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WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

Vol. III, No. 1

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

January, 1924

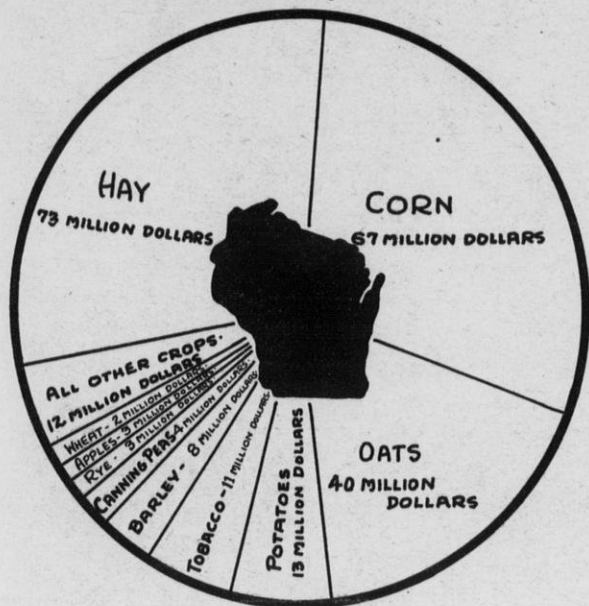
Features of Farm Production in Wisconsin During 1923

VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS GREATER THIS YEAR

Production of the leading crops in 1923 was below that of the bumper production of 1922. Farm prices on Decem-

ber 1st, however, were considerably better so that in spite of lower production the total farm value of Wisconsin farm crops in 1923 is 3 1/2% above that of 1922. The estimated farm value of all Wisconsin crops based on December 1 prices was \$235,000,000 for 1923 and \$227,000,000 for 1922. The 1923 value is 25% above 1921 and 41% below the peak year of 1919. This year's prices on December 1 were 18% higher than on the same date a year ago. Corn shows a higher value per bushel of 17 cents, potatoes 17 cents, oats 4 cents, barley 4 cents, and hay \$3.70 per ton. Rye shows a lower price of 7 cents per bushel and wheat 5 cents.

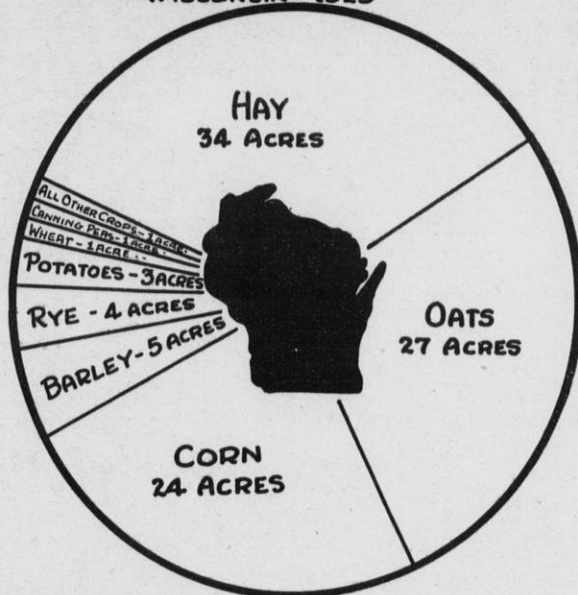
FARM VALUE OF CROPS IN WISCONSIN DECEMBER 1, 1923



HAY CROP IS SHORT

Hay is Wisconsin's leading crop both as to acreage and value. Northeastern Wisconsin had larger yields than even the good crop of last year, but in the state as a whole the crop was only fair, and in many large areas there was a shortage. Southwestern Wisconsin particularly is faced with a short crop. Farmers in this section report that considerable more corn was shredded this year

ACREAGE OF LEADING CROPS FOR EACH 100 ACRES OF CROPPED LAND WISCONSIN - 1923



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FARMERS ENCOURAGED BY BETTER MILK PRICES

Various conditions made the past crop year unusual in many respects. Spring growing weather came late; rain-fall during the growing season was very spotted; many areas were effected by prolonged drouths; and early frost shattered prospects of large crops of corn, potatoes, and tobacco. Although weather conditions were adverse in

so as to offset, to some extent, the short hay crop. Farmers in northern Wisconsin having hay to sell are realizing at least \$4.00 a ton more than a year ago.

Farmers were convinced during the past year as probably seldom before that alfalfa could withstand drouth conditions better than the other hay crops. Dairymen in eastern and southern Wisconsin have gradually come to know the excellent feeding value and good yields secured from alfalfa, and accordingly, a marked increase in the acreage, particularly in the Fox River Valley, took place this year. Fond du Lac County now leads the state in acreage of alfalfa being followed by Green and Waukesha Counties. Wisconsin's acreage this year is 155,000 acres—the largest in the history of the state. If the new seeding withstands the winter, a much larger acreage of alfalfa is expected in 1924.

the chief cause for the market reduction of 30% in the acreage of this crop.

Spring and winter wheat acreage was cut 32% in one year—a very practical adjustment to the low prices of wheat. Wisconsin's unimportant position as a wheat producing state is apparent when it is realized that the total value of wheat production in Wisconsin did not exceed two million dollars in 1923, whereas, the value of our egg and poultry production is approximately fifteen times this amount. This year's acreage of wheat—119,000 acres—is the smallest on record in Wisconsin agriculture.

FIFTY-THREE SILOS TO EACH 100 FARMS IN WISCONSIN

The bright corn prospects were shattered by early frosts of September 12th and 13th. The crop was quite generally mature in the northern two-thirds of the state before the frost, but in the southern section frost inflicted a great loss. A constantly increasing number of silos each year absorbs about 40% of the corn acreage, and this year in particular our 100,060 silos salvaged much frosted corn.

Oats and barley made average yields for the entire state, but in eastern Wisconsin below average yields will cause farmers to buy considerable feed. Barley acreage recovered somewhat from the low acreage of 1922—the lowest in a decade. Low prices of rye in 1922 is probably

SHORT CROP OF CLOVER SEED

An unfavorable season reduced the Wisconsin crop of clover seed to 164,000 bushels, which is 61% of the 1922 crop. The crop of the entire United States is 35% short of the 1922 and 20% short of the 1921 crop. Production of the leading states and of the United States for 1923 and 1922 follows:

	1923 Bus.	1922 Bus.
Ohio	173,000	227,000
Wisconsin	164,000	267,000
Michigan	147,000	240,000
Mississippi	133,000	120,000
Minnesota	130,000	151,000
Illinois	128,000	315,000
Iowa	114,000	177,000
United States	1,233,000	1,887,000

TABLE I—SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN CROP PRODUCTION—1922 AND 1923

