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WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics

Cooperative Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

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THE 1929 WISCONSIN FARM OUTLOOK

THE annual farm outlook report prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington has just been issued for the United States. It summarizes the information available concerning the conditions that will probably exist during the coming year in the various lines of farm production. Since the agriculture in Wisconsin differs somewhat from the general agricultural systems of the United States, it seems desirable to bring together the outlook information which applies more particularly to this state, and this is being attempted in the following paragraphs. Wisconsin is largely a dairy and livestock state with a few cash crops, hence the treatment of these particular items is most essential.

The Situation in General

Regarding the situation in general, the Federal outlook report makes the following comments:

The agricultural outlook for 1929 is for some improvement in the midwest and east, offset by conditions in other regions possibly not quite so good as in 1928. For U. S. agriculture as a whole, the total gross income will probably be maintained near its present level of around \$12,000,000,000 to \$12,500,000,000.

The agricultural situation for the past five years has been marked by a rising level of production and relative stability in prices paid by farmers for goods and services such as labor, machinery, building materials, and taxes. The chief contributing factors to the upward trend of production have been dairy and poultry products, small grains, truck crops, and fruits and vegetables. In 1928 these trends continued, with prices to producers of the principal crops generally lower than in 1927, with an upward tendency in prices of most classes of livestock and livestock products, and with land values becoming more stabilized. Continued heavy production of feed crops in the face of reduced numbers of meat and work animals resulted in an unbalanced situation which threatens to prevent a continuation of the present level of return for livestock and livestock products.

Prices in recent years have fluctuated largely in response to production changes, and except for the changes that may result from National policies designed to increase the price level of farm products, the prices of the principal products may be expected to show their usual response to

changes in production and in domestic and foreign demand. If the gradual reduction in the number of farms continues, the average individual income will continue to gain somewhat by reason of the fairly stable total being divided among a steadily decreasing number.

In the midwestern states agricultural income is likely to show some improvement in 1929-30. Increased returns may be expected for hogs, wheat and potatoes, whereas returns from the production of beef cattle, dairy products, and poultry are likely to continue near the 1929 basis, providing there are no material increases in production.

Meat animal production is in a strong position, and farmers are cautioned against too great an expansion of livestock production in the effort to realize higher returns on their surplus feeds than direct sale will yield. Unless corn acreage is reduced in 1929 lower corn prices may be expected. If oat acreage is increased to compensate for reduced plantings of fall wheat, oat prices are likely to be further weakened.

Low world prices for wheat may discourage producers all over the world and result in higher prices for the 1928 crop. Flax continues to be an attractive alternative for spring grain crops in suitable areas. Low prices for the 1928 potato crop will probably result in smaller acreage and improved prices. With the possibility of increased production of clover and timothy hay in 1929 and with a shrinking demand for hay in the southern states, the outlook for hay prices, with exception of alfalfa, is not encouraging.

From a long time standpoint, wheat producers may expect increased competition from other wheat growing countries. Dairy products will continue to find expanding markets in cities and in sweet cream shipments eastward. Present attractive cattle prices cannot be maintained with any marked increase in production such as has followed similar periods of high cattle prices in the past. The increased use of mechanical power in the Middle West is reducing the demand for feed grain crops, but is making possible the more efficient use of man power, the operation of larger units of land, and so tends to increase the gross income of the individual farmer. Farmers who expect to produce horses or mules when prices become more attractive should consider

the replacement of older work animals by young mares at present prices.

Domestic and Foreign Demand

Judging from recent trends in general business activity, commodity prices, and the financial situation, observers feel that business activity is likely to be maintained near the present level through most of 1929, but there may be some recession in the latter part of 1929 or early part of 1930 similar to the recessions of 1924 and 1927. If the anticipated slackening does appear, the domestic demand for the farm products of 1929-30 will be reduced somewhat below that of the current season.

Foreign demand for our agricultural products of 1929 probably will be about the same as for the products of 1928. From present indications the purchasing power of foreign consumers generally should be as good as in the present season. The purchasing power of the consumers of a few countries, particularly Germany, Poland, and Denmark, may be better than during the present season. The purchasing power of consumers in the remainder of continental Europe, in the United Kingdom, and the Orient, now seems likely to be at least as good during the present season. Competition of foreign producers in foreign markets and in the markets of the United States will probably be at least equal to that of the past season, being greater for some commodities and less for others. Somewhat less competition is to be expected in the production of pork, wheat, and rye, but more competition may be expected in corn, apples, tobacco, flaxseed, dairy products, and wool.

In general economic conditions in Europe are now better than they were a year ago. Completion of currency stabilization in all of the principal European markets for our products has rendered improbable a return to the extreme fluctuations in economic conditions that have characterized previous years. In Great Britain the industrial situation shows little or no improvement over that of a year ago and unemployment shows some increase. No significant change is anticipated, however, in the British purchasing power for agricultural products. Prospects for the sale of American products in Japan and China are better than last year.

High prices in the United States have stimulated imports of beef and cattle during the past two years, but

those imports represented a very small fraction of our total beef consumption. An upward trend is noticeable in foreign beef cattle production, but figures for 1927 in the important exporting countries were below the average of the years 1921-1925. No serious competition in our domestic market from those sources is anticipated within the next few years.

The trend in dairy production in Europe and the southern hemisphere continues upward. Strong European markets favored the movement of a larger supply of dairy products in 1928 and resulted in some reduction in imports into the United States. Indications are that foreign producers, encouraged by prices in 1928, will endeavor to maintain their output and that the pressure of foreign supplies on the American market may be somewhat greater in the winter of 1929-30 than it has been so far during the winter of 1928-29.

Substantially larger exports of both frozen and dried egg yolks were made from China to the United States in 1928 than in 1927, but exports of albumen fell off. Heavy shipments in the middle of 1928 in anticipation of an increase in the United States tariff accounted largely for the increased Chinese exports. Improved railway transportation is expected to increase the volume of eggs available in Chinese packing plants in 1929, but little increase in the importation of Chinese egg products into the United States is anticipated.

The outlook for marketing pork products in Germany is somewhat better on account of the anticipated decline in the marketing of hogs in Germany and neighboring countries. The marketing of German hogs has been below 1927 since August, 1928, and will continue small into 1930. Hog prices have exceeded last year's level for several months, and the supply situation indicates a maintenance of the higher price level for another season.

Farm Credit, Labor, and Equipment

The credit outlook is less encouraging than twelve months ago. More strict scrutiny of farmers' applications for loans, increased rates, or both, may result from the high rates of interest prevailing in the central money markets, especially if the latter rates should continue well into the year. The generally less favorable credit situation will not affect farmers equally in all sections of the country. The effect of sectional differences in returns from farm operations exerts an important influence upon local supply of funds and upon liquidation of old loans, demand for new advances, and credit standing of borrowers.

Among the factors that have contributed to a rise of interest rates in the central markets may be mentioned a decrease in the nation's supply of monetary gold, an extraordinary activity in the securities market with an increased demand for loans by brokers and their customers, and a moder-

ately increased demand for commercial loans.

Indications are that the available supply of labor for farm work will be somewhat smaller during the late spring and early summer and somewhat larger during the fall of 1929 than it was during the corresponding periods of 1928. Farm wages will probably change little from those of 1928 during the first half of the year but may be somewhat lower during the last quarter.

Present indications are that, as during the last three years, there will be little change, if any, in the prices of farm machinery. Continuation of the heavy demand for the combined-harvester-thresher, for other motorized farm machinery, and for tractor-drawn implements is indicated.

Increased building activity during 1928 was reflected in a moderately rising level of prices of building materials. No material change in prices of building materials to farmers is indicated for most of 1929 but prices may turn downward during the latter part of 1929 or during the first part of 1930.

The Dairy Situation

Dairying is the most important item in the Wisconsin farm outlook. Over half of the farm income is from milk checks. Milk prices for the past year averaged \$2.15 as compared with \$2.11 in 1927 and \$2.07 in 1926. It was the highest yearly average since 1920 as is shown by the table published herewith.

been reached and that the average price for 1929 is not likely to be higher than the price for 1928. Butter and fluid milk prices have been better than cheese prices. Cheese apparently was depressed somewhat by the rather large storage holdings. Butter holdings are not excessive. In addition, the amount of fluid milk shipped from Wisconsin to Chicago declined somewhat during 1928. Apparently, Chicago obtained more of its milk from regions nearer to the city, and it is estimated that a reduction of approximately nine per cent occurred in the Chicago fluid milk purchases from Wisconsin. Cream shipments to Chicago and to eastern points seem to have increased and it is probable that cream shipments to eastern markets will increase further.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of dairy cows on farms in Wisconsin—the number on January 1, 1929, being estimated at 1,935,000 as compared with 1,984,000 a year ago. An increase in the number of dairy heifers between one and two years of age is indicated which probably points to an increase in cows in another year. Marketings of dairy cattle from Wisconsin to other states have declined slightly during the year though prices have been high.

The gradually increasing demand for milk and milk products will probably maintain about the present spread between the prices of feed and the prices of dairy products until there is such a material change in the beef situation that farmers will increase

MONTHLY WISCONSIN MILK PRICES—1919-1928
Average price per hundred weight received by producers

	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919
January.....	\$2.34	\$2.25	\$2.11	\$1.84	\$2.36	\$2.38	\$1.62	\$2.07	\$3.22	\$3.13
February.....	2.25	2.22	2.04	1.85	2.15	2.29	1.58	2.01	2.96	2.80
March.....	2.15	2.11	1.96	1.88	2.02	2.18	1.57	2.10	2.70	2.75
April.....	2.07	2.05	1.84	1.86	1.72	2.00	1.50	1.86	2.70	2.64
May.....	2.00	1.98	1.80	1.83	1.59	1.91	1.42	1.37	2.62	2.59
June.....	2.03	1.96	1.74	1.82	1.61	1.93	1.44	1.26	2.44	2.66
July.....	2.09	1.98	1.79	1.87	1.63	1.95	1.52	1.39	2.46	2.72
August.....	2.14	2.04	1.82	1.88	1.61	2.00	1.54	1.62	2.56	2.86
September.....	2.18	2.14	1.89	1.91	1.66	2.10	1.65	1.62	2.57	2.87
October.....	2.23	2.28	2.04	2.06	1.66	2.15	1.86	1.75	2.46	3.03
November.....	2.23	2.32	2.15	2.14	1.73	2.21	2.12	1.82	2.38	3.22
December.....	2.25	2.35	2.25	2.12	1.83	2.25	2.29	1.81	2.22	3.28
Weighted yearly average.....	\$2.15	\$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.

It must be noted, however, that milk prices during the last three months of the year did not hold up as well as last year, though during the earlier months of 1928 they were higher. At no time during the year was the average monthly price below \$2.00 per cwt., a situation which had not occurred since 1920. As prices during the last three months of the year were lower than for the same period the year previous, it seems clear that the high point in the present cycle may have

milk production by milking a larger number of beef-type cows. As combined domestic production of all dairy products during recent years has averaged about 99 per cent of domestic consumption and as prospective foreign supplies limit the level to which domestic prices can rise, the situation does not justify more than a gradual expansion of dairy herds, possibly not more than one per cent per year.

The number of milk cows on farms is about the same as at this time last

year. In nearly all states the number of yearling heifers and heifer calves being kept for milk cows is larger than the number on hand a year ago; in the Northeast the increases are substantial, but for the country as a whole the present number is less than one per cent above the number ordinarily required to maintain the present number of milk cows.

Consumption of dairy products was maintained throughout 1928 despite the slightly higher prices which prevailed. Demand seems likely to remain high through the first half of 1929 with a possible downturn in demand toward the end of the year or in 1930.

The quantities of foreign dairy produce absorbed by U. S. markets were somewhat lessened in 1928, while our sales of concentrated milk abroad increased. The net importation of dairy products into the United States on the basis of total milk equivalent was about one per cent of domestic production. It cannot be expected that this year will bring less pressure from foreign competition. Practically throughout all the year foreign dairy production was retarded by unfavorable pasture conditions and European markets were strengthened by unusual demand. Together, Great Britain and Germany took some 10 per cent more butter in 1928 than in 1927, with higher average prices prevailing in their markets. The season of flush production in New Zealand and Australia begins in August, and during the first three months of the current season New Zealand butter production is officially estimated to have been 15 per cent greater than for the same period the previous season, and Australian butter production during the first four months is estimated to have been a third heavier. Most of the influence of increased supplies from the Southern Hemisphere during the current season which began in August is still to be felt in the markets.

