year in spite of a much increased production for the United States as a whole.

### CLOVER SEED OUTLOOK POOR

The winterkilling of clover reduced greatly the clover acreage available in the states where clover seed is usually produced. In Wisconsin the southern two-thirds of the state suffered heavily, and the clover seed acreage in this area is small as compared with a year ago. In addition, the condition of the growing crop has not been reported as very good—the condition on October 1 being 75 per cent as compared with 82 per cent last year. It appears probable that the amount of clover seed produced this year will be very low and that the demand for it will be active. Good prices should prevail for the seed. Fortunately, many Wisconsin farmers have a supply of clover seed still available from the good crop of last year.




Wisconsin clover seed production tends to localize somewhat in the regions of limestone soil. The data were obtained from Wisconsin assessors' reports.

According to Wisconsin crop reporters, October pastures are good this year. Abundant rains in the central and northern part of the state have brought a good growth of grass which is helpful to the late pastures. In some of the southern counties dry weather has retarded pasture growth.

The apple crop this year is generally a rather good crop—the Wisconsin production being estimated at 2,095,000 bushels as compared with 1,200,000 bushels produced a year ago. The quality of apples is generally better than it has been for several years. The United States crop also is somewhat larger that it was a year ago, though smaller than the large crop of 1926. This year's production is well distributed throughout the country and should, therefore, move into market channels rather well.

### WISCONSIN CABBAGE CROP GOOD

The cabbage growers this year are favored with much better prices than a year ago. The market opened very actively due to the general shortage of cabbage in the eastern states. The acreage of cabbage in the United States this year is somewhat below a year ago, and the tonnage produced in some of the eastern sections is low.

The Wisconsin cabbage crop is a very satisfactory crop—an average yield of 10.5 tons per acre as compared with 8.5 tons last year being reported by Wisconsin crop reporters for October. Some fields, particularly in the Racine-Kenosha sections, are reported as being late and needing some good weather to make satisfactory yields.

Onion markets have been active during the current year and have been well above those of a year ago. Much of the crop is reported as running small in size and inferior in grade. Markets have been somewhat irregular but Wisconsin growers of this crop will probably be in a satisfactory situation.