CROP	Acreage (000 omitted)		Yield per Acre		Production (000 omitted)		Farm Price December 1		Farm Value—Thou- sands of Dollars		Unit
	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922	
CEREALS											
Corn.....	2,253	2,209	37.0	44.5	83,361	98,300	\$.80	\$.63	66,689	61,929	Bushels
Oats.....	2,539	2,465	36.3	41.2	92,166	101,558	.43	.39	39,631	39,608	Bushels
Barley.....	465	443	28.5	32.1	13,252	14,220	.61	.57	8,084	8,105	Bushels
Rye.....	342	489	14.8	14.6	5,062	7,139	.65	.72	3,290	5,140	Bushels
Spring wheat.....	53	81	16.0	15.3	848	1,239	.98	1.03	831	1,276	Bushels
Winter wheat.....	66	95	17.0	18.6	1,122	1,767	.98	1.03	1,100	1,820	Bushels
Buckwheat.....	28	25	14.0	14.4	392	360	.89	.87	349	313	Bushels
OTHER GRAINS AND SEEDS											
Dry Peas.....	36.2	32.4	14.6	17.5	528	567	2.60	2.40	1,373	1,361	Bushels
Dry Edible Beans.....	10	8	9.0	9.5	90	76	4.00	3.60	360	274	Bushels
⁴ Soy Beans for Seed.....	4.1	7.2	8.0	11.0	33	79	2.50	2.30	83	182	Bushels
Flaxseed.....	8.0	4.0	12.1	13.0	97	52	2.10	1.80	204	94	Bushels
Clover Seed.....	⁵ 126	⁵ 157	1.3	1.7	164	267	12.00	10.20	1,968	2,723	Bushels
Timothy Seed.....	55.2	58.7	4.4	4.6	23	40	3.70	2.60	85	104	Bushels
HAY AND FORAGE											
Clover and Timothy.....	2,873	2,922	1.28	1.69	3,677	4,938	15.65	12.08	57,545	59,651	Tons
Alfalfa.....	155	92	2.29	2.67	355	246	22.25	18.56	7,899	4,566	Tons
Other Tame.....	159	141	1.30	1.28	207	180	11.50	9.78	2,380	1,760	Tons
Wild.....	⁵ 368	⁵ 335	1.30	1.30	478	436	10.00	7.70	4,780	3,357	Tons
OTHER FIELD CROPS											
Potatoes.....	272	328	96	124	26,112	40,672	.50	.33	13,056	13,422	Bushels
Tobacco.....	44	40	1,093	1,140	48,092	45,600	2.22	2.00	11,157	9,120	Pounds
Cabbage.....	15.4	17.0	9.2	9.6	142	163	9.88	5.50	1,403	896	Tons
³ Onions.....	1.1	1.0	279	350	304	360	1.20	.49	305	176	Bushels
Hemp.....	1.0	2.5	850	800	850	2,000	.05	.05	43	100	Pounds
Sugar Beets.....	20.0	12.2	8.5	9.1	170	111	7.10	5.95	1,207	660	Tons
Other Roots.....	8.0	8.0	8.5	8.9	68	71	8.60	7.85	585	557	Tons
Sorghum for Syrup.....	2.0	2.0	56	60	112	120	1.27	1.10	142	132	Gallons
Cucumbers for Pickels.....	12.1	7.3	50	50	606	366	1.21	.83	733	304	Bushels
Peas for Canning.....	85.0	72.0	.8	1.2	68	86	57.40	56.16	3,908	4,318	Tons
Corn for Canning.....	10.2	8.5	2.2	2.5	22	21	10.46	10.54	235	225	Tons
Beans for Canning.....	4.0	3.2	2.0	3.0	8	10	62.86	55.00	509	522	Tons
FRUITS											
Apples.....	12,391	12,368			2,340	2,024	1.15	1.18	2,691	2,388	Bushels
Cherries.....	1305	1305			246	435	1.61	1.76	396	766	Crates
Cranberries.....	2	2	20.0	27.5	40	55	9.70	10.00	388	550	Barrels
Maple Syrup.....	570	533			119	148	2.40	2.35	286	348	Gallons
Maple Sugar.....					32	24	.32	.32	10	8	Pounds
Grand Total.....	9,468.1	9,517.3							233,760	226,755	

¹ Trees. ² Trees tapped. ³ Commercial only. ⁴ Not including acreage grown for hay or interplanted with corn for silage. ⁵ Not included in total acreage.

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

ACREAGE, YIELD PER ACRE, AND PRODUCTION OF WISCONSIN CROPS IN 1923

Table with columns for Counties, Potatoes, Clover and Timothy Hay, Alfalfa, Oats, Barley, and Milk Prices per cwt. Rows list various Wisconsin counties and districts with their respective crop statistics for 1923.

MARKED CHANGE IN POTATO CROP

One of the most drastic changes in the potato acreage of the state in ten years occurred this year when Wisconsin farmers cut the acreage 17%—a result of three poor potato years. Yields in northern Wisconsin were considerably above average, but in central Wisconsin drouth and dry weather brought about low yields. The Wisconsin crop shows a marked change from 1922, more so than any of the other leading potato states. Comparisons of the 1923 and 1922 production in the seven leading states follow:

	No. bus. 1923	No. bus. 1922
New York	39,729,000	37,400,000
Minnesota	38,304,000	43,740,000
Michigan	35,796,000	37,842,000
Maine	31,992,000	25,245,000
Pennsylvania	26,145,000	27,432,000
Wisconsin	26,112,000	40,672,000
Colorado	13,530,000	18,460,000
North Dakota	13,114,000	18,900,000

The estimate of the United States is 412 million bushels. This is 41 million bushels below the crop of 1922 and 52 million bushels above the 1921 crop.

TOBACCO ACREAGE INCREASES 10%

With the organization of the Wisconsin Tobacco Pool and the possibility of better prices for tobacco, growers increased their acreage approximately 10% in 1923. Bumper yields, particularly in southern Wisconsin, were in prospect at the time of harvest, but following the frost of September 12th and 13th the crop was so badly damaged that 14% of the entire acreage of the state was abandoned. It is estimated that about 58% of the acreage was harvested without frost damage and with heavy yields. The average price of the entire crop is difficult to determine due to the uncertain value of the frosted tobacco.

CANNING PEA INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO GROW

An additional acreage of 18% was devoted to the canning pea industry of the state. Northern Wisconsin, as well as eastern Wisconsin, increased its acreage in this special crop in which Wisconsin leads the nation. Yields in northern Wisconsin were less effected by the dry summer than in the Dodge County area. Due to a yield of 1,600 pounds this year as compared to 2,400 pounds last year, the total pack in the state was 20% less than in 1922. Wisconsin factories canned 46% of the entire United States pack.

"EAT-MOR" CRANBERRIES GROWN IN WISCONSIN

The cranberry growing industry in Wisconsin is confined to a relatively small number of highly specialized growers in Wood, Jackson, Monroe, Juneau and Price counties. Wisconsin is one of three cranberry growing states

in the United States, and most of the Wisconsin crop is marketed under the popular "Eat-Mor" brand.

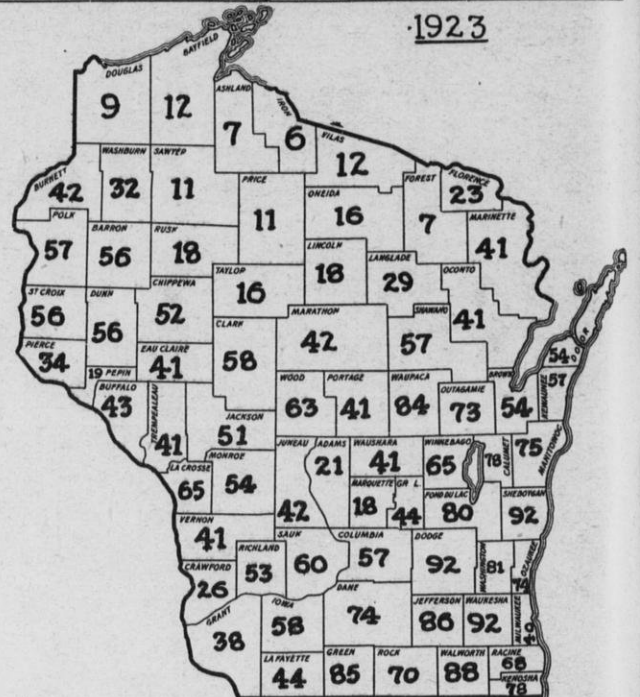
Early frost was chiefly responsible for a short crop of 40,000 barrels in 1923 compared to 55,000 barrels in 1922. Production in the commercial cranberry growing states follows:

	1922 Bbls.	1923 Bbls.
Massachusetts	305,000	350,000
New Jersey	200,000	220,000
Wisconsin	55,000	40,000
Total of above.....	560,000	610,000

HOW WISCONSIN RANKS WITH OTHER STATES IN PRODUCTION OF VARIOUS CROPS IN 1923

- First—Canning peas.
- Second—Clover seed and cabbage.
- Third—Cranberries.
- Fourth—Oats and rye.
- Fifth—Hay.
- Sixth—Potatoes and barley.
- Seventh—Tobacco and buckwheat.
- Eighth—Sugar beets.
- Eleventh—Corn.
- Thirtieth—Wheat.