THE LIVESTOCK OUTLOOK

Beef Cattle

While beef cattle as a class are not generally important in Wisconsin, large amounts of beef and veal are produced as a by-product of the dairy industry. The sales of cattle and calves make up about 11 per cent of the farm income from the state. Marketings to stockyards during the past year were nearly 7 per cent heavier than a year ago in cattle, and there was also a slight increase in calf marketings. Beef prices during 1928 averaged \$8.25 per cwt. for Wisconsin as compared with \$6.55 in 1927, which brought about an increase in the farm income from this source but it was not enough to offset the losses in the decline of hog prices.

The outlook for the cattle industry continues favorable with prices about at the peak of the cycle. In the past, price situations like that now prevailing have been followed by increased production and reduced prices. This, therefore, does not appear to be a favorable time for new producers to

enter the industry. Those already in may profit by moderate expansion during the next two or three years even though prices go somewhat lower.

Market supplies in 1928 were less than in 1927 and further reduction in 1929 is indicated. The decrease, however, probably will not be as great as in 1928. Supplies of grain-finished cattle during the first half of 1929 will probably equal or exceed those in the first half of 1928. Any increase in such cattle, however, is likely to be offset by decreased supplies of other kinds of slaughter cattle. Demand for beef, consequently for slaughter cattle, is not expected to differ greatly from that of 1928. Although top prices of slaughter cattle may be higher than last year, average prices are not expected to be greatly different. Feeder cattle prices probably will not average as high as during 1928.

The number of all cattle on United States farms January 1, 1929, was about the same as on January 1, 1928. The Department estimates the number of all cattle on January 1, 1929, at 55,751,000 head, which is 70,000 head or 0.1 per cent more than on January 1, 1928. This small change during 1928 indicates that births and imports during the year were about equivalent to total slaughter and death losses. The composition of the total cattle herd on January 1, 1929, differed slightly from that of 1928. There was some increase this year in the proportion of yearling heifers and heifer calves and steers, but a decrease in the proportion of cows.

Supplies of grain-finished cattle during the last half of 1929 are likely to be smaller than for the corresponding period of 1928, unless there is an unexpected advance in prices for fat cattle during the next few months. Supplies of grass cattle and stockers and feeders may show some decrease compared with 1928 if, during the next six months, the level of cattle price shows no more than the usual seasonal decline and cattle growers become more confident that the present level is fairly established for some years.

During the second half of the year slaughter-cattle prices may reach a peak higher than in 1928, but average prices will probably be little if any higher. During the greater part of the year lightweight cattle will be in better demand and will command some premium over comparable grades of medium and heavyweights, but during the last few months choice heavy-weight cattle may sell at a premium.

Hogs

Wisconsin hog marketings to stockyards and packers during 1928 were approximately 1,890,000 head as compared with 2,156,000 for the previous year. Hog prices have been low during the past two years, foreign markets having been unfavorable and production generally heavy. Clearly, the turning point has been reached in the hog cycle and prices are already advancing. Numbers on farms are considerably reduced at the present time

as compared with a year ago. It is estimated that for the United States as a whole there were less than 55 million hogs on January 1 this year as compared with over 60 million a year ago. In Wisconsin the number declined from 1,720,000 to 1,462,000—a decline of about 15 per cent.

The hog outlook for 1929 is favorable. Slaughter is expected to be considerably smaller than in 1928 with some improvement in foreign demand and no material change in domestic demand. The seasonal levels of hog prices in 1929 and 1930 are expected to average higher than in 1928. If higher hog prices this year stimulate increased hog breeding in late 1929, increased marketings in the winter of 1930-31 will again start the hog-price cycle downward. Stabilization of hog production at a level represented by the pig crop of 1928 appears to be the most suitable program for securing a profitable balance between corn and hog production in the Corn Belt.

The combined spring and fall pig crop of 1928, as indicated by the pig surveys, was about 5 per cent smaller for the Corn Belt and 6.5 per cent smaller for the United States than the crop of 1927. Distribution of the 1928 crop over the Corn Belt States was in better relation to corn supplies than that of the 1927 crop, since a larger-than-usual production of the latter crop was produced in the Corn Belt States east of the Mississippi River where corn production was much below normal in 1927.

Indications are that we have passed the low point in the present hog cycle and that for the next year or more prices will be somewhat more favorable than during the past year. With no outlook for much change in feed prices, the production of hogs should be more profitable in 1929 than it has been for the past two years.

Sheep and Lambs

While Wisconsin marketings of sheep and lambs in 1928 were about 6 per cent smaller than in 1927, the number on farms at the beginning of the present year is 5 per cent larger than a year ago. Sheep and lamb prices during 1928 were slightly higher than for the previous year. Demand has been good throughout 1928 and the trend seems to be upward in the per capita consumption of lamb, which will probably continue for at least some time.

Wool prices generally have been steady and it is probable that the sheep industry will be expanded somewhat in the next few years. So far as Wisconsin is concerned, a steady growth of this industry seems desirable.

Poultry and Eggs

Egg prices have been lower during the past two years than in 1926. One of the results of this situation is a reduced number of poultry on the farms of the United States. The outlook now appears to be for somewhat better poultry prices at least during the first half of the present year, but no increase in the price of eggs is looked for as compared with last year. The winter market situation in Wisconsin has, however, been improved by lower production during the past month of unusually cold weather.

FEED CROPS

There seems to be a tendency generally to produce more of the feed crops required on the farms and this is considered a sound adjustment. Feed prices for the market are below livestock prices on a pre-war basis, and with the continued tendency of livestock producers to grow their own feed as far as possible the outlook for the marketing of feed crops is not favorable. The balancing of production and consumption on the individual farms, however, seems desirable. Alfalfa hay is in good demand and will probably continue to bring a premium price. The supply of feed grains and mill feeds is larger than last year,

MONTHLY WISCONSIN LIVESTOCK PRICES—1926-1928*
Average price for all purposes as received by producers

Month	Cattle			Calves			Hogs			Sheep			Lams		
	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928	1926	1927	1928
January.....	\$5.40	\$5.70	\$7.60	\$10.20	\$10.20	\$10.60	\$10.60	\$10.80	\$ 7.60	\$6.70	\$5.30	\$5.30	\$13.00	\$11.90	\$11.40
February.....	5.50	5.80	8.00	10.30	10.80	11.50	11.70	11.10	7.60	7.00	5.60	6.30	12.00	11.50	12.10
March.....	5.60	6.20	8.10	10.30	10.20	11.40	11.70	10.90	7.40	6.80	5.90	6.40	12.30	12.10	12.20
April.....	6.00	6.40	7.90	9.10	9.50	10.60	11.50	10.50	7.80	6.20	8.60	6.60	11.80	12.70	13.00
May.....	6.10	6.50	8.20	8.30	8.70	10.80	11.90	9.30	8.80	7.00	6.40	7.10	12.20	12.40	13.40
June.....	6.20	6.90	8.00	10.40	9.60	11.70	12.70	8.20	8.70	6.80	6.40	6.40	13.20	12.50	13.90
July.....	5.60	6.60	8.40	10.00	10.30	12.60	12.50	8.30	9.70	5.60	5.50	6.00	12.40	11.90	13.20
August.....	5.70	6.50	8.50	10.60	11.10	13.80	11.40	9.00	10.00	5.30	5.70	5.60	11.50	11.60	12.60
September.....	5.90	6.40	8.70	11.30	12.10	14.80	12.00	9.40	11.40	6.50	5.00	5.80	12.00	11.00	12.40
October.....	5.60	6.80	8.60	11.80	12.30	13.80	12.10	10.10	9.60	5.50	5.30	5.60	11.70	11.30	11.10
November.....	5.60	6.70	8.40	9.90	10.60	12.30	11.40	8.80	8.40	5.60	5.60	5.80	11.70	11.30	11.60
December.....	5.60	7.40	8.30	9.50	10.80	11.80	10.90	7.90	7.90	5.30	5.50	5.70	11.30	11.90	11.50
Weighted yearly average.....	\$5.76	\$6.55	\$8.25	\$10.04	\$10.35	\$11.80	\$11.61	\$ 9.50	\$ 8.50	\$5.88	\$5.75	\$5.90	\$11.89	\$11.80	\$12.20

*Monthly figures from United States Department of Agriculture "Crops and Markets." weighted averages computed by Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

and while hay prices are somewhat higher due to the short crop of 1928 it is not expected that during the current year other feed prices will reach the high levels of the supply of 1928. There is no prospect for higher hay prices next year.

GRAIN CROPS

Among the commercial grain crops of the country as a whole wheat is the most important, though this crop is no longer extensively grown in Wisconsin. It is probable that the world supply and demand for wheat in the 1929-30 season will be somewhat more favorable for marketing the wheat crop of the United States than they were in the 1928-29 season. Although there probably will be a considerable increase in the carry-over in all surplus producing countries, this is likely to be offset by a continued increase in consumption and by some curtailment in the world wheat production in 1929 as a reaction from the low prices prevailing in the 1928-29 season and possibly also by lower average yields per acre.

Rye production in the United States was greatly reduced during the past year though the world production showed an increase. Since this crop follows largely the trend of wheat prices it may be expected to meet a somewhat more satisfactory market during the coming year. Rye plantings for the United States as a whole are 15 per cent below a year ago.

Oats for market has a limited demand and the outlook is not favorable. On the other hand, when the grain is marketed through livestock as is the practice on most of the farms in Wisconsin it can well be grown to the same extent as during the last few years. Its production for the market during the coming year is not likely to be satisfactory, but that is no longer a factor of primary importance in Wisconsin, where over 90 per cent of the crop is fed on the farms.

Barley prices have been less satisfactory than a year ago when a strong foreign demand existed, but this crop has been increased extensively to be used as a feed grain. It is finding more and more a place in the agriculture of the Corn Belt and is, to some extent, being substituted for oats and also for corn in regions where corn does not mature readily. It produces a greater net return per acre than oats in a number of states, and the increase in barley acreage as a feed crop can well continue though the market outlook for this crop is not encouraging at present.

The 1928 corn crop was an excellent one, and with no increase in acreage it is not likely that the 1929 crop will be larger. So far as Wisconsin producers are concerned, corn is a feed crop rather than a market crop, and a supply adequate for local demands is desirable. Commercial corn will probably meet a less favorable price during the coming year than it has during the past due largely to the fact that there are fewer animals to consume it.

CASH CROPS

Potatoes

The potato is Wisconsin's leading cash crop and returns from it were very unsatisfactory during the past year. In regard to the potato outlook the Department of Agriculture offers the following:

Potato growers in nearly all parts of the United States suffered such terrific losses from overproduction in 1928 that there is little prob-

ability that an excessive acreage will be planted this season. Preliminary reports on the acreage which growers intend to plant indicate that if the crop is given average care, production in 1929 may be expected to vary from 400,000,000 bushels about in the proportion that growing conditions are more favorable or less favorable than usual. Considering the low cost of seed potatoes this season, this prospect need not discourage efficient producers of late potatoes, but it does not encourage speculative plantings. Heavy stocks now on hand will tend to hold down the price of new potatoes until the end of June, so prospects for southern growers are none too bright even though their acreage is reduced around 25 per cent as now seems probable.

The acreage planted to potatoes is so little dependent on weather conditions at planting time that the acreage planted has not usually differed far from what farmers report as intended. Two years ago the January reports indicated an intended increase in plantings of 13 per cent. Abandonment from flood, hail, and blight was rather heavy, and the increase in the estimated harvested acreage was 11.3 per cent. In January, 1928, an intended increase of 7 per cent in plantings was reported and the acreage available for harvest was increased about 10 per cent. Reports this year seem to indicate that growers are now planning to plant an acreage 11 per cent smaller than they planted last year, indicating the probability of a harvested acreage slightly below that of 1927. As this indicates about average prospects, there is no reason to expect farmers to make material changes in their plans between now and planting time.

In estimating the acreage of potatoes needed next season, allowance must be made for the upward trend in yields that is resulting from more intensive methods of production. If average weather conditions are experienced this season and yield follows the trend of recent years, a yield of about 117 bushels per acre must be expected. If this yield is secured on an acreage 11 per cent below that available for harvest in 1928, production will be around 400,000,000 bushels and supplies after July 1 will be about equal to the average during the last ten years. In considering prospects for next year it should, however, be borne in mind that yields have often been relatively low when seed has been cheap and potato growers discouraged. This year farmers are planning to use a little more seed per acre, but the crop may not receive the usual attention.

Tobacco

Prices received for Wisconsin tobacco during the past two years were better than for some time previous. The acreage seems to be rather well adjusted to the requirements, and while stocks are low there seems to be no justification for further acreage expansion. The market demand is most active for high quality binder tobacco. Unfortunately, reports indicate that the curing of the 1928 crop has not turned out as well as indicated by earlier expectations and the amount of shed damage is considerable. This will reduce the amount of binder tobacco in the crop and will consequently mean a lower average price than anticipated. The situation indicates a favorable market in 1929 for a crop of about the same size as that of 1928, particularly for the good packing grades.