THE NUMBER OF SILOS FOR EVERY 100 FARMS IN WISCONSIN COUNTIES



THE ABOVE MAP PERMITS OF A QUICK COMPARISON OF COUNTIES AS TO THE EXTENT TO WHICH FARMERS HAVE PROVIDED THEMSELVES WITH SILOS. THE NUMBER OF SILOS IN THE STATE HAS DOUBLED IN TEN YEARS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
H. C. TAYLOR, Chief

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics
J. D. JONES, Jr., Commissioner

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

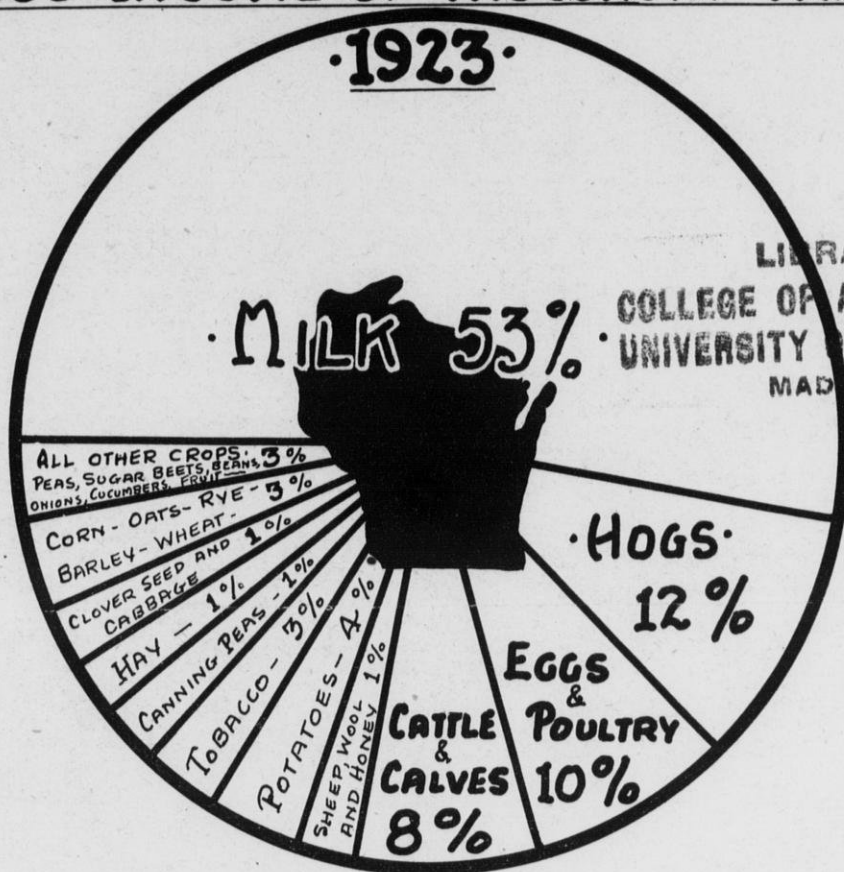
PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

Vol. III, No. 2

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

March, 1924

SOURCES OF THE GROSS INCOME OF WISCONSIN FARMS 1923.



THE GROSS INCOME OF WISCONSIN FARMS IN 1923 WAS \$352,000,000. OF THIS AMOUNT, MILK HAD A FARM VALUE OF \$188,000,000 OR 53% OF THE TOTAL. IN NO OTHER YEAR HAS MILK ALONE MADE UP SUCH A LARGE PORTION OF THE TOTAL INCOME. HOG PRODUCTION HAD A VALUE OF \$41,000,000, EGGS AND POULTRY \$33,000,000, AND CATTLE AND CALVES \$30,000,000. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT 84% OF THE TOTAL INCOME IS SECURED FROM LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS.

ONLY 16% OF THE FARM INCOME CAME DIRECTLY FROM CROPS SINCE GRAINS AND HAY, MAKING UP 75% OF LAST YEAR'S CROP VALUE, WERE KEPT ON THE FARM AND FED TO LIVESTOCK. THE POTATO CROP IS WISCONSIN'S LEADING CASH CROP, AND ITS VALUE IN 1923 IS PLACED AT \$13,000,000. TOBACCO IS VALUED AT \$11,000,000 AND CANNING PEAS AT \$4,000,000.

Features of the Livestock Situation in Wisconsin

Reports from thousands of farmers each year make possible new livestock estimates as of January 1, and the up-to-date estimate of dairy cows in Wisconsin is 2,217,000 head. That is 22,000 head or 1% more than a year ago. Dairy development since 1910 has been rapid in a belt extending across the state from Green Bay to Polk county and particularly so in the Marshfield district.

New York was the leading dairy state in 1910, but was soon surpassed by Wisconsin. Minnesota has made rapid gains in dairy cattle in recent years, and this year for the first time she outranks New York. Wisconsin still maintains her leadership with 453,000 head more than Minnesota.

There is an increase of 238,000 head or 1% more milk cows in the United States compared to a year ago.

Prices of milk took a downward course beginning in June, 1920, and were at low levels in 1921 and most of 1922. During this period there was no expansion of the dairy business in this state. In fact, many farmers' confidence in the future of Wisconsin dairying was put to a severe test by the two years of low prices. Late in 1922, however, milk prices began to rise and reached a 26% higher level during 1923. With the incentive of better milk prices, herds have been kept up—a few enlarged—and, in some cases, beef cattle have been replaced by milk cows.

HOG PRODUCTION BEING CUT DOWN

Wisconsin farmers, in common with Corn Belt farmers, began to expand heavily two years ago when hog prices were high compared to corn. The 1922 pig crop in the Corn Belt was 25% greater than the year previous, and the 1923 crop was again larger. The result has been extremely large marketings and lower prices. Wisconsin shipments

of hogs to market in 1923 were 400,000 head or 24% more than in 1922.

The peak of production, both in Wisconsin and in the United States, was reached with the 1923 spring pig crop—the fall crop being smaller than in 1922. Fewer bred sows for spring litters were reported on the December 1st rural mail carriers' survey, and since that time bred sows have been going to market in greater than usual numbers. The latest estimate, therefore, of the number of sows to farrow this spring in the Corn Belt is from 10% to 15% less than a year ago.

FEWER HORSES ON WISCONSIN FARMS

Since 1915 there has been a gradual decrease in the number of horses in Wisconsin, and the new estimate of January 1 continues the downward course. The use of tractors has grown rapidly during these years. There were 5,475 more tractors in 1923 than in 1922, or an increase of 30%. The poor demand for horses has greatly changed the general practice of raising a colt or two each year. The estimates for Wisconsin and for the United States are 2% less than a year ago.

SHEEP INDUSTRY BEING BUILT UP

The Wisconsin sheep industry has been on the decline since the war peak of 1919. Wool and mutton prices, however, of the past year have strengthened the industry and indications are that the low point was reached last spring. The Wisconsin estimate for January 1 is 341,000 head—the same as a year ago—but more breeding ewes are being kept this year showing a change to more sheep raising in the future.

The estimate for the United States is 3% more than a year ago.

NUMBERS AND VALUE OF LIVESTOCK ON WISCONSIN FARMS ON JANUARY 1, 1923 AND 1924

Class of Livestock	Numbers in Thousands		Farm Value in Thousands of Dollars		Farm Price Per Head in Dollars	
	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924
Dairy cows.....	1,808	1,826				
Dairy heifers (1 year old or over).....	387	391				
Dairy cows and heifers.....	2,195	2,217	125,115	128,586	57.00	58.00
Other heifers.....	32	30				
Calves.....	598	591				
Steers.....	82	74				
Other cattle.....	164	163				
Cattle other than dairy cows and heifers.....	876	858	19,624	20,235	22.40	23.70
All cattle.....	3,071	3,075	144,789	148,921		
Horse.....	643	630	66,872	60,480	104.00	96.00
Mules.....	4	4	412	332	103.00	83.00
Horses and mules.....	647	634	67,284	60,812		
Brood sows.....	414	343				
Other hogs (over 6 months old).....	618	611				
Pigs (under 6 months old).....	693	719				
All swine.....	1,725	1,673	22,598	16,563	13.10	9.90
Breeding ewes.....	260	267				
Other sheep (over 1 year old).....	15	12				
Lambs.....	66	62				
All sheep.....	341	341	2,558	2,762	7.50	8.10
Hens and pullets.....	12,456	12,830				
Other poultry.....	1,157	1,191				
All poultry.....	13,613	14,021	10,754	10,516	.79	.75
Colonies of bees.....	140	133	1,064	1,011	7.60	7.60
Total value.....			\$248,997	\$240,585		

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FOR 1924

(Based upon the report of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, March 18, 1924)

GENERAL

It appears that farmers are undertaking a normal production program attended, however, by the difficulties arising from high wages and other costs, loss of farm workers, and the general disparity between the prices of farm and city products. Domestic demand for farm products is at a high level. Foreign markets for our cotton, pork, wheat, and tobacco seem likely to continue at about the same demand level. The situation with respect to labor, machinery, fertilizer, credit, and other cost items, does not favor expansion of farm production.

DAIRY INDUSTRY

The dairy industry since the war has been relatively more prosperous than certain other types of farming. This has been due mostly to greater use of dairy products by the American people. The per capita consumption has increased 14% from 1919 to 1922. Milk production for the same period has increased nearly the same per cent. Present rates of consumption will about absorb the production that is in prospect in the United States for 1924. A somewhat unfavorable factor in the outlook is the possibility of greater foreign competition. Surplus production in foreign countries is increasing, and larger quantities may seek market in the United States. Last year butter imports were equal to 2% of our own production, and cheese imports were equal to about 17% of our cheese production.

Average milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in January and February were 13c a hundred below last year's prices. Butter prices have been fully as good as a year ago, but cheese prices have been about 3c a pound lower.

SWINE INDUSTRY

The swine industry is going through a period of reduction and discouragement. Record runs of hogs to market still continue. In the past, periods of heavy production and low prices have led to so drastic a reduction of breeding herds as to result later on in a shortage of hogs. Likewise, periods of high pork prices have encouraged hog production and made corn shortages. These extremes bring heavy losses, and farm plans should aim to prevent corn and hog production from getting too far out of balance with each other.

POULTRY INDUSTRY

Poultry production has expanded rapidly in recent years. The use of eggs has also increased at a rate that has kept farm prices up to average. Production of eggs increased 33 1/3% from 1920 to 1923, whereas the population of the country increased only 5.3%. Farms are equipped for producing more chickens and eggs in 1924 than in any previous year. It would appear that poultry production is now at a point where a still greater consumption of eggs is necessary in order to profitably absorb the 1924 production. Every effort should be made to produce eggs at a lower cost, and a larger production per hen would tend to increase profits should lower prices prevail.

SHEEP AND WOOL

There are prospects that the present strong market for sheep and lambs will continue for several months. Larger market supplies may be expected in mid-summer. The wool situation is distinctly favorable for producers. The price has stimulated production in this country during the past year, and it appears that with present tariff rates a further increase in wool production could be profitably made.

FARM STOCKS ON MARCH 1

Stocks of grain and hay on Wisconsin farms on March 1st were less than a year ago and also below average. The following table permits of a comparison of this year's stocks with those of last year and of the five-year average.

FARM STOCKS OF GRAIN AND HAY IN WISCONSIN ON MARCH 1, IN THOUSANDS OF BUSHELS

	1924	1923	Per Cent Below Last Year	5-year Average 1919-23
Ear corn-----	8,008	11,203	29	-----
Oats-----	35,023	40,623	14	38,443
Barley-----	3,446	4,124	16	5,198
Rye-----	1,215	1,785	32	1,412
Wheat-----	433	691	37	1,467
Hay-----	21,272	21,600	21	-----

¹ Four-year average. ² Tons.

The United States farm stocks of grain were likewise below average as contained in the table below:

FARM STOCKS OF GRAIN IN UNITED STATES ON MARCH 1 IN THOUSANDS OF BUSHELS

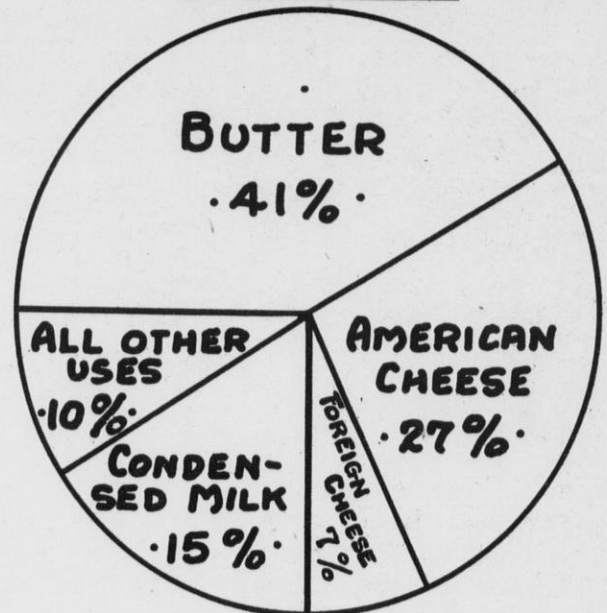
	1924	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) Compared to Last Year	5-year Average 1919-23
Corn-----	1,153,175	1,093,306	+ 5	1,172,908
Oats-----	444,810	421,118	+ 6	503,318
Barley-----	44,844	42,469	+ 6	53,111
Wheat-----	133,871	155,474	-14	161,074

VALUE OF MILK PRODUCTION

Estimates of the amount and value of milk production for 1923, by counties, is carried on page 7 of this issue. The total value for the state in 1923 was \$187,857,000 compared to \$148,023,000 in 1922. The 1923 value is 27% above 1922.

Crop reporters give \$2.26 as the average price of milk for January and \$2.15 for February, 1924. The January price a year ago was \$2.38, the February price \$2.29.

COMMERCIAL USES OF MILK IN WISCONSIN



THE ABOVE DIAGRAM IS BASED UPON ESTIMATES OF THE COMMERCIAL USES OF MILK IN 1923. IT WILL BE SEEN THAT 41% OF THE MILK OR CREAM SOLD FROM WISCONSIN FARMS IS MADE INTO BUTTER, 34% INTO CHEESE, BOTH AMERICAN AND FOREIGN, 15% USED FOR EVAPORATED AND CONDENSED MILK, AND 10% ABSORBED BY A VARIETY OF USES—CHIEFLY MARKET MILK.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
H. C. TAYLOR, Chief

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WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

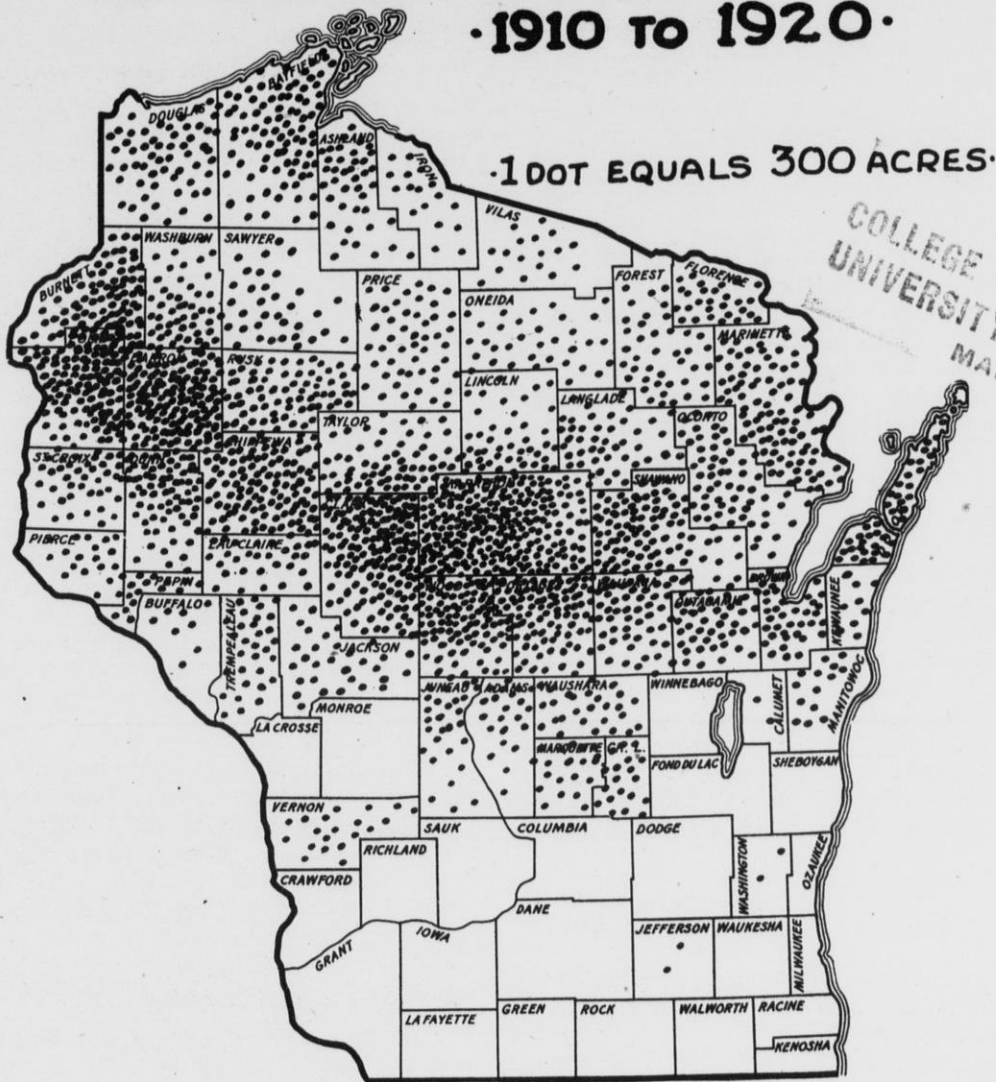
PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

Vol. III, No. 3

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

May, 1924

INCREASE IN ACREAGE OF IMPROVED LAND 1910 TO 1920.



LAND IMPROVEMENT DURING THE 10-YEAR PERIOD FROM 1910-1920 IS MOST MARKED IN A BELT EXTENDING ACROSS THE STATE FROM GREEN BAY TO POLK COUNTY. SOME COUNTIES SHOW A LARGE INCREASE.