Clover Seed

Wisconsin is one of the important producers of red and alsike clover seed. During the past year, however, very little was produced in the southern part of the state because of the serious winter killing of clovers which occurred last winter. It is expected that seed stocks will generally be very low this spring so that prices should be favorable to producers for the 1929 crop. The production of seed on suitable clover fields is to be recommended. New seedings were reported as going into the winter in good condition by most Wisconsin Crop Reporters, so if the spring and summer are favorable for clover seed production many farms in the state will probably have an opportunity to take advantage of the existing shortage of seed.

Cabbage

The cabbage production of 1928 was less than usual especially in the East, and the present holdings in storage are low. Acreage increases are probable in the southern early cabbage sections as a result of the high prices now prevailing. It appears that for 1929 it is desirable to hold the acreage of northern grown cabbage to approximately the 1928 plantings in order to avoid excessive production and low prices next fall.

Beans

The demand for beans has been steady and most of the 1928 bean crop has been marketed at favorable prices. It appears that moderate increases in acreage are justified and an acreage expansion of 10 per cent may be profitable. Excessive increases in acreage followed by normal yields would probably result in a marked price reduction.

Onions

Because of the low yields made by most onion fields in 1928 and the added fact that much of the crop was of poor keeping quality, high prices have been obtained during the present season. Onion producers should keep in mind that the low production and high prices of the past season are the result of low yields per acre and not so much of small acreage. The present acreage with normal yields will produce a normal supply of this crop. Acreage increases in onions, especially if followed by normal or better than normal yields, will result in price declines.

CANNING CROPS

Canners of Wisconsin peas have had a more favorable season than for some time. Preliminary information indicates that the acreage of canning peas will be increased during 1929. In this connection it should be born in mind that the large acreage increases a few years ago brought this industry into serious trouble; and while some acreage increases may be handled to advantage excessive expansion should be guarded against.

Diversification in the Wisconsin canning industry, especially in soil areas where this can be accomplished, seems to have been going on at a rapid rate. Unquestionably, in regions where the soil is favorable this is a sound policy. The canning of string beans, beets, and kraut have been engaged in by Wisconsin canners to very good advantage, and where conditions permit the canning of a variety of products seems to be a favorable development in this important industry.

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal-State Crop and Livestock Reporting Service
 WALTER H. EBLING, Agricultural Statistician

Vol. VIII, No. 2

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

July, 1929

JULY CROP OUTLOOK FOR WISCONSIN

THE WISCONSIN crop situation, while it is generally good this year, differs greatly from that of a year ago. Striking increases and decreases in acreage and also marked changes in the condition and outlook of individual crops are noted. Increases in acreages occurred in rye, spring wheat, dry beans, sugar beets, canning peas, and in the hay crops. Decreases occurred in corn, potatoes, oats, barley, and flax.

The most notable readjustments occurred in potatoes and in the hay crops. After the extremely unsatisfactory potato year in 1928 producers in Wisconsin apparently cut their acreage 18 per cent, while potato farmers in the United States as a whole seem to have reduced their acreage at least 12 per cent. Hay crops have been generally increased in Wisconsin and in neighboring states.

The Past Winter Unusually Favorable

In contrast with a year ago when we had one of the most severe winters on record from the standpoint of farm crop damage, the past winter was an unusually favorable one. In 1928 nearly a third of Wisconsin's rye and alfalfa and almost half of the winter wheat were lost by winterkilling. This year practically no winter losses in these crops were reported in the state.

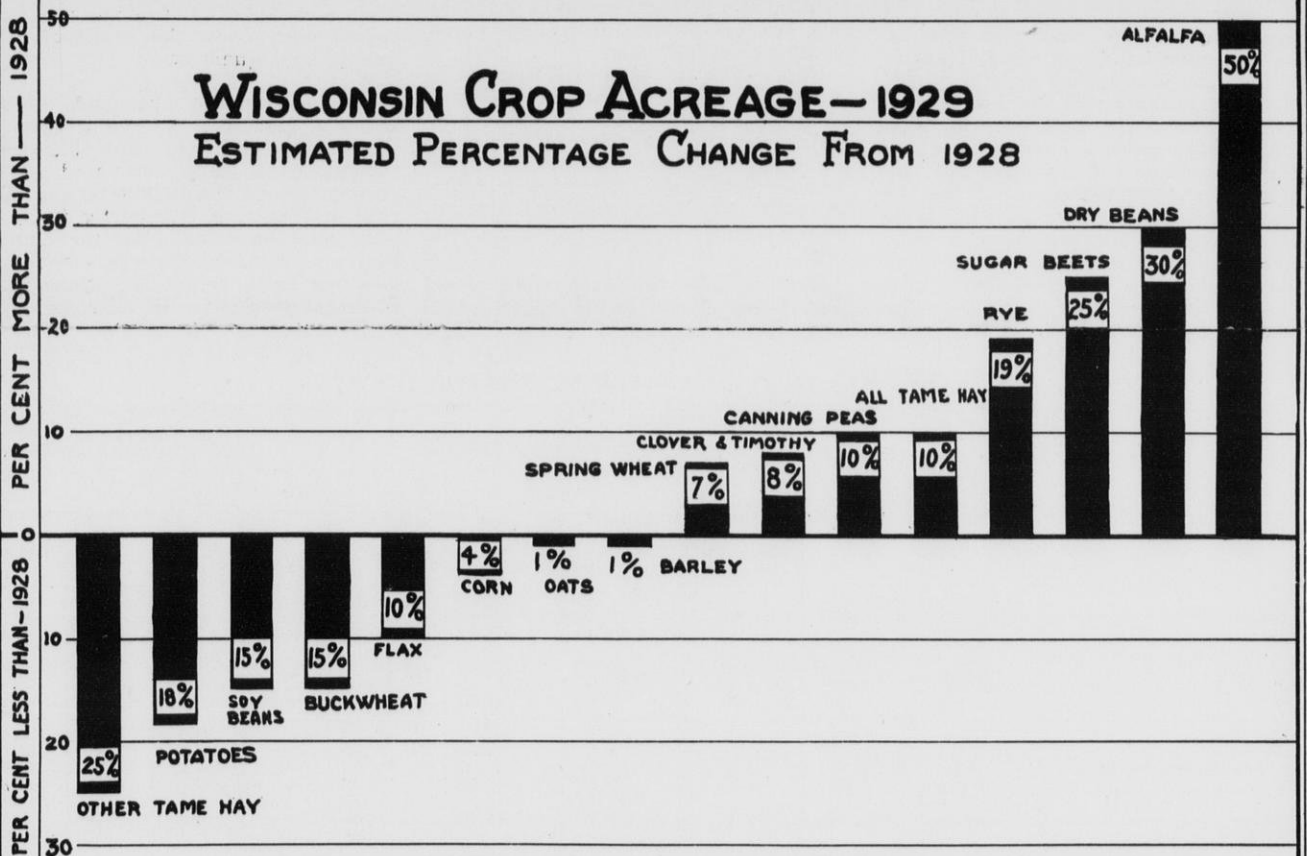
A heavy snow cover protected the crops from early in January until well along in March, and there was little serious freezing and thawing or dry, windy weather following the disappearance of the snow; hence the crop damage from this source was slight. As a result, winter grains and the hay crops came through in unusually fine condition.

Spring weather was cooler than normal and the season was generally late.

Grain crops in many of the important grain counties of the state were delayed in seeding by wet weather and snow in April. Corn planting in May was done under fairly favorable conditions, the month being cool and dry. During June weather was dry for the first few weeks and crop progress was slow. General showers later and heavy rains during the last week of the month caused good crop growth and the backwardness of the season was partly made up during this time. In most parts of Wisconsin the average temperature for June was several degrees below normal, and the rainfall while rather evenly distributed was somewhat below normal in the northern part of the state and somewhat above normal in the southern sections.

Hay Crops Generally Promising
 Since the clovers survived the winter

WISCONSIN CROP ACREAGE—1929
 ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM 1928



CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR JULY 1

Crop	Acreage			Production				Condition, July 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Per cent increase (+) or decrease (-) of 1929 acreage compared to 1928 acreage	July 1, 1929 forecast	1928	5-year average 1923-27	Unit	1929	1928	5-year average 1923-27
Corn.....	2,036,000	2,121,000	- 4	79,608,000	91,203,000	76,626,000	Bu.	85	76	77.4
Potatoes.....	228,000	278,000	-18	24,478,000	31,970,000	26,453,000	Bu.	88	87	86.2
Tobacco.....	37,000	37,000	....	45,454,000	49,025,000	38,866,000	Lb.	91	89	84.8
Oats.....	2,470,000	2,495,000	- 1	99,986,000	108,532,000	102,379,000	Bu.	88	87	88.0
Barley.....	718,000	725,000	- 1	23,694,000	26,898,000	16,419,000	Bu.	88	87	88.6
Rye.....	199,000	167,000	+19	3,335,000	2,171,000	4,476,000	Bu.	89	65	85.2
Winter wheat.....	42,000	42,000	....	975,000	777,000	1,426,000	Bu.	91	66	82.8
Spring wheat.....	66,000	62,000	+ 7	1,336,000	1,364,000	1,127,000	Bu.	88	83	86.0
Clover and timothy.....	3,143,000	2,901,000	+ 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	93	61	92.0
Alfalfa.....	328,000	219,000	+50	935,000	548,000	730,000	Ton	95	67	87.0
Other tame hay.....	114,000	150,000	-24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
All tame hay.....	3,585,000	3,270,000	+10	7,091,000	5,017,000	5,768,000	Ton	92	62	78.8
Dry peas.....	29,000	29,000	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	91	89	86.6
Dry beans.....	8,000	6,000	+30	88,000	54,000	83,000	Bu.	92	86	85.8
Flax.....	8,000	9,000	-10	104,000	122,000	123,000	Bu.	87	83	86.0
Canning peas.....	111,000	101,000	+10	.....	.....	.....	.....	86	88	83.4
Sugar beets.....	111,000	19,000	+25	84,000	74,000	2141,000	Ton	88	83	83.4
Apples.....	.....	.....	....	1,707,000	2,160,000	1,836,000	Bu.	70	76	71.6
Pasture.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	94	71	86.0

¹Planted acreage. ²Four-year average, 1924-27.

unusually well, an excellent crop of clover and alfalfa hay is being harvested. The alfalfa acreage is estimated to be about 50 per cent above the low acreage of a year ago, and with the generally favorable condition which this crop has had, Wisconsin should have one of the largest supplies of alfalfa hay ever harvested in the state. Red clover and alsike are likewise good and much good hay is being harvested from them. Old meadows, timothy, and wild grasses, on the other hand, are short because of the cool, late spring and the yields of these grasses will be lower than usual. In a dairy state such as Wisconsin these grasses, however, are less important from the standpoint of hay production than the clovers. On the basis of July 1 condition, the tame hay production for Wisconsin is estimated at 7,091,000 tons this year as compared with 5,017,000 last year. For the United States as a whole, the tame hay production this year is esti-

mated at 98,991,000 tons on July 1 as compared to 92,983,000 tons harvested last year.

GRAIN CROPS

Corn.—Wisconsin's corn acreage is estimated to be four per cent lower than a year ago. Because of the good hay crops the need for somewhat less corn is apparent. For the United States as a whole, the corn acreage is reduced two per cent and it is probable that the corn production will be appreciably below last year.

Oats.—The oat crop in Wisconsin is somewhat uneven due to the delayed seeding on many farms. The acreage in the state is one per cent less than a year ago, and for the United States four per cent less. The oat production in both Wisconsin and the United States is likely to be appreciably below 1928.

Barley.—For the first time since 1924 there seems to be no increase in the barley acreage of Wisconsin this

year. The preliminary estimates indicate that the acreage has declined one per cent as compared with a year ago. For the United States as a whole, the acreage of this crop is eight per cent higher this year—the barley expansion seemingly being continued in other parts of the country. The United States production as well as the production in Wisconsin will probably be somewhat below last year when a record crop of barley was harvested both from the standpoint of quality and quantity.

Rye.—After the enormous winter losses of last year the rye acreage in Wisconsin this year has increased somewhat, it being estimated at 19 per cent above the 1928 acreage. The crop in Wisconsin is reported to be in very good condition. For the United States as a whole, the rye acreage is five per cent below last year, and while the production in Wisconsin will be increased considerably it will prob-

CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR JULY 1

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)				Condition, July 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Per cent increase (+) or decrease (-) of 1929 acreage compared to 1928 acreage	July 1, 1929 forecast	1928	5-year average 1923-27	Unit	1929	1928	10-year average 1918-27
Corn.....	98,333	100,630	- 2	2,662,050	2,835,678	2,746,740	Bu.	77.6	78.1	82.6
Potatoes.....	3,370	3,832	-12	379,290	464,483	382,756	Bu.	83.1	84.8	85.8
Tobacco.....	2,002.8	1,895.4	+ 6	1,492,508	1,378,139	1,330,576	Lb.	77.3	74.1	79.3
Oats.....	40,222	41,734	- 4	1,247,147	1,448,677	1,345,081	Bu.	79.0	79.9	81.0
Barley.....	13,595	12,533	+ 8	317,264	356,667	208,783	Bu.	76.7	81.3	82.9
Rye.....	3,284	3,439	- 5	41,949	41,676	54,793	Bu.	76.2	66.7	82.2
Winter wheat.....	39,885	36,207	+10	582,492	578,133	549,257	Bu.	75.9	75.0	77.5
Durum wheat.....	5,357	6,711	-20	58,278	92,770	59,988	Bu.	67.5	76.2	180.4
Spring wheat other than Durum.....	15,514	14,850	+ 4	193,099	231,288	200,423	Bu.	74.4	71.7	82.6
Flax.....	3,092	2,638	+17	19,885	18,690	23,243	Bu.	71.5	76.8	82.5
Tame hay.....	60,054	57,768	+ 4	98,991	92,983	92,810	Ton	85.2	76.7	79.5

¹Five-year average, 1923-27. ²All spring wheat.

ably be about the same as last year for the United States.

Wheat.—While wheat is relatively unimportant in Wisconsin, it is of interest to note that the spring sown wheat has increased seven per cent in acreage as compared with last year but that there is no change in winter wheat. The United States winter wheat acreage is estimated to be 10 per cent higher than a year ago and the spring wheat acreage other than Durum wheat about four per cent higher. From the condition reported in July it appears that the wheat yields for the United States as a whole will be somewhat lower this year than last year, and the production of all wheat is forecast at 833,869,000 bushels as compared with 902,191,000 bushels harvested last year.

Buckwheat.—In Wisconsin the buckwheat acreage will be somewhat smaller this year, it being reduced from 25,000 acres to approximately 21,000 acres—a decline of about 16 per cent.

CASH CROPS

Potatoes.—Wisconsin farmers have apparently decreased their potato acreage 18 per cent as compared to a year ago, and farmers in the United States as a whole 12 per cent. From the condition on July 1 the production of the Wisconsin crop is forecast at less than 25,000,000 bushels and the United States crop at approximately 380,000,000 bushels as compared with the record crop of nearly 465,000,000 bushels harvested last year. According to this information, it appears that potato growers should be well situated from the standpoint of markets this fall for a crop of 380,000,000 bushels should move at satisfactory prices, the nation normally consuming 400,000,000 bushels or more.

Canning Peas.—The Wisconsin canning pea acreage is about 10 per cent higher than last year, making the total for the state 111,000 acres. The yield of early peas is reported to be rather light in a number of canning areas with the result that in spite of the increased acreage there is not much outlook for increased production in early varieties. With the complete manner in which stocks were cleaned up last year, the situation of Wisconsin pea canners should be the most satisfactory in recent years.

Tobacco.—There is apparently no change in the Wisconsin tobacco acreage this year as compared with last year though the United States acreage generally is somewhat higher. The production in Wisconsin as based on the condition of July 1 will probably be somewhat below last year.

Cabbage.—While detailed preliminary figures have not been worked out for the cabbage acreage in the state, it is apparent that there will be some increase, particularly in kraut cabbage. The demand for canned sauerkraut seems to have been good during the last few years and this industry is expanding.

Onions.—It appears that about the normal acreage of onions is being grown in the state this year. There is, however, a noted shift in the southeastern district from the growing of onion sets to market onions due to the reduced demand for onion sets.

Clover Seed.—With the excellent condition in which most of the clover fields of the state are this year, it is probable if the weather favors seed production that a large crop of clover seed will be harvested. It is too early to know the outcome of the clover seed situation, but the stand is present in the fields so that with favorable weather after harvest the production of a crop of red clover seed seems reasonably certain.

Cherries.—The commercial cherry crop in Wisconsin is reported to be considerably below last year. Early cherries in the Door County region are a very short crop, though the late cherries are reported to be yielding fairly well.

Apples.—The condition of the apple crop in both Wisconsin and the United States as a whole is somewhat below that of last year. The outlook is for a considerable reduction in the apple production in both this state and the United States during the present season.

MILK PRICES

The average monthly milk prices for Wisconsin as reported by crop reporters this year are below those of 1928. The high point in the milk price cycle seems to have been reached last October, since which time the average prices have fallen slightly below prices of the previous year.

In the table below are given comparative milk prices as obtained from Wisconsin crop reporters for the first six months of the present year with comparisons for the previous two years. It will be noted that in 1928 the average monthly price did not fall below \$2.00 per hundredweight, while in 1929 both the May and June price was under \$2.00.

OTHER FARM PRICES

In view of the general interest in farm prices the table below giving monthly average prices of important Wisconsin farm products for the first six months of the present year is offered.

Average Prices of Wisconsin Farm Products Received by Producers in 1929 by Months

Product	January	February	March	April	May	June (preliminary)	Unit
Wheat.....	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.06	\$ 1.00	Bu.
Corn.....	.80	.86	.89	.88	.87	.85	Bu.
Oats.....	.45	.48	.48	.48	.46	.44	Bu.
Barley.....	.64	.67	.67	.68	.64	.64	Bu.
Rye.....	.92	.95	.98	.92	.83	.79	Bu.
Potatoes.....	.35	.35	.35	.30	.30	.35	Bu.
Hogs.....	8.00	8.90	10.10	10.30	10.60	10.00	Cwt.
Beef cattle.....	8.00	8.10	8.10	8.50	9.80	8.60	Cwt.
Veal calves.....	12.70	12.20	13.10	11.60	14.00	11.75	Cwt.
Sheep.....	6.50	6.40	6.50	6.90	6.70	6.25	Cwt.
Lambs.....	12.90	13.30	13.30	13.40	13.30	12.60	Cwt.
Butter.....	.49	.49	.50	.47	.47	.45	Lb.
Eggs.....	.30	.31	.30	.23	.25	.26	Doz.
Chickens.....	.22	.227	.233	.238	.265	.237	Lb.
Wool.....	.40	.39	.38	.36	.34	.33	Lb.
Hay (all).....	14.60	14.60	14.20	14.13	13.50	12.90	Ton
Hay, Timothy.....	15.20	15.40	15.40	15.10	14.13	13.10	Ton
Hay, Clover.....	16.60	16.30	16.50	15.50	14.90	14.00	Ton
Hay, Alfalfa.....	21.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	22.00	19.00	Ton

Wisconsin Average Monthly Milk Prices (Price per cwt. paid to farmers)

	1929	1928	1927
January.....	\$2.23	\$2.34	\$2.25
February.....	2.17	2.25	2.22
March.....	2.13	2.15	2.11
April.....	2.06	2.07	2.05
May.....	1.98	2.00	1.98
June.....	1.94	2.03	1.95

¹ Preliminary

RESULTS OF THE JUNE PIG SURVEY

Wisconsin's spring pig crop this year is about nine per cent smaller than a year ago. The United States as a whole has about eight per cent fewer spring pigs than last year. The number of sows kept on farms to farrow next fall is approximately the same as last fall. This means that there is not likely to be any material increase in the nation's pork production before the fall of 1930 and that the outlook for swine growers the coming year should be good.

The number of sows farrowed this spring for the United States was about 10 per cent smaller and for the Corn Belt about eight per cent smaller than last spring. The December, 1928, survey forecast a decrease in sows to farrow this spring, but the decreases shown are a little more than the December report indicated. The average number of pigs saved per litter was a little larger than last year both for the United States and the Corn Belt States.

The reports of the number of sows bred or to be bred for farrowing in the fall of 1929 point to about the same number as farrowed in the fall of 1928, if the relationship between breeding intentions and actual farrowings is similar to other years. The report shows increases of about 17 per cent in sows bred or to be bred for fall farrowing this year as compared to sows farrowed last fall for both the United States and the Corn Belt States.

PRESENT HOG OUTLOOK FAVORABLE

Supplies of hogs for slaughter during the next twelve months will probably be less than during the past year. Storage holdings are smaller now than they were a year ago, and no marked change in the domestic or foreign demand in the next eighteen months seems likely.

Prices for hogs during the past half year have been well above a year ago and the outlook is for a fairly steady market during the rest of the current year. Under the improved prices it is probable that next year's hog production will be somewhat increased, but the outlook for this year and much of next year seems to be satisfactory for pork producers. If hog producers in the United States and other countries breed a larger number of sows to farrow in the spring of 1930, it is probable that an increase in hogs will come on the markets late in 1930 which in turn is likely to bring a down-swing in the price cycle.

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WALTER H. EBLING, Agricultural Statistician

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August, 1929

AUGUST CROP OUTLOOK IN WISCONSIN

JULY WAS a dry month in Wisconsin this year and the condition of practically all crops except corn declined during the period. In most parts of the state there was little rainfall, and with the hot weather during the last two weeks of the month most crops and pastures suffered considerably though the condition of corn improved three per cent.

Moderate rains occurred throughout northern Wisconsin during the first week of July, and following this occurred a prolonged dry period which was broken in much of southern Wisconsin from July 23-26. General rains fell on August 7th and 8th in northern Wisconsin.

A frost on July 19th was recorded in numerous places in central and northern Wisconsin. Damage was reported to corn, beans, cranberries, potatoes, blueberries and buckwheat but the most serious injury probably occurred to some of the berry crops particularly cranberries in certain areas and, in a few instances, to potatoes. Generally the frost damage was not extensive.

Late Grains Making Low Yields

Inasmuch as the planting of the spring sown grains was much delayed on many farms of Wisconsin this year, some of these crops were not planted until well along in May. The grains planted very late are generally poor, and particularly the late va-

rieties of oats sown late in the season are making very light yields. The dry weather during the last part of July, together with an unusually heavy attack of rust, injured the oat crop greatly—the condition declining eight per cent during July. Barley is a fairly good crop though it was not equal to last year. Its condition declined three per cent during July.

Winter grains are generally good. Excellent yields of winter wheat of high quality and very good yields of rye, also of excellent quality, are being reported. The estimated yield of winter wheat is 23 bushels per acre and that of rye 16.5 bushels.

Hay a Large Crop

In practically all counties of Wisconsin an unusually fine hay crop was harvested. Late harvestings were generally obtained without rain and are of good quality. Some of the early cuttings were damaged by rain. Never before has Wisconsin harvested so great a hay crop largely of clovers as this year. Timothy and the grasses on old meadows as well as wild hay did not make large yields, but the production of the clovers was unusual. The preliminary estimates indicate that the 1929 hay crop will make a new record for the production of tame hay in Wisconsin, the estimated tonnage at this time being 7,055,000 which is well above the previous high record made in 1927.

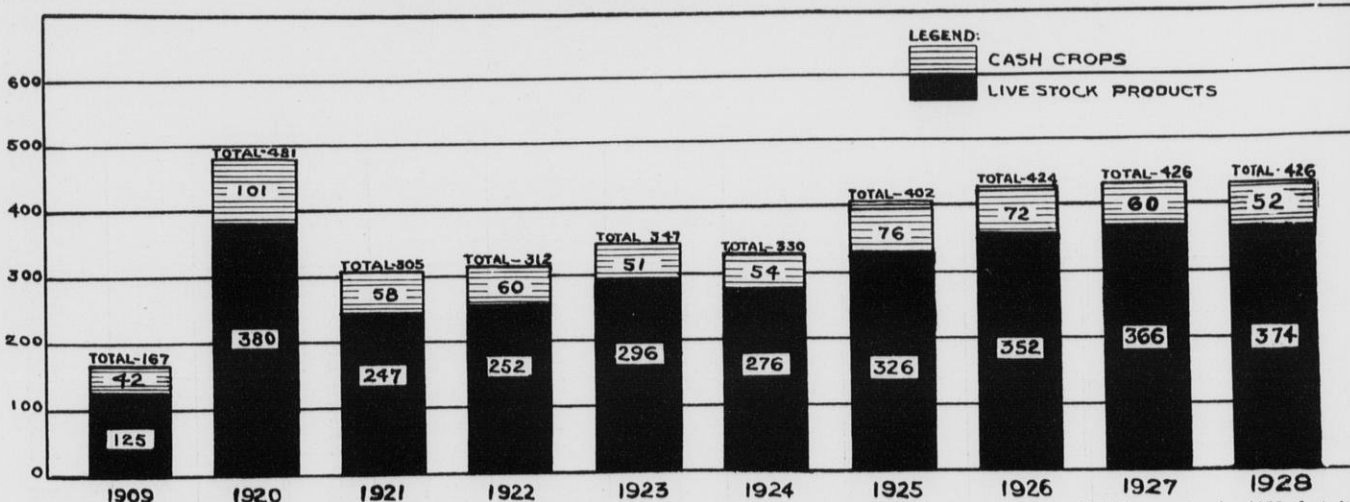
Condition of Grain Crops

Corn.—After a somewhat late start corn is progressing splendidly in Wisconsin. The stand is very satisfactory, and the crop reporters of the state indicate that it is 88 per cent of a full stand. Cutworm damage was less this year than last year. The condition of corn rose three per cent during July, being 88 per cent of normal on the first of August.