HIGH PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS IN 1919 UNDOUBTEDLY BROUGHT INTO CULTIVATION SOME HERETOFORE UNTILLED LANDS THAT ARE PORTRAYED ABOVE.

THE FEDERAL CENSUS OF 1920 REPORTS AN INCREASE OF 545,000 ACRES, OR 4.6%, OF IMPROVED LAND IN WISCONSIN COMPARED TO 1910.

Agricultural Situation in Wisconsin

GENERAL

Field work has been delayed by unusual weather conditions. Competent farm help is extremely hard to locate. With the present outlook of prices for dairy products, there will be considerable getting along without hired help. New and larger acreages of alfalfa and fully as large acreages of feed grains are in prospect on Wisconsin farms.

DAIRY INDUSTRY

Cheese prices since the beginning of the year have been on a lower level than a year ago. Prices dropped rapidly in early April—somewhat of a seasonal change but reaching low points. The April 12th quotation on Daisies at the Plymouth Exchange Board was 15½c. Since that date, however, there has been a growing confidence in the market, and the May 10th quotations were 18¼c—a marked recovery in four weeks. Butter prices are about 6c lower than a year ago, or practically the same as in 1922.

HOG PRODUCERS

In the special hog raising area of southwestern Wisconsin, it is apparent that there is a marked reduction in the number of spring sows compared to a year ago. In the greater part of the State, however, the reduction is less marked. Whey and skim milk have very little cash value,—except when fed to hogs, and this fact keeps the number of hogs on Wisconsin dairy farms quite constant from year to year.

POTATO INDUSTRY

Potato prices of April 1 stayed at about the same level of 65c to 75c per hundred. At these prices and with low yields in the main potato districts of the State, farmers showed their dissatisfaction with the 1923 results by indicating a reduction in the intentions to plant report on March 1. There was a slight improvement in the market after April 1, reaching \$1.00 in some places, but prices have again settled back to the former level. The memory of three and four years of low financial returns will very probably make another reduction in the potato acreage of the State.

TOBACCO INDUSTRY

The 1923 crop of Wisconsin tobacco has moved slowly. Much of the crop was of poor quality due to frost injury and shedburn, and except for the better grades the demand has been only moderate. There has been, however, a strong, active demand for the better binder grades. With prices being paid on a grade basis, there is a strong incentive offered to growers to improve their methods and raise the better grades. This is being urged by the Tobacco Pool

officers. The discouraging effect of frost damage and shedburn and the rather slow movement of the bulk of the crop may show itself in a reduced acreage this year, particularly in southern Wisconsin.

PEA CANNING INDUSTRY

The pea canning industry in the State has expanded rapidly in recent years. A considerable number of new factories were built again last year with little difficulty experienced in contracting new acreage. The acreage is holding its place in the older pea canning sections of the State. It would seem that larger and larger quality packs are being absorbed by the consuming public. Leaders in the industry have little fear for overproduction if a quality pack will be maintained.

RYE AND WHEAT BACK TO PRE-WAR ACREAGE

A striking adjustment of Wisconsin farmers to low prices of wheat and rye is shown in the acreage estimates of May 1. The rye acreage is now about 10 per cent below the pre-war years. The winter wheat acreage has been reduced to about the pre-war level. Both crops show a reduction of 10 per cent from last year's acreage and a reduction of 37 per cent from the peak year of 1922. This year's acreage of rye for harvest is estimated to be 309,000, and of winter wheat, 59,000.

Winter and spring conditions have been favorable for both these crops and reporters judge the condition of rye at 93 per cent and of winter wheat at 92 per cent of normal. Wheat production is of very minor importance in Wisconsin, but the cash returns from rye effect a large number of growers. During the war years when rye sold for \$1.30 to \$1.69 a bushel, there was a marked increase in acreage—particularly in central Wisconsin. With the price at 65c, however, for last year's crop, the cut in acreage is easily explained.

The rye acreage in the United States is 16 per cent and the winter wheat acreage 7 per cent less than last year.

SHORTAGE OF FARM LABOR

Farm labor supply at current wages is reported at 82 per cent of normal with the shortage most marked in the industrial sections of the State—the Fox River Valley and the Lake Shore Counties. With prices of dairy products about 20 per cent below last year, there seems to be a more determined effort on the part of farmers to get along with as little farm help as possible.

PASTURES AND HAY ARE PROMISING

It has been a long feeding season for Wisconsin dairymen, and last year's crop of hay and grain was short in many sections. Feed supplies accordingly are very low at this time. Pastures and meadows were backward on May 1, but plenty of rain seems to make prospects promising for both these crops.

THE HOG SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES

(From U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics)

The swing away from hogs is the most outstanding shift this spring. This Department's estimate last month indicated 13 per cent fewer brood sows in the Corn Belt than a year ago, and some private estimates put the reduction at 20 per cent. At the same time, corn acreage will very likely be increased, for corn is relatively high priced and hogs are low and we are all human. This swing alternately to hogs and then to corn is an old story. It usually goes too far in each direction.

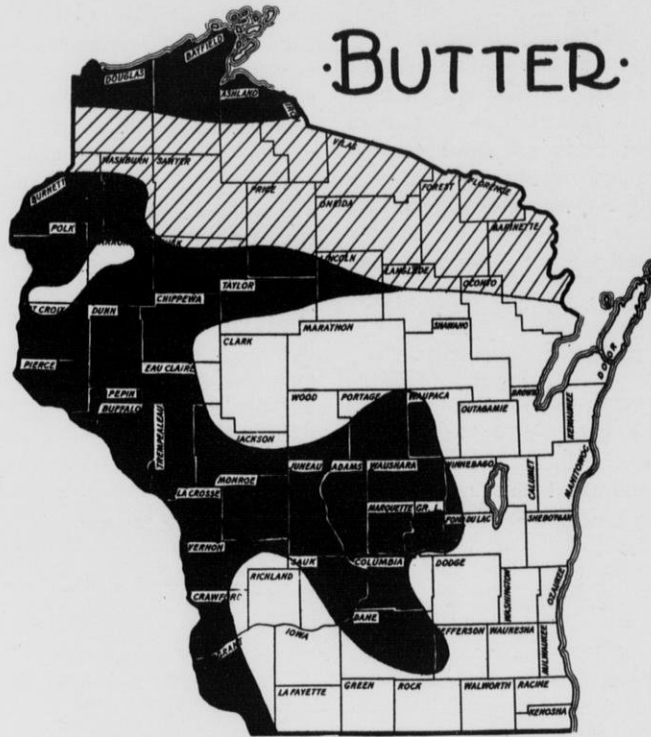
THE UNITED STATES DAIRY SITUATION

(From U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics)

The present downward trend of prices of dairy products is causing concern among dairy producers. These price changes may be due in part to the usual seasonal changes,

although certain other conditions have had an effect. The major manufactured dairy products—butter, cheese, and condensed milk—show stocks this year that have been consistently higher than a year ago. The monthly storage stocks of butter have been slightly larger than last year but less than the past five-year average. When April 1 rolled around with holdings some 3,000,000 pounds heavier than a year ago, and sizeable quantities of imported butter still available, a feeling began to develop on the part of the trade that prices were on too high a basis for safe operation especially in view of the weakness of the English market.

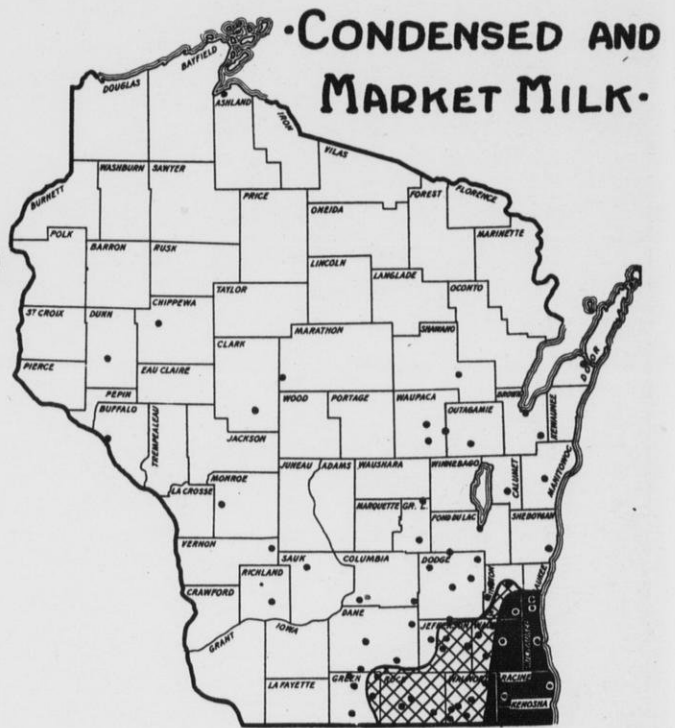
Cheese markets began to break in early April under the strain of large storage stocks carried since the opening of the present storage season. On April 1 this excess amounted to 14,000,000 pounds and the total stocks in storage were double those in April, 1923. The condensed milk markets have been laboring under a heavy surplus since last summer with export demand—one of the principal supports—uncertain at all times.