Oats.—Oats is the most important of the small grains in Wisconsin and its condition declined sharply during July. The production is now estimated at 90,896,000 bushels or nearly 10,000,000 bushels below the large crop of a year ago. The early varieties and the very early plantings of late varieties seem to be making quite satisfactory yields but the late planted oats generally, especially the late varieties, are making low yields and in quality are generally light. Rust damage is unusually heavy, especially in the southern part of the state. The condition of the crop declined eight per cent during July.

Barley.—As a feed grain, barley has been increasing rapidly in importance in recent years, and the quality of Wisconsin barley is generally good. This year the crop matured mostly before the hot, dry weather of late July and, as a result, it is the best of the spring sown grains. The estimated yield for the state is 31 bushels per acre with

Gross Income of Wisconsin Farms in Millions of Dollars
1928 (WITH REVISED DATA FOR PREVIOUS YEARS)



The gross farm income for Wisconsin shows no change from 1927 to 1928. The income from livestock was slightly greater in 1928, but it was offset by a corresponding decrease in the income from cash crops.

CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR AUGUST 1

Crop	Acreage		Production				Condition, August 1 Per Cent of Normal			
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Aug. 1, 1929 forecast	1928	Per cent increase (+) or decrease (-) of Aug. 1 fore- cast compared to 1928 final production	5-year average 1923-27	Unit	1929	1928	5-year average 1923-27
Corn.....	2,036,000	2,121,000	86,001,000	91,203,000	- 6	76,626,000	Bu.	88	85	78.6
Potatoes.....	228,000	278,000	24,601,000	31,970,000	-23	26,453,000	Bu.	83	91	86.6
Tobacco.....	37,000	37,000	46,287,000	49,025,000	- 6	38,866,000	Lb.	90	92	83.4
Oats.....	2,470,000	2,495,000	90,896,000	108,532,000	-16	102,379,000	Bu.	80	90	87.6
Barley.....	718,000	725,000	22,276,000	26,898,000	-17	16,419,000	Bu.	85	93	90.2
Rye.....	199,000	167,000	3,283,000	2,171,000	+51	4,476,000	Bu.	116.5	113.0	115.7
Winter wheat.....	42,000	42,000	966,000	777,000	+24	1,426,000	Bu.	123.0	118.5	121.1
Spring wheat.....	66,000	62,000	1,275,000	1,364,000	- 7	1,127,000	Bu.	84	88	85.2
Buckwheat.....	21,000	25,000	326,000	412,000	-21	376,000	Bu.	84	89	84.8
Clover and timothy.....	3,143,000	2,901,000						96	70	87.2
Alfalfa.....	328,000	219,000	910,000	548,000	+66	730,000	Tons	94	77	90.0
Other tame hay.....	114,000	150,000								
All tame hay.....	3,585,000	3,270,000	7,055,000	5,017,000	+41	5,768,000	Tons	96	70	83.4
Dry peas.....	29,000	29,000						84	91	86.2
Dry beans.....	8,000	6,000	76,000	54,000	+42	83,000	Bu.	84	88	86.8
Flax.....	8,000	9,000	100,000	122,000	-18	123,000	Bu.	86	89	87.0
Canning peas.....	111,000	101,000								
Cabbage.....								88	89	89.4
Sugar beets.....	9,000	8,000	82,000	74,000	+11	141,000	Ton	86	87	88.6
Apples.....			1,720,000	2,160,000	-20	1,836,000	Bu.	63	74	64.8
Pasture.....								87	80	80.6

¹Average yield per acre.

²Four-year average, 1924-27.

a production of 22,276,000 bushels or seventeen per cent less than a year ago.

Wheat.—Spring wheat, like the other spring sown grains, varies a great deal, the early seedings being better than the late. Considerable rust damage is reported in this crop and the production will be seven per cent below last year with an increase in acreage of also seven per cent.

Winter wheat, on the other hand, is probably the best small grain crop in the state this year though its acreage is not great. Good yields of fine quality wheat are reported on practically all winter wheat fields in the state. Wisconsin's production of winter wheat is estimated at twenty-four per cent above a year ago with the same acreage.

Rye.—The production of rye in Wisconsin is estimated at fifty-one per cent above last year. An acreage increase of nineteen per cent and a gen-

erally good outturn of the crop are responsible for the marked increase in production over the poor crop of last year. The quality of the rye is good though in some sections the heads are reported to be only partly filled.

Cash Crops

Potatoes.—The most important cash crop in Wisconsin is the potato crop. The potato condition declined five per cent during July due largely to hot, dry weather during the last half of the month. The early varieties, which are becoming increasingly important in the state, are making only moderate yields. Late varieties generally show small vines and are not nearly as vigorous as last year. Stands in some fields seem to be considerably reduced. Injury by insects has been serious this year.

Tobacco.—The tobacco crop looks good, particularly in the southern district. An unusually heavy rain on

July 23rd and 24th provided a large moisture supply for the southern tobacco area, and the crop is advancing rapidly. The Vernon County district is reported to be much drier than the southern district. In general, however, the crop has a very good outlook.

Canning Peas.—Yields on Wisconsin canning peas this year are well below those of a year ago. An inquiry to canners indicates a production of about 81 cases per acre and a pack of almost 9,000,000 cases for Wisconsin as compared with 9,250,000 cases last year.

Prices on canned peas are very much better than they were a year ago, and canners appear to be in a very good position.

There appears to be an increase in the acreage of minor canning crops grown in Wisconsin—the acreage of sweet corn being five per cent above last year, kraut cabbage twenty per cent, beets for canning forty per cent,

CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR AUGUST 1

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)				Condition, August 1 Per Cent of Normal			
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Aug. 1, 1929 forecast	1928	Per cent increase (+) or decrease (-) of Aug. 1 fore- cast compared to 1928 final production	5-year average 1923-27	Unit	1929	1928	10-year average 1923-27
Corn.....	98,333	100,630	2,740,514	2,835,678	- 3	2,746,740	Bu.	78.8	83.3	79.5
Potatoes.....	3,370	3,832	372,812	464,483	-20	382,756	Bu.	77.5	85.8	80.0
Tobacco.....	2,002.8	1,895.4	1,519,383	1,378,139	+10	1,330,576	Lb.	76.4	74.6	77.0
Oats.....	40,222	41,734	1,202,895	1,448,677	-17	1,345,081	Bu.	75.6	84.8	78.2
Barley.....	13,595	12,533	304,381	356,667	-15	208,783	Bu.	70.1	86.5	79.0
Rye.....	3,284	3,439	41,028	41,676	- 2	54,793	Bu.	112.5	112.1	113.6
Winter wheat.....	39,885	36,207	568,233	578,133	- 2	549,257	Bu.	114.2	116.0	114.9
Durum wheat.....	5,357	6,711	49,263	92,770	-47	59,988	Bu.	256.7	283.8	276.6
Spring wheat other than Durum.....	15,514	14,850	156,389	231,288	-32	200,423	Bu.	256.2	281.8	272.4
Buckwheat.....	750	783	13,487	13,148	+ 3	13,949	Bu.	78.6	84.2	87.1
Flax.....	3,092	2,638	17,979	18,690	- 4	23,243	Bu.	57.8	83.3	75.4
Sugar beets.....	710	644	7,617	7,101	+ 7	47,462	Ton	85.9	89.6	85.7
Tame hay.....	60,054	57,768	97,421	92,983	- 5	92,810	Ton	85.4	81.7	80.8

¹Average yield per acre.

²Five-year average.

³All spring wheat.

⁴Short time average.

SOURCES OF THE GROSS INCOME ON WISCONSIN FARMS, 1926-28

and string beans twenty-seven per cent. The condition of these crops on the first of August was fair, though string beans are not making good returns.

Cabbage.—The condition of cabbage is reported good in practically all sections of Wisconsin. With the increased acreage, it is probable that a much larger cabbage crop will be harvested in Wisconsin than a year ago. Most of the increase, however, is reported to be kraut cabbage for canning. The northern cabbage district had several good rains and is in good condition. The Kenosha-Racine district has been rather dry, but with the large moisture supply available in the soil from the spring rains the crop has been making good progress.

Onions.—The condition of the onion crop in the state is reported to be quite satisfactory. Harvesting of onion sets is in progress. The acreage of sets is considerably reduced though there is probably a corresponding increase in market onions.

Pastures

Wisconsin pastures early in the season were unusually good for the same reasons that the hay crop was outstanding. There was an abundance of grass in the early months of the season, but with the dry weather in July pastures generally started to dry up and in most parts of the state were much in need of rain on the first of August. Some relief in the northern part of the state was obtained on August 7th and 8th, but much of the pasture area in southern Wisconsin is still in need of rain.

Milk Prices

Unlike a year ago the average price of milk in Wisconsin showed no increase during July. The preliminary July price obtained from crop reporters on August 1 was \$1.94 this year as compared to \$2.09 last year. The June final price for this year is \$1.95 as compared with \$2.03 a year ago. The following table gives the milk prices for the present year with comparisons.

Wisconsin Average Monthly Milk Prices

	1929	1928	1927
January	\$.223	\$.234	\$.225
February	2.17	2.25	2.22
March	2.13	2.15	2.11
April	2.06	2.07	2.05
May	1.98	2.00	1.98
June	1.95	2.03	1.96
July	1.94†	2.09	1.98

†Preliminary.

Mid-Summer Sheep and Wool Outlook

The United States Department of Agriculture recently issued an outlook report on sheep and wool, which indicates that the prospects for this industry during the next year are

	1928	1927	1926
Milk	\$227,292,000	\$223,842,000	\$197,885,000
Cattle and calves	54,998,000	43,153,000	43,451,000
Hogs	47,319,000	57,951,000	65,795,000
Eggs	29,041,000	26,191,000	31,466,000
Poultry	11,265,000	10,040,000	9,858,000
Sheep	2,232,000	2,729,000	1,585,000
Wool	1,095,000	915,000	903,000
Honey	700,000	907,000	905,000
Total of livestock products	\$373,942,000	\$365,728,000	\$351,848,000
Potatoes	\$ 8,952,000	\$ 18,299,000	\$ 27,682,000
Tobacco	7,181,000	5,318,000	4,602,000
Canning peas	6,108,000	4,480,000	6,770,000
Hay	5,980,000	8,086,000	7,107,000
Clover seed	1,089,000	4,061,000	2,761,000
Cabbage	2,163,000	1,031,000	1,189,000
Grains	10,244,000	10,939,000	11,355,000
Fruits	5,346,000	3,834,000	5,124,000
All other crops	5,042,000	4,379,000	5,593,000
Total of cash crops	\$ 52,105,000	\$ 60,427,000	\$ 72,183,000
Total gross income	\$426,047,000	\$426,155,000	\$424,031,000

The gross income as presented here is made up of the total value of livestock products together with that portion of the value of crops that is not fed to livestock. It does not include changes in inventory or value of farm property. The prices used are estimated yearly prices which the farmers received for the products sold. The portion of total crop production fed to livestock in computing the 1928 income was: Corn 97 per cent, oats 92 per cent, barley 88 per cent, wheat 55 per cent, rye 53 per cent, hay 92 per cent.

fair to good. Because of the high prices of other meats and the fact that the 1929 lamb crop is smaller than that of 1928, the outlook for lamb prices is very encouraging. The demand for wool in this country is expected to be well maintained, and it is indicated that some improvement in the demand for wool in foreign countries may occur within the year.

Gross Farm Income for 1928

Preliminary figures on the gross farm income in Wisconsin for the year 1928 indicate the income was about the same as for the year 1927. The sources of income, however, are appreciably different from 1927. The amount of gross income derived from livestock and its products in 1928 is estimated at eighty-eight per cent of the total and that from cash crops only twelve per cent. The figures for 1927 were eighty-six per cent and fourteen per cent respectively. The principal reason for the difference in 1928 is to be found in the low returns made from the 1928 potato crop.

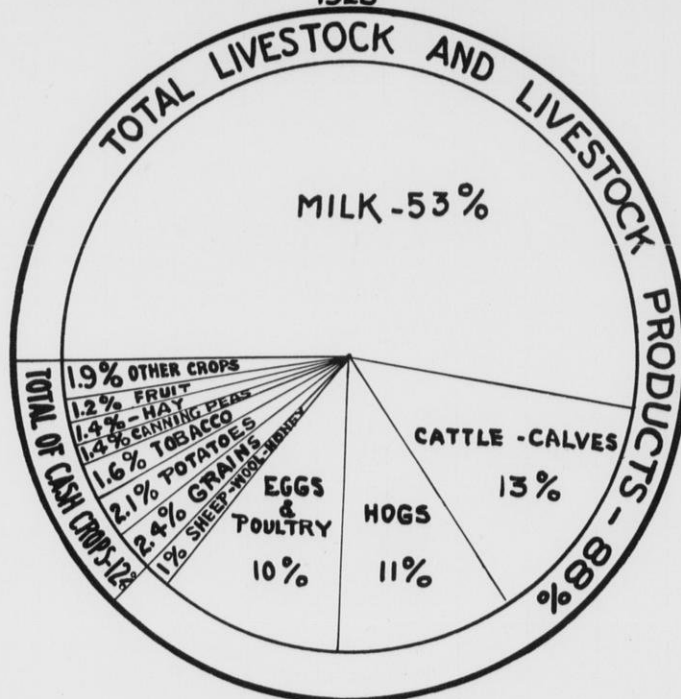
A table is presented above which shows the sources of the gross income of Wisconsin farms for the past three years.

It will be noted that while the total for the state has changed very little during the last two years the various items differ considerably from one year to another.

An important item of increase in 1928 as compared with 1927 was that of cattle and calves sold. Cattle prices were very favorable during 1928 and the increased income from this source exceeds \$11,000,000. Hogs, on the other hand, had a year of unfavorable prices in addition to reduced marketings from Wisconsin with the result that the decrease in income from hogs offsets the increase from cattle. Due to better egg prices a slight increase in the income from eggs and poultry is recorded for 1928 as compared with 1927.

Of the cash crops the most outstanding change is the low return from potatoes, the estimated income from this source in 1928 being less than \$9,000,000 as compared with over \$18,000,000 the previous year. Increases occurred in canning peas, tobacco, hay, cabbage and fruits, but because of the poor clover seed crop last year a marked reduction in the income from this source is noted.

SOURCES OF THE GROSS INCOME OF WISCONSIN FARMS 1928



In 1928 fifty-three per cent of the estimated gross farm income in the state was derived from milk. The total from livestock and livestock products was 88 per cent. The income from cattle and calves exceeded that from hogs for the first time in many years.

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal-State Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

WALTER H. EBLING, Agricultural Statistician

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SEPTEMBER OUTLOOK FOR WISCONSIN CROPS

UNUSUALLY dry weather in August brought about extreme reductions in the outlook of certain crops both in Wisconsin and in the United States as a whole. Most of the important crops in the nation were estimated considerably below the already low August outlook.

The extreme character of the recent dry period is illustrated by the condition of pastures which on September 1st, were lower than in any similar period since 1911, according to crop reporters of the Wisconsin and United States Departments of Agriculture. Almost the entire United States was affected by dry weather. In Wisconsin most weather stations reported very low rainfall. The rainfall at the Milwaukee weather station was the lowest in forty years; at Madison, the lowest in twenty-seven years except for one year; and at Duluth, Minnesota, the lowest in fifty-one years.

Good general rains were experienced early in September, the rain on September 4th, covering practically the entire state with nearly an inch of rainfall. This, undoubtedly, will help some of the late crops though much tobacco is already harvested and much corn had already been put into the silos before the coming of the rains. Likewise, some potato fields were too far gone, though most of the important potato sections in the state will benefit by the rain.

Cash Crops Reduced—Price Outlook Better

Potatoes.—Practically all cash crops in the country were affected by the dry weather and the output appreciably reduced. In Wisconsin the potato crop is the most important cash crop. During August the condition of this crop, according to Wisconsin reporters, declined from 83 per cent to 70 per cent. The production estimate on September 1st, for Wisconsin was 23,142,000 bushels, the lowest since 1921. The United States estimate was 349,112,000 bushels, the lowest since 1925. In 1925 the average December price of potatoes in Wisconsin was \$1.70 per bushel. While this year's production in the country as a whole will probably be considerably above the low production of 1925 good potato prices are assured, and the outlook for potato

growers who have a crop to sell is the best since that year.

Tobacco.—The condition of the Wisconsin tobacco crop on September 1st, was 78 per cent of normal—a decline of 12 per cent from the first of August. The estimated production for Wisconsin is 42,568,000 pounds as compared with 49,025,000 pounds last year. For the United States as a whole there is an estimated increase in production of about 84,000,000 pounds, but this is largely from the southern tobacco areas—most of the cigar leaf states in the north showing smaller production than last year.

Clover Seed.—The September condition of clover seed, according to Wisconsin crop reporters, is 72 per cent of normal. The crop is not nearly as good as it appeared earlier in the season. Much of the red clover is not filling well though good reports are received from some sections. Alsike made a fairly good crop, yields of from two to six bushels being generally reported on a rather large acreage. August prices of alsike range somewhere between \$12 and \$14 per bushel. While red clover seed prices for the state have not as yet been made, Wisconsin price reporters indicated \$13.75 per bushel in August. The white clover seed crop in which Wisconsin has already been a leading producer is larger this year than last year. Like other clovers, white clover came through the winter unusually well and a larger acreage was harvested. The prices indicated by reporters in August average 19 cents per pound, which is somewhat lower than was received for white clover a year ago.

Feed Crops

Lower production is found in practically all feed crops except hay. Because of the unusual production of clovers in Wisconsin and neighboring states this year, an abundance of hay is available but other crops are generally falling below the production of a year ago.

Corn.—Corn prospects declined sharply in all parts of the country during August. Yields will be considerably reduced, and silo filling is in progress in Wisconsin. In terms of ear corn the state's production is esti-

mated at 79,000,000 bushels as compared with 91,000,000 a year ago. The United States production is estimated at 2,456,000,000 bushels as compared with 2,835,000,000 bushels last year.

Oats.—The Wisconsin oats crop was somewhat of a disappointment at threshing time and the estimate for September is considerably below that made in August. Rust and hot weather affected the crop during the ripening period. Wisconsin's production this year is estimated at 83,000,000 bushels as compared with 108,000,000 last year. Likewise, there is a reduction of about 224,000,000 bushels in the estimates of oats for the United States as compared with a year ago.

Barley.—While barley was perhaps the best of the spring sown grains in Wisconsin this year, its production has fallen nearly 3,000,000 bushels under the record crop of 1928. For the United States as a whole the estimated decline in barley production is 52,000,000 bushels. The quality of the crop in Wisconsin is good.

Wheat.—Contrary to early expectations the nation's wheat crop is now estimated at 786,000,000 bushels this year as compared with 902,000,000 bushels a year ago. The decline seems to be general in all classes of wheat, but more largely in the spring wheats. The small winter wheat acreage in Wisconsin turned out unusually well and spring wheat is fairly satisfactory.

Threshing weather was very satisfactory this year. The dry weather during August, which was so detrimental to general crop production, gave farmers an excellent opportunity to harvest and thresh crops that were ripe.

Fall Plantings of Winter Wheat and Rye

A special inquiry to Wisconsin winter wheat and rye growers in August indicates that the farmers intend to plant about the same acreage of winter wheat as a year ago—43,000 acres. A similar report for the United States indicates that farmers for the country as a whole intend to plant 1.2 per cent more winter wheat than last year or 43,271,000 acres. Outlook information on the winter wheat situation indicates that if farmers plant the ex-

WISCONSIN CROP SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1

Crop	Acreage		Production				Condition, September 1 Per Cent of Normal			
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Sept. 1, 1929 forecast	1928	Per cent increase (+) or decrease (-) of Sept. 1 forecast compared to 1928 final production	5 year average 1923-27	Unit	1929	1928	5-year average 1923-27
Corn.....	2,036,000	2,121,000	79,160,000	91,203,000	-13	76,626,000	Bu.	81	88	75.6
Potatoes.....	228,000	278,000	23,142,000	31,970,000	-28	26,453,000	Bu.	70	91	80.2
Tobacco.....	37,000	37,000	42,568,000	49,025,000	-13	38,866,000	Lb.	78	91	78.2
Oats.....	2,470,000	2,495,000	82,745,000	108,532,000	-24	102,379,000	Bu.	74	90	87.5
Barley.....	718,000	725,000	22,976,000	26,888,000	-15	16,419,000	Bu.	83	91	89.6
Rye.....	199,000	167,000	3,283,000	2,171,000	+51	4,476,000	Bu.	16.5 ¹	13.0 ¹	15.7 ¹
Winter wheat.....	42,000	42,000	966,000	777,000	+24	1,426,000	Bu.	23.0 ¹	18.5 ¹	21.1 ¹
Spring wheat.....	66,000	62,000	1,287,000	1,364,000	-6	1,127,000	Bu.	80	88	83.4
Buckwheat.....	21,000	25,000	315,000	412,000	-24	376,000	Bu.	79	87	82.2
All tame hay.....	3,585,000	3,270,000	6,761,000	5,017,000	+35	5,768,000	Ton	92	75	83.4
Dry peas.....	29,000	29,000	464,000	595,000	-22	633,000	Bu.	16.0 ¹	20.5 ¹	18.1 ¹
Dry beans.....	8,000	6,000	79,000	54,000	+46	83,000	Bu.	78	83	80.8
Flax.....	8,000	9,000	104,000	122,000	-15	123,000	Bu.	84	87	82.6
Canning peas.....	111,000	101,000								
Cabbage.....								80	89	82.6
Sugar beets.....	9,000	8,000	77,000	74,000	+4	141,000 ²	Ton	79	91	85.0
Apples.....			1,703,000	2,160,000	-21	1,836,000	Bu.	63	76	66.6
Pasture.....								68	86	74.2

¹Average yield per acre.

²Four-year average yield, 1924-27.

pected acreage and yields are normal the supply next year will be sufficiently large so that a considerable amount will be exported. If an exportable surplus is produced, there is little likelihood of wheat being more profitable than usual next year.

Rye plantings in Wisconsin this year will be slightly below a year ago. Wisconsin reporters indicate that about 193,000 acres of rye will be planted in the state as compared with 203,000 acres last year. For the United States as a whole the intentions-to-plant report indicates that probably about five per cent more rye will be planted than last year.

Truck and Fruit Crops

Cabbage.—The condition of cabbage in Wisconsin on the first of September was 80 per cent of normal. Growing conditions in the Racine-Kenosha area have been unusually dry and were not entirely relieved by the rains of early

September. Yields from six to eight tons per acre are being reported and shipping of early cabbage is in progress, growers receiving from \$20 to \$23 per ton. The Green Bay weather station reported 1.2 inches of rainfall on September 4th, which will probably be of considerable help to the cabbage in that section. A preliminary estimate of production made in August indicates a somewhat larger cabbage supply for the country as a whole than was produced last year. Undoubtedly, the dry weather has cut this materially.

Onions.—Wisconsin onions are making rather low yields, but are of good quality. The production is estimated at 300 bushels per acre in the Racine-Kenosha area, and harvesting and shipping have begun. The condition of the crop on September 1st, was 80 per cent of normal. The forecasted production for Wisconsin on September 1st, was 336,000 bushels as com-

pared with the revised figure of 385,000 last year. For the United States as a whole the forecast was 25,157,000 bushels as compared with 19,791,000 bushels the revised figure for last year.

Canning Crops

Canning Peas.—Since the preliminary estimate was made a month ago, which placed the Wisconsin 1929 production of canning peas at approximately 9,000,000 cases of No. 2 cans, no additional material has been assembled on that crop. The pack for the country as a whole is somewhat short and old stocks are very small. Price prospects for canned peas are excellent.