IN THE BLACK SHADED AREAS, BUTTER IS THE LEADING DAIRY PRODUCT. IN THE LIGHTER SHADED SECTION, DAIRYING IS ONLY PARTIALLY DEVELOPED, BUT BUTTER IS MADE.



IN THE BLACK SHADED AREAS, AMERICAN CHEESE IS THE CHIEF DAIRY PRODUCT. THE LIGHTER SHADED AREAS REPRESENT THE FOREIGN CHEESE MAKING SECTIONS OF WISCONSIN.



MILK PRODUCED IN THE BLACK SHADED AREA IS USED IN MILWAUKEE AND CHICAGO. IN THE LIGHTER SHADED AREA, MILK IS SOLD MAINLY TO CONDENSERIES BUT TO SOME EXTENT AS MILK AND CREAM FOR CHICAGO. DOTS REPRESENT THE LOCATION OF CONDENSERIES.

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

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MADISON

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State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

June, 1924

ALFALFA ACREAGE MAKES ANOTHER ADVANCE IN WISCONSIN

1909

18 THOUSAND ACRES

1919

70 THOUSAND ACRES

1921

131 THOUSAND ACRES

1923

155 THOUSAND ACRES

1924

217 THOUSAND ACRES

—ALEXANDER—1924—

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN WISCONSIN

When cheese dropped to 15½ cents two months ago there were many who feared even lower prices for the June flow of milk. Butter prices permitted of the same misgiving. The common occurrence of a seasonal drop in prices has not occurred, however, but instead, cheese prices went to higher levels and are holding quite firm at this time—around 17½ cents. Butter prices have recovered to almost the same level as last year. Although the returns from milk are less than a year ago, particularly for milk made into cheese, there is a relieved and more confident feeling in the dairy outlook in view of what was feared two months ago. Milk flow up to this time seems to be less than a year ago due to late pastures and smaller feed rations last spring.

Crops are late throughout the State—corn being particularly small. Farmers who are fortunate enough to have new seedings of clover that did not dry out last summer are practically assured of a good crop of clover hay. Timothy and mixed hay are only fair. Alfalfa has already made an excellent first growth, and plans for larger acreages are expressed in all sections. Small grains in southern Wisconsin have favorable prospects, but are late in the northeastern part of the State.

Colonization companies report a slight movement of settlers on to cut-over lands of the better soils in northern Wisconsin—a shifting of farmers from marginal lands to soils that offer good yields when cleared and broken up.

CROP CONDITIONS ON JUNE 1

Cold weather has given the 1924 crop season somewhat of a handicap but warm weather during the summer may offset a late start. Rain was needed on June 1 in western Wisconsin.

Farmers in the southern and western part of the State are facing a much brighter hay prospect than a year ago and the outlook is up to average for the entire State. Clover is thin in western Wisconsin, where summer drouth injury was severe. Alfalfa hay is in uniformly high condition in all districts of the State. The condition of all tame hay this year is 86 per cent, compared to 78 per cent of normal last year at this date.

Oats are not up to average in any district of the State but have a higher condition in the western and southern counties. In northeastern Wisconsin, cold temperatures together with rain made the seeding of small grains very late so that only a short growth has been made. Condition of oats is 85 per cent of normal, which is practically the same as last year but seven points below the average June 1 condition.

April and May weather was not favorable for pastures, and in most of the State pastures are short. Low feed supplies prompted dairymen to turn their cows out on pasture earlier than the development of pastures justified.

Corn planting was delayed, particularly in the eastern part of the State, and there was very little corn up on June 1. Some early planted corn is being replanted.

Rye and winter wheat are in better condition than any of the other small grains. Rye has a condition of 90 per cent, which is the same as the five-year average and six points above last year's condition. Rye prospects in central Wisconsin are accordingly favorable.

FOURTEEN PER CENT INCREASE IN ACREAGE OF CANNING PEAS

The pea canning industry in the State has expanded rapidly in recent years, and another increase of 14 per cent over last year is estimated. The acreage this year is placed at 104,000 acres. A dozen or more new factories are being equipped to handle the 1924 harvest.

ALFALFA ACREAGE SHOWS A MARKED CHANGE

Farmers report a somewhat larger acreage of oats this year—the estimate for the State being 2 per cent more than last year. Barley and hay acreages remain the same as last year.

Many agencies have been promoting alfalfa as a hay crop in Wisconsin, and in each of the last three years the increases have been considerable. County agents, particularly, have been persistent in their efforts to bring alfalfa growing to the dairy farms of the State, and this year an additional 62,000 acres, or a 40 per cent increase over last year, will be cut for hay. The acreage is placed at 217,000 acres compared to 155,000 acres last year.

DRY PEAS GROWN IN NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

The growing of dry peas, chiefly of the edible varieties, is general in several localities of the State, particularly in Door, Calumet, and Kewaunee counties. The acreage this year is estimated to be 33,300 acres or 8 per cent less than a year ago. Cold, wet weather which delayed farmers in planting, and low yields of last year were factors in reducing the acreage.

REMARKS OF CROP CORRESPONDENTS IN DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE STATE

NORTHERN SECTION

Clark County.—Season late, but the outlook is good.—E. G. P.

Marathon County.—The season is very backward on account of the cold and wet weather. Pastures are very short. Clover looks good but short for this time of the year. Oats are just coming up. Farmers are just starting to plant potatoes.—H. M.

Taylor County.—Owing to cold, rainy weather for the last six weeks, little progress was made in getting the fields ready for small grain. By the first of June all oats may be sown—barley coming in later. Corn land will be ready for planting by first of June provided weather stays dry and sunny. All hay land is green now. The crop has a good start and may develop into a fine crop. Pasture does not amount to anything as yet.—R. K.

EASTERN SECTION

Fond du Lac County.—All vegetation is backward due to the continuous cold weather. Pastures are quite short. Farmers are busy preparing ground and planting corn.—F. C. F.

Kewaunee County.—Seeding has just been completed. Hay fields and pastures are about 25 per cent above last year. No corn planted as yet, but ground is being prepared.—B. S.

Ozaukee County.—Most crops are somewhat backward so far on account of cold and wet weather, but the last few days have made quite an improvement.—T. J. K.

WESTERN SECTION

Jackson County.—May was continuously cold with many rainy days, and a deficiency of sunshine when it did not rain. Soil dried very slowly and work was delayed by this as well as by rain. Growth of all vegetation was very slow. Oats on June 1 were four to six inches high—some less. Corn is mostly planted but very little of it up. Pasture is now in use but was fully two weeks late. All grass will make rapid progress "if summer comes." The new clover is up, and at present very promising. Alfalfa increased in acreage and is coming fine. Soy beans are being planted on a considerably increased acreage. Retailers report seed sales fully up to last year in all lines.—P. W. J.

La Crosse County.—The weather all spring has been too cold generally for a rapid growth in any line. Pastures look good, but most hay fields and grain crops are short. Not much corn up as yet.—F. T. C.

Richland County.—Hay and pastures are making very slow growth on account of cold, wet weather. Small grains not growing but are stooling out fine. Only about 75 per cent of corn is now planted. Some early plantings—about May 10—rotted in the ground and are now being replanted. Milk production below average of last year at this time. Prices also lower.—E. P. B.