Green Beans.—The green bean crop was considerably reduced by dry weather though the larger acreage will probably show an increase in production over last year. The forecast made early in August indicates a production of approximately 83,000 tons

UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)				Condition, September 1 Per Cent of Normal			
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Sept. 1, 1929 forecast	1928	Per cent increase (+) or decrease (-) of Sept. 1 forecast compared to 1928 final production	5-year average 1923-27	Unit	1929	1928	10-year average 1918-27
Corn.....	98,333	100,630	2,455,997	2,835,678	-13	2,746,740	Bu.	67.9	78.4	76.6
Potatoes.....	3,370	3,832	349,112	464,483	-25	382,756	Bu.	68.9	83.0	76.2
Tobacco.....	2,002.8	1,895.4	1,462,321	1,378,139	+6	1,330,576	Lb.	74.1	74.5	77.6
Oats.....	40,222	41,734	1,204,987	1,448,677	-17	1,345,081	Bu.	74.6	84.4	77.2
Barley.....	13,595	12,533	304,143	356,667	-15	208,783	Bu.	68.8	84.4	77.7
Rye.....	3,284	3,439	41,028	41,676	-2	54,793	Bu.	12.5 ²	12.1 ²	13.6 ²
Winter wheat.....	39,885	36,207	568,233	578,133	-2	549,257	Bu.	14.2 ²	16.0 ²	14.9 ²
Durum wheat.....	5,357	6,711	53,032	92,770	-43	59,988	Bu.	61.3	81.8	75.8 ¹
Spring wheat other than Durum.....	15,514	14,850	164,461	231,288	-29	200,423	Bu.	58.4	82.1	70.1
Buckwheat.....	750	783	12,523	13,148	-5	13,949	Bu.	71.6	83.8	85.8
Flax.....	3,092	2,638	16,388	18,690	-12	23,243	Bu.	52.9	77.4	71.0
Sugar beets.....	710	644	7,865	7,101	+11	7,462 ³	Ton	86.5	85.7	85.9
Tame hay.....	60,054	57,768	93,600	92,983	+1	92,810	Ton	82.3	81.7	81.7

¹Short time average.

²Average yield per acre.

³Four-year average, 1924-27.

for the United States as compared with something over 65,000 tons a year ago.

Sweet Corn.—The sweet corn acreage is materially above last year and early forecasts indicated an increase in production. Undoubtedly, the dry weather has cut the outlook on this crop.

Strawberries.—The outlook report published on strawberries for next year by the United States Department of Agriculture indicates that prospects for the 1930 crop are somewhat more favorable than they have been for several years. Prices for the past two years have been generally unsatisfactory, and this has resulted in a reduction in acreage for next year. The indicated reduction is 20 per cent, and if this is carried out by farmers it will probably mean an improvement in the strawberry situation.

Cranberries.—The Wisconsin cranberry production is estimated at 35,000 barrels, the frost on July 19th, doing considerable damage. Some recent reports indicate that the estimate may later be raised somewhat. A report from the New England Crop Reporting Service indicates a cranberry production for the United States of 563,000 barrels in 1929, as compared with 544,000 last year. The estimated production by states is as follows:

State	1925	1927	1928	Forecast, August, 1929
	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels
Massachusetts.....	430,000	370,000	335,000	375,000
New Jersey.....	210,000	75,000	138,000	133,000
Wisconsin.....	80,000	24,000	50,000	35,000
Washington-Oregon.....	24,000	27,000	21,000	20,000
U. S. Total.....	744,000	496,000	544,000	563,000

Apples.—Information concerning apple production indicates that this year's crop will be well below last year. The condition of apples in Wisconsin on September 1st, was 63 per cent of normal; for the United States as a

whole 47 per cent. The estimated commercial production in Wisconsin this year is 129,000 barrels as compared with 159,000 last year. For the United States the commercial production is placed at something over 29,000,000 barrels as compared with 35,000,000 barrels last year.

Wisconsin Milk Prices

The average farm milk price for Wisconsin advanced five cents during August. The weighted price, according to Wisconsin reporters, for August was \$1.98 as compared with \$1.93 in July. A year ago the August price was \$2.14 and the July price \$2.09, the advance during the month being about the same each year.

The average monthly prices with comparisons are given below.

Wisconsin Average Monthly Milk Prices
(Price per cwt. paid to farmers)

	1929	1928	1927
January	\$2.23	\$2.34	\$2.25
February	2.17	2.25	2.22
March	2.13	2.15	2.11
April	2.06	2.07	2.05
May	1.98	2.00	1.98
June	1.95	2.03	1.96
July	1.93	2.09	1.98
August	1.98*	2.14	2.04

*Preliminary.

Other Farm Prices

Due to the general low production of agricultural products it appears

that farm prices as a whole will be on a somewhat higher level during the coming year. Below is given a table showing the July and August prices of important farm commodities for 1928 and 1929.

AVERAGE PRICES OF WISCONSIN FARM PRODUCED RECEIVED BY PRODUCERS IN JULY AND AUGUST—1928 AND 1929

Product	July		August		Unit
	1928	1929	1928	1929 (preliminary)	
Wheat.....	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.21	Bu.
Corn.....	1.04	.89	1.00	.97	"
Oats.....	.67	.44	.48	.46	"
Barley.....	.93	.64	.73	.66	"
Rye.....	1.07	.85	.89	.93	"
Potatoes.....	.55	.45	.70	1.27	"
Hogs.....	9.70	10.50	10.00	10.50	Cwt.
Beef cattle.....	8.40	9.10	8.50	8.75	"
Veal calves.....	12.60	12.60	13.80	13.30	"
Sheep.....	6.00	6.60	5.60	5.50	"
Lambs.....	13.20	12.50	12.60	11.80	"
Butter.....	.46	.44	.46	.45	Lb.
Eggs.....	.26	.27	.28	.30	Doz.
Chickens.....	.206	.229	.209	.224	Lb.
Wool.....	.43	.32	.42	.32	"
Hay (all).....	14.00	11.40	14.00	11.20	Ton.
Hay, timothy.....	14.50	11.50	13.70	11.10	"
Hay, clover.....	14.50	12.70	13.70	12.50	"
Hay, alfalfa.....	19.90	15.90	17.40	15.85	"

Cattle Outlook Still Favorable

Supplies of cattle available for slaughter in the next twelve months are expected to equal those of the past year, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in its mid-summer cattle outlook report. Although the marketings of cattle this fall probably will differ little from those of the fall of 1928, the proportion going for slaughter may be larger, the bureau says.

Early winter marketings probably will be smaller than those of last winter. No marked change in the present active demand for beef is anticipated. Imports of cattle and beef, although increasing, are not expected to amount to more than a small proportion of our domestic production. Demand for stocker and feeder cattle, however, is not likely to equal the usually strong demand prevailing in the summer of 1928.

"The seasonal trends in cattle prices are expected to be more nearly normal than those of the fall and winter of 1928-29. Peak prices for fed cattle probably will occur later in the season this year than last, while prices of other cattle probably will follow the usual downward seasonal trend. The increase in cattle numbers which now appears to be under way is expected to be moderate. Although some decline from the present high level of cattle prices is to be expected within the next three years, there seems little possibility that this decline will carry prices to the low levels prevailing from 1921 to 1926.

Causes of Swine Loss in Wisconsin

In coöperation with the Bureau of Animal Industry a survey was recently made to determine the causes of deaths in old and young hogs in Wisconsin. It is estimated that normally about 200,000 hogs and pigs are lost in this state each year.

A tabulation of a survey in which the reports were obtained from Wisconsin county agents and veterinarians indicates that in old hogs the losses are due to cholera 15 per cent, parasites 10 per cent, and other causes 75 per cent. In swine under six months of age the weighted figures indicate that of the death losses 9 per cent are due to cholera, 32 per cent to parasites, and 59 per cent to other causes.

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

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Federal-State Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

WALTER H. EBLING, Agricultural Statistician

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FALL WEATHER AIDS LATE CROPS

MOST of the late maturing crops were helped considerably by the favorable fall weather this year. After a dry summer, Wisconsin experienced below normal rainfall during September and a rather dry October in most counties. The late harvested crops which were not killed by the frost on September 19th, were given time to ripen out well and were harvested under favorable conditions. October was an especially favorable month for farm work.

On the whole, the crop season has been somewhat less productive than a year ago. With the exception of hay, the food and feed crops are less plentiful this year than last. For the United States the composite yields of crops is 2.6 per cent below the ten year average though it is now 1.5 per cent higher than a month ago.

Potatoes Make Low Yields

Because of the extremely dry summer, potato yields are generally low. The average for Wisconsin is now estimated at 91 bushels per acre as compared with 115 bushels last year and 92 bushels in 1927. In some states the favorable weather in October helped to improve this crop and the United States production on November 1 was estimated at 354,000,000 bushels or 9,000,000 bushels above the October estimate. According to

reporters of the Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service, conditions of the potato crop did not change much in Wisconsin after October 1. The crop in this state is now estimated at 20,748,000 bushels as compared with a crop of nearly 32,000,000 bushels last year. In addition to the lower yields, there is also a reduction in acreage of at least 18 per cent in Wisconsin and of approximately 12 per cent for the United States as a whole. The out-turn of the crop now appears to be very much like that of the 1926 crop, and the price and market situation have been favorable in recent months. The quality of Wisconsin potatoes is excellent this year, though a larger portion than usual is running to small sizes.

Corn Shows Fall Improvement

Corn production, while generally below that of a year ago, is higher now than was estimated a month ago. The November estimates for the United States are 2,621,000,000 bushels which is 6 per cent below last year but 93,600,000 bushels above the estimates of a month ago. For Wisconsin, the corn production this year, in terms of ear corn, is estimated at 82,458,000 bushels or about 10 per cent below last year's crop. The average yield per acre in Wisconsin this year is 40.5 bushels as compared with 43 bushels in 1928. For the United States this year's yield per acre is estimated at 26.7 bushels.

Silage production is not quite as heavy as it was a year ago, though considerably above the crop of two years ago. Crop reporters indicate an average silage yield in Wisconsin of 7.5 tons per acre. The yield a year ago was 7.8 tons. The quality of silage this year is said to be satisfactory as seems usually to be the case with a dry weather silage crop.

Other Crops

Some other crops such as cabbage and beans were also benefited by the dry October weather. Cabbage production improved appreciably in areas where the crop had been delayed because of the dry weather. The acreage and yields are higher than seemed probable earlier. The crop is generally moving to market at prices well below last year, and a large portion of the Wisconsin production is being used for kraut manufacture.

Dry Beans and Buckwheat.—The dry bean crop is generally above last year. Wisconsin's production is now estimated at 68,000 bushels which is 25 per cent more than a year ago. The quality of the crop is reported to be generally good. Buckwheat production shows a marked decline in Wisconsin and also a general decline throughout the United States as compared with a year ago. The present estimate of Wisconsin's production this year is 304,000 bushels which is 28 per cent below 1928. Production

CROP SUMMARY ON NOVEMBER 1—WISCONSIN AND UNITED STATES

Crop	Wisconsin					Unit	United States					Unit
	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)				Acreage (000 omitted)	Production (000 omitted)			Unit	
	1929 (preliminary)	1928	Nov. 1, 1929 forecast	1928	5-year average 1923-27			1929 (preliminary)	1928	Nov. 1, 1929 forecast			1928	5-year average 1923-29
Corn	2,036	2,121	82,458	51,203	76,626	Bu.	98,333	100,630	2,621,451	2,835,678	2,746,740	Bu.
Potatoes	228	278	20,748	31,570	26,453	Bu.	3,370	3,832	353,977	464,483	382,756	Bu.
Tobacco	37	37	44,400	49,025	38,866	Lb.	2,002.8	1,895.4	1,480,965	1,378,139	1,330,576	Lb.
Oats	2,470	2,495	85,215	108,532	102,379	Bu.	40,222	41,734	1,226,573	1,448,677	1,345,081	Bu.
Barley	718	725	23,335	26,818	16,419	Bu.	13,595	12,533	313,368	356,667	208,783	Bu.
Rye	159	167	3,284	2,171	4,476	Bu.	3,284	3,339	41,028	41,676	54,793	Bu.
Winter wheat	42	42	966	777	1,426	Bu.	39,885	36,207	568,233	578,133	549,257	Bu.
Spring wheat	66	62	1,287	1,364	1,127	Bu.	15,514	14,850	171,857	231,288	200,423	Bu.
Buckwheat	21	25	304	412	376	Bu.	750	783	11,896	13,148	13,949	Bu.
All tame hay	3,585	3,270	7,708	5,017	5,768	Ton	60,054	57,768	100,582	92,683	92,810	Ton
Alfalfa	328	219	918	548	730	Ton	11,378	11,046	29,521	26,077	28,169	Ton
Dry peas	29	29	461	594	83	Bu.						Bu.
Dry beans	8	6	68	54	83	Bu.	1,737	1,577	18,638	16,621	17,058	Bu.
Flax	8	9	96	122	123	Bu.	3,092	2,638	16,579	18,690	23,213	Bu.
Sugar beets	9	8	76	74	141	Ton	710	644	8,468	7,101	7,462*	Ton
Apples			1,740	2,160	1,836	Pu.			140,069	185,743	183,452	Bu.

*Four-year average 1924-27.

for the United States shows a decline of 10 per cent as compared with last year.

Clover Seed.—Production of red and alsike clover seed this year in the United States is practically double that of last year, and also twice that of the average for the last five years. Clover generally came through the winter unusually well this year and an especially large acreage was available for seed purposes, particularly in the North Central States. Large acreages of red and alsike seed were harvested in Wisconsin. Yields on alsike were quite satisfactory, though the red clover yields were disappointing in many counties. The weather was exceedingly dry and apparently not favorable for the setting of red clover seed with the result that yields were generally low. According to Wisconsin crop reporters, the average yield per acre for the state, in all types of clover seed is 1.6 bushels. The quality of the seed is reported to be good in Wisconsin.

Tobacco.—The Wisconsin tobacco crop this year is smaller than a year ago by about 17 per cent. Since the crop is a dry weather crop and rather small in size, the yield per acre will be considerably reduced, though the leaf itself will weigh heavy for its size. The state's production is now placed at approximately 44,000,000 pounds. Curing weather during the fall is reported as satisfactory. Production for the United States is somewhat larger than last year, the increase being estimated at 8 per cent. Production of most of the cigar types such as are grown in Wisconsin is somewhat smaller than a year ago.

Sugar Beets.—Sugar beet production this year is considerably larger

than last year for the United States, the estimated increase being 19 per cent. This industry has declined in Wisconsin for a number of years, but the acreage this year shows an increase, it being estimated at 11,000 as compared with 9,000 last year. Yields, however, are lower than a year ago, and Wisconsin's total production will be only slightly above that of last year's.

Canning Peas and Corn.—Final figures on Wisconsin's pack of peas have recently been published through the National Cannery Association. The production for the state is now placed at 9,399,000 cases which is slightly higher than that of a year ago. The estimate of 9,000,000 cases made by the Crop Reporting Service early in August has apparently been exceeded somewhat by the state's production. The pack of sweet corn shows an increase generally over the last few years. Wisconsin's production is now estimated at 31,000 tons as compared with 29,600 for last year. The United States production is estimated to be about 8 per cent above a year ago. Yields are somewhat below average, the crop having suffered from the dry weather in many areas. The quality of the Wisconsin crop is reported to be very good.

Cranberries.—The production of cranberries is about the same as a year ago for the United States as a whole. That in Wisconsin has fallen short of 1928 because of the damage by frost on July 19th. The state production is now estimated at 42,000 barrels. The quality of the Wisconsin crop is very good. The following table indicates the cranberry situation for the United States as estimated on November 1st:

than last year and the quality of the grain is not as good. Hay production, on the other hand, shows a marked increase especially in Wisconsin. Corn production for the United States is 6 per cent under last year and for Wisconsin about 10 per cent. Oat production in Wisconsin is 21 per cent below a year ago; for the United States, about 15 per cent. Barley production for Wisconsin is 13 per cent below last year; for the United States about 12 per cent.

The quality of Wisconsin grains is indicated by the weight per bushel as obtained from crop reporters in November. The oat crop this year averages 30 pounds per bushel as compared with 33.5 pounds last year; barley this year, 47.5 pounds as compared with 49 last spring; spring wheat this year, 57.6 as compared with 59 last year. Winter wheat, on the other hand, was better in quality this year than last, averaging 59.5 pounds as compared with 59 pounds a year ago.

The tame hay situation is rather an unusual one. For the United States as a whole there is an increase of about 8 per cent in production as compared with a year ago; for Wisconsin, over 50 per cent. Wisconsin and other North Central States harvested an unusual hay crop due to the favorable conditions for clover. The production in this state for this year is estimated at 7,708,000 tons, a new record. The yield per acre, as given by reporters in October, is 2.15 tons as compared with 1.53 tons last year. This yield is also a record, the previous high point being 2.03 in 1927. Comparative feed prices for October, 1929 and October, 1928 are given in the following table:

CRANBERRIES—Acreage, Yield and Production 1927 and 1928, with Preliminary Production, 1929

State	Acreage		Yield per Acre				Production	
	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927	1928	Pre-liminary 1929	
								Acres
Mass.....	13,900	13,900	26.6	24.1	370	335	395	
N. J.....	11,000	11,000	6.8	12.5	75	138	95	
Wis.....	3,000	3,000	8.0	16.7	24	50	42	
Wash.....	470	550	44.7	27.3	21	15	11	
Ore.....	120	120	50.0	50.0	6	6	5	
Total.....	28,490	28,570	17.4	19.0	496	544	548	

OCTOBER FEED PRICES

	October Prices Per Ton	
	1928	1929
Standard Spring Wheat Bran.....	\$28.00	\$28.10
Standard Spring Wheat Middlings.....	28.50	31.75
Flour Middlings.....	33.00	33.50
Red Dog Flour.....	40.00	37.00
Linseed Meal 34% Protein.....	53.90	55.70
Cotton Seed Meal 43% Protein.....	51.50	49.10
Cotton Seed Meal 41% Protein.....	49.00	46.10
Cotton Seed Meal 36% Protein.....	44.60	43.10
Gluten Feed.....	42.85	40.95
Gluten Meal.....	52.35	53.45

October Milk Prices Below Last Year

The preliminary October milk price figure, reported by Wisconsin crop reporters, is \$2.10 per cwt. which compares with \$2.23 last year and \$2.28 in 1927. October shows an increase of 5 cents per cwt. over September 1, which is the same increase made a year ago during this period. In the table below are comparative milk prices for the first ten months of the year:

Wisconsin Average Monthly Milk Prices (Price per cwt. paid to farmers)

	1929	1928	1927
January.....	\$2.23	\$2.34	\$2.25
February.....	2.17	2.25	2.22
March.....	2.13	2.15	2.11
April.....	2.06	2.07	2.05
May.....	1.98	2.00	1.98
June.....	1.95	2.03	1.96
July.....	1.93	2.09	1.98
August.....	1.98	2.14	2.04
September.....	2.05	2.18	2.14
October.....	2.10	2.23	2.28

The feed situation this year differs

materially from that of a year ago. Grain production is distinctly lower

Because of the crop situation, the operations of cattle feeders the country over are somewhat reduced this year. Cattle prices in October of this year averaged less than a year ago, and the movement of feeder cattle is generally reduced though there seems to be an increase in Wisconsin. The activities of sheep feeders appear to be at least as great as a year ago for the country as a whole. In Wisconsin there is a marked activity in this industry. Our good hay crop, in addition to the available pea silage and grains, as well as fairly favorable fall pasture conditions, has stimulated

COUNTY STATISTICS—AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE—1929 (PRELIMINARY)

Table with columns for County, Corn for Grain, Corn for Silage, Oats, Barley, Rye, Potatoes, and Tame Hay. Each county has two columns for 'This year' and 'Last year' for each crop category. Summary rows are provided for each district and the STATE overall.

**AVERAGE PRICE OF WISCONSIN FARM PRODUCTS RECEIVED BY
PRODUCERS IN AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER—
1928 AND 1929**

Product	August		September		October	
	1928	1929	1928	1929	1928	1929 (pre- liminary)
Wheat.....	1.12	1.21	1.08	1.18	1.06	1.16
Corn.....	1.00	.97	.94	.97	.89	.92
Oats.....	.48	.45	.38	.45	.40	.46
Barley.....	.73	.66	.63	.63	.64	.65
Rye.....	.89	.93	.85	.89	.91	.91
Potatoes.....	.70	1.20	.50	1.25	.35	1.26
Hogs.....	10.00	10.40	11.40	9.80	9.60	9.16
Beef cattle.....	8.50	8.70	8.70	8.40	8.60	8.10
Veal calves.....	13.80	13.20	14.80	13.70	13.80	12.66
Sheep.....	5.60	6.00	5.80	5.80	5.60	5.57
Lambs.....	12.60	11.70	12.40	11.50	11.10	10.90
Butter.....	.46	.45	.49	.46	.49	.47
Eggs.....	.28	.30	.31	.33	.33	.38
Chickens.....	.209	.224	.222	.219	.211	.205
Wool.....	.42	.32	.40	.32	.40	.34
Hay (all).....	14.00	11.20	13.20	11.70	13.20	11.00
Hay, timothy.....	13.70	11.30	13.90	11.30	14.40	11.42
Hay, clover.....	13.70	12.40	14.50	12.00	14.50	11.70
Hay, alfalfa.....	17.40	15.90	18.30	16.10	18.40	15.50

sheep feeding in this state. Heavy shipments have been received in Wisconsin from Montana, parts of Washington and North Dakota where dry weather made it desirable to move much stock.

THE DAIRY SITUATION

By W. S. Dept. of Agriculture

Dairy markets have been more or less unsettled recently with several influences contributing to such a condition. In the first place, we are passing through one of those uncertain periods of the year when it is most difficult to anticipate what may happen. Fall production, as usual, is an unknown quantity, being more or less flexible depending upon weather conditions and feed prices. Butter production has followed no definite trend, for weekly trade reports which are available indicate increases in some sections and decreases in others. Market receipts of butter also bear this out. Cheese and concentrated milk production reports do show definite downward tendencies compared with a year ago, although these products taken together do not utilize as much as one-tenth of our total production, while butter requires approximately a third of all the milk produced in this country.

In addition to the uncertain production outlook, there is another factor which perhaps is exerting a much greater influence this year, and that is the very heavy carry-over of all classes of dairy products. It may be remembered that a month ago, attention was called to the record stocks which were on hand then. Storage stocks must always be worked into consuming channels before a new season rolls around, and when stocks are so heavy as these of this year, they are naturally the cause of more or less

concern to those engaged in storing operations.

Evidence that the butter market is not in the strongest position is found in the wider range between prices of fancy butter and undergrades than existed a few months ago. It is always the case that when butter becomes real plentiful, the poorer qualities are of necessity sold at a discount, whereas, when the markets are bare of butter or when there is an active demand, buyers are not so critical in their purchases. Storage stocks of butter are still very large, although it may be noted that the outward movement during the past week or so has been running heavier than last year.

In the cheese market, there have been some unusual price changes, which, on the face, may suggest a much more unsettled condition than actually exists. It is true that cheese markets have lacked firmness for some time, but recent sharp decline in prices of certain styles apparently represented an adjustment between prices of various styles more than a general weakness.

Cheese production reports indicate heavy declines, with September this year estimated as much as 20 per cent below last year, and the first nine months of 1929 about 14 per cent less than the same portion of 1928. In spite of this drop, storage stocks are still heavier than a year ago.

Reports from canned milk markets indicate that there is still considerable pressure being exerted to effect sales. Selling competition earlier in the fall, which was responsible for some drastic price cuts, left the markets somewhat unsettled, and there has not as yet been a complete recovery. Reports from manufacturers, however, indicate that trade output is fairly satisfactory. During September, for example, trade output was 17 per cent heavier than last year, and total stocks were reduced 25,000,000 pounds, compared with an average

September reduction of but 20,000,000 pounds. Lighter production and heavier trade output together should lead to a much improved position in this market.

MORE POULTRY ON FARMS THIS YEAR

By W. S. Dept. of Agriculture

The number of hens and pullets in laying flocks is increasing and promises to soon overtake and exceed numbers last year, according to returns from crop correspondents of the United States Department of Agriculture, covering about 20,000 farm flocks. While on January 1 the number was 5 per cent less, on October 1 it was only 2.4 per cent less than a year earlier, and with an apparent increase of about 10 per cent in the number of pullets this year, it seems probable that by the end of the year the numbers of birds in laying flocks will be in excess of last year by at least 5 per cent. This would be about equal to numbers at the close of 1927. At present, all sections show slightly fewer birds in the laying flocks, except the North Atlantic States, where numbers have forged slightly ahead of last year.

The number of chicks and young chickens of this year's hatch, including pullets being saved for layers was about 10 per cent greater on October 1 this year than on October 1 last year, young birds thus maintaining about the same relation to numbers last year as was shown on July 1. Present numbers are about 1 per cent less than numbers on October 1, 1927. Increases over last year in numbers of young chickens are reported for every Grand Division, the gain being 14 per cent in the North Atlantic states, 10 per cent in the North Central group, 13 per cent in the South Atlantic, and 8 per cent in the South Central and in the far Western states.

LARGER TURKEY CROP THIS YEAR

An increase of about 9 per cent in the turkey crop of 1929 over that of 1928, in the leading producing states, is shown by the report on the turkey crop issued October 21, 1929. Practically all of these states had increased turkey production this year, but most of the largest increases were in the Eastern and Southeastern states where the crop for the two preceding years has been small.

On the whole, weather conditions in 1929 were fairly favorable for turkey raising over most of the country. The adoption of better methods of handling turkeys and the commercial hatching and sale of young poulters seem to be extending quite generally in most of the important turkey states. A considerable part of the increased production this year can probably be ascribed to these developments.