SOUTHERN SECTION

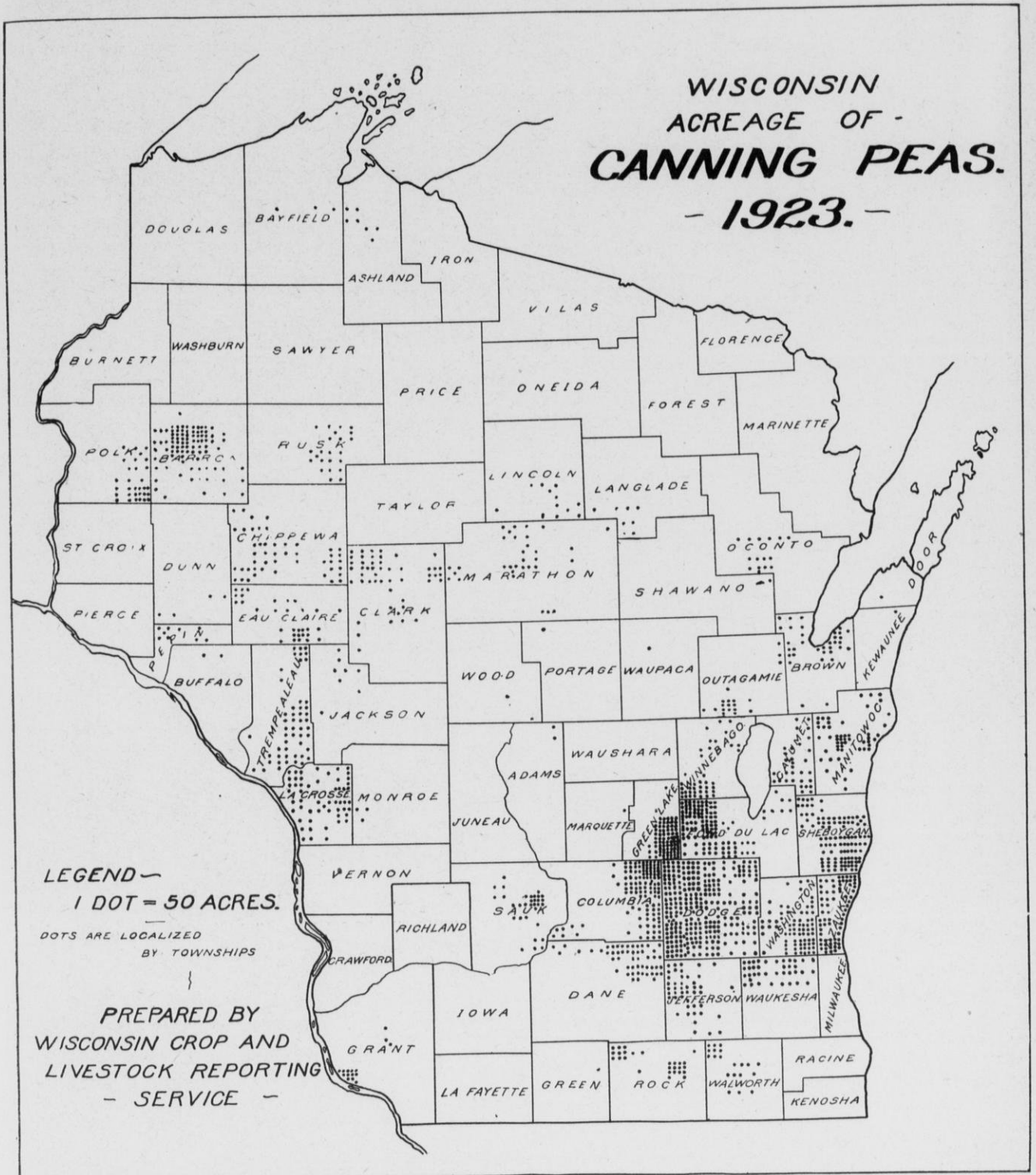
Dane County.—The weather has been very wet and cold. Corn is not all planted as yet. Some corn that was planted early has to be replanted. Pastures are good, and the hay crop is going to be good.—W. M.

Jefferson County.—All grains are looking very promising but have not the usual growth for this time of season. Hay crop very promising. Some clover of last year's seeding has thin stand caused by the 1923 drought. Alfalfa very promising. Farm labor very scarce.—J. M. K.

Racine County.—On account of cold, wet weather, oats and barley are rather short but look fairly good. All tame hay is looking good. There will be quite a lot of cabbage here this year, but it will be two or three weeks before the plants will be set out. Plants are looking good.—J. I. G.

TABLE I. ACREAGE AND CONDITION OF WISCONSIN CROPS ON JUNE 1.

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Condition, June 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1924 Pre- liminary	1923	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Oats.....	2,590	2,539	85	84	92.0
Barley.....	465	465	85	85	91.6
Rye.....	309	342	90	84	90.0
Winter wheat.....	60	66	91	76	85.4
Spring wheat.....	58	53	84	82	89.4
All hay.....	3,187	3,187	86	78	87.0
Alfalfa.....	217	155	93	83	88.8
Clover.....			86	78	86.6
Pasture.....			81	78	89.2
Apples.....			82	91	84.6
Canning peas.....	103.9	91.2	87	89	
Field peas.....	33.3	36.2	92	89	92.4



WISCONSIN COMMONLY PACKS MORE THAN ONE-HALF OF THE NATION'S CANNING PEAS

Dodge county and the adjoining district are the center of this industry. The acreage of canning peas is increasing in northern Wisconsin and in the older canning districts of the state. This year's acreage is 14 per cent larger than last year.



THE ALFALFA MAP

Wisconsin's alfalfa acreage is concentrated in the eastern and southern sections of the state, with Fond du Lac and Green counties having the largest acreages. In recent years the acreage in the Fox River Valley district has increased rapidly. With a much larger acreage in the state this year, many new townships will have a dot of 50 acres on the 1924 alfalfa map.

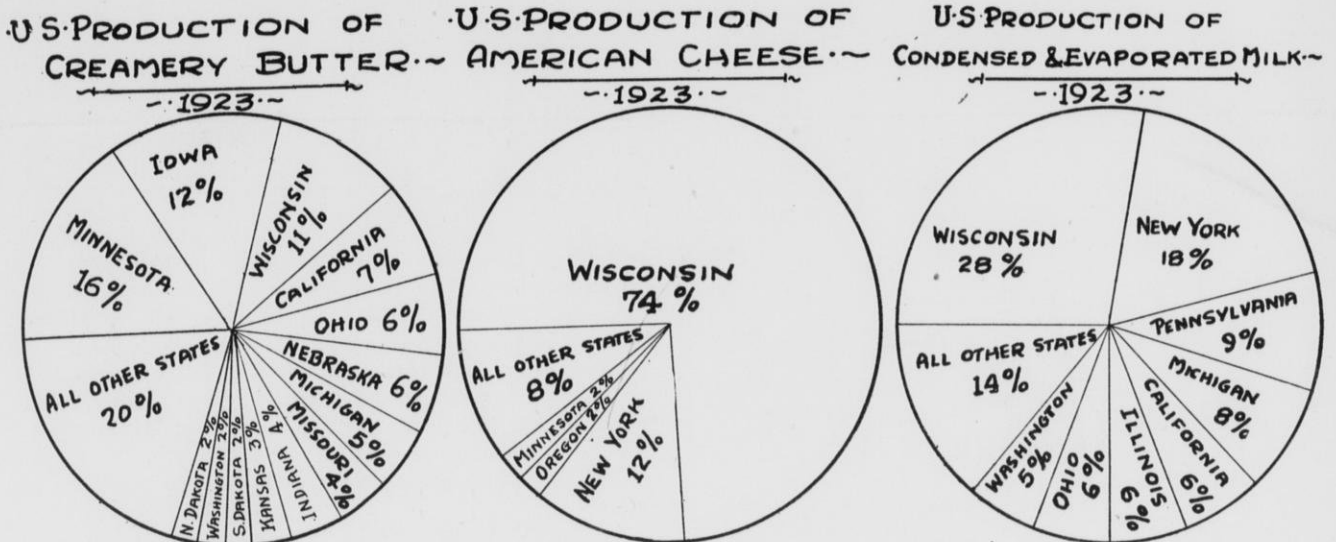
WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

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SUMMARY OF CROP CONDITIONS IN WISCONSIN

With the exception of corn, crop prospects in Wisconsin at this time are favorable. The same cold and wet weather conditions that were helpful to the hay and small grain crops were unfavorable for corn. All crops are generally backward but more so in the northeastern corner of the State than in the rest of Wisconsin.

There is another reduction of 8 per cent in the potato acreage of the State, and tobacco growers have cut last year's acreage 12 per cent.

CORN LATE IN ENTIRE UNITED STATES

Corn is extremely small due to cold, wet weather and, to some extent, to late planting. The condition in Wisconsin is the lowest since 1915 and 1916. In those two years the condition on July 1 was 68 and 69 per cent respectively. This year the condition is 72 per cent of normal. In addition to the corn being small, fields are very weedy. Only late frosts and good growing weather will mature the crop. In 1916 average yields were secured with about the same conditions as this year. With over 100,000 silos in the State, the corn situation is less alarming in Wisconsin than in those States where farmers rely upon market corn as a cash crop.

The condition of corn in the United States on July 1 was 72 per cent of normal. This is by far the lowest condition ever reported for that date. Only once before—in 1903—has the condition been below 80 per cent at this time of the year. The low condition is due to the fact that weather was unusually cold during May and June in the whole country east of the Rockies. Rainfall has also been excessive in the central Corn Belt.

LESS TOBACCO BEING GROWN THIS YEAR

Wisconsin's acreage of tobacco this year is 12 per cent less than a year ago and the smallest acreage since 1910. In the northern tobacco district the reduction in acreage is 9 per cent, and in the southern district 14 per cent. The acreage this year is 38,700 acres compared to 44,000 last year, and 40,000 acres in 1922.

It is explained that the rather slow movement of the 1923 crop has influenced growers generally to reduce their acreages. Others have planted smaller acreages in an effort to get larger yields and better quality.

Cut worms did considerable damage this year, and many growers had to replant.

BRIGHT RYE PROSPECTS

The rye crop in central Wisconsin is very promising. The crop is turning at this time. The crop, in common with winter wheat, has had favorable conditions since spring and has made a tall growth of straw. The condition of the crop indicates a yield of 17.5 bushels per acre compared to a yield of 14.8 bushels last year.

1924 CROP ACREAGES IN WISCONSIN COMPARED TO LAST YEAR

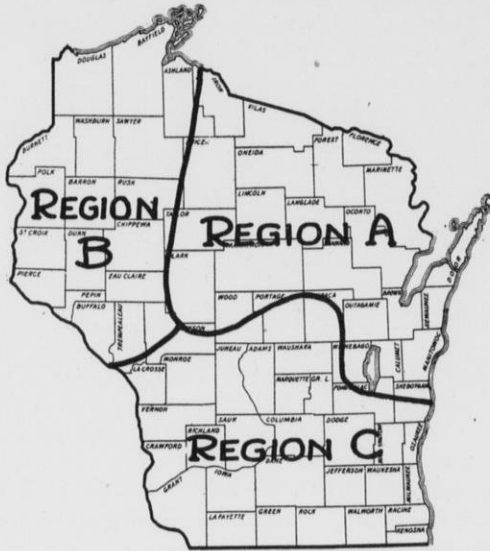
Oats.....	2% increase	Corn.....	Same
Canning peas.....	14% increase	Barley.....	Same
Alfalfa.....	40% increase	Tame hay.....	Same
Spring wheat.....	10% increase	Cabbage.....	Same
Sugar beets.....	35% increase	Potatoes.....	8% decrease
Soy beans.....	40% increase	Tobacco.....	12% decrease
Dry beans.....	5% increase	Rye.....	10% decrease
Flax.....	5% increase	Winter wheat.....	10% decrease
		Dry peas.....	8% decrease

CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR JULY 1

Crop	Acres in Thousands		Production in Thousands				Condition, July 1 Percent of Normal		
	1924 preliminary	1923	July 1 forecast	1923	1918-22 average	Unit	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Corn	2,253	2,253	74,619	83,361	87,674	Bu.	72	90	92.6
Potatoes	250	272	24,080	26,112	31,427	Bu.	86	88	89.0
Tobacco	38.7	44.0	44,931	48,092	59,202	Lbs.	86	80	90.4
Oats	2,590	2,539	99,767	92,166	92,532	Bu.	90	81	87.6
Barley	465	465	13,936	13,252	15,989	Bu.	90	84	87.6
Rye	309	342	5,316	5,062	6,622	Bu.	92	84	90.2
Winter wheat	60	66	1,297	1,122	1,613	Bu.	92	76	84.8
Spring wheat	58	53	908	848	4,153	Bu.	87	79	84.6
Tame hay	3,187	3,187	5,245	4,239	4,712	Tons	88	68	84.4
Alfalfa	217	155					97	82	88.8
Dry peas	33.3	36.2	490	528	824	Bu.	87	83	87.6
Dry beans	10.5	10.0	104	90	128	Bu.	83	86	89.2
Flax for seed	8.4	8.0	104	97	67	Bu.	90	83	187.5
Canning peas	103.9	91.2					90	79	
Cabbage, com'l	13.3	13.3					87	87	88.6
Apples							76	82	74.4
Pasture							92	76	86.6

Four-year average

CROP CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTS ON JULY 1



REGION A.—Oats and barley are short and backward here. Corn was planted very late. Sugar beets and cabbage are small and weedy. Hay is a good crop in southern part of the district.

REGION B.—Oats and barley are very promising in this region. Hay is up to average but poorer than in southern Wisconsin.

REGION C.—There are heavy yields of hay in this district. Oats, barley, and rye are very promising. Stands of tobacco are good. Corn is late.

POTATO ACREAGE CUT EIGHT PER CENT

The potato acreage in Wisconsin this year is 8 per cent less than last year. Alternating low prices and small yields for the past four years have turned Wisconsin farmers somewhat away from potatoes as a cash crop. Difficulty in hiring competent farm help has also caused some farmers to reduce their acreages. The reduction is as much as 11 per cent in the Barron-Chippewa and the Wau-paca-Portage districts. In the region about Milwaukee the reduction is only 3 per cent. The acreage of the State is placed at 250,000 acres compared to 272,000 last year and 328,000 in 1922.

The stand of potatoes in Wisconsin is uniformly good, and the condition of the crop in the United States is the same as last year.

The acreage in the United States is 1.7 per cent less than a year ago. The eastern states have generally increased their acreages—New York, 3 per cent; Maine, 5 per cent; and Virginia, 5 per cent. The western states, in common with Wisconsin, have cut their acreages—Minnesota, 8 per cent; Michigan, 4 per cent; and North Dakota, 3 per cent.

BARLEY PROMISES GOOD YIELDS

Barley is thick, well headed out, and promises good yields in the southern and western parts of the State. Due to a quick growth, straw is weak and there is some danger of lodging before the crop matures. The forecast is 5 per cent above last year's production.

CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR JULY 1

Crop	Acres in Thousands			Production in Thousands				Condition, July 1 Percent of Normal		
	1924 preliminary	1923	Percent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of 1924 acreage compared to 1923 acreage	July 1 forecast	1923	1918-22 average	Unit	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Corn	105,604	104,158	+1.4	2,515,385	3,046,387	2,899,428	Bu.	72.0	84.9	86.5
Potatoes	3,753	3,816	-1.7	372,968	412,392	390,616	Bu.	86.3	86.4	86.8
Tobacco	1,702	1,820	-7.6	1,294,150	1,491,000	1,360,661	Lbs.	78.8	82.5	80.9
Oats	41,625	40,833	+1.9	1,356,338	1,299,823	1,302,516	Bu.	86.9	83.5	81.4
Barley	7,558	7,905	-4.4	170,011	198,185	186,036	Bu.	80.2	86.1	85.0
Rye	4,337	5,157	-15.9	64,678	63,023	78,412	Bu.	86.9	75.0	84.2
Winter wheat	36,898	39,522	-6.6	542,551	572,340	624,653	Bu.	77.9	76.8	79.9
Spring wheat	16,920	18,786	-9.9	197,461	213,401	256,336	Bu.	81.9	82.4	83.2
Tame hay	61,020	60,162	+1.4	90,076	89,098	85,827	Tons	83.4	80.3	84.9

PRICE CHANGES AND THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

In the deflation following the war period, prices of farm products dropped quickly to low levels. Prices of manufactured products and of services, however, have not experienced the same drastic cut. Manufactured products and overhead charges have moved more slowly to lower price levels than the prices of farm products, and the disparity between the two has made the farmers' purchasing power less than in 1913. The changes have been characteristic of general price movements—that farm prices react more quickly and drastically to economic forces governing price levels than do the prices of manufactured products.

Dairy products as a group have maintained higher prices and a better purchasing power than most groups of farm products, so that here in Wisconsin where dairy products are such a large portion of the farmers' income the farmers' purchasing power has suffered less hardship.

Adjustments Taking Place

It has been generally realized that sound and stable business and economic conditions depend upon continued adjustments that will bring the prices of raw and manufactured products, and different groups of workers, into a more equitable balance. With this process of adjustment going on—slowly, but surely—comes an improvement in the farmers' purchasing power. Recent opinions and conclusions of close students of the trend of changes going on at this time, seem to be very similar.

The following opinion is of an eastern bank: "There is a widespread conception that gradually industry is working toward the lower price level of 1913 and that this slow movement will not be uniform, but will be accompanied by alternate waves of activity and depression. The faulty adjustment between producers of raw materials and manufacturers is a vital factor in these interruptions and consequent depressions."

Comments of a Minneapolis Bank

The "Review" of the Northwestern National Bank, of Minneapolis, makes this statement: "Slowly the prices of manufactured products which have been upheld by high wages, taxes, and tariffs are getting closer to the position they formerly held relative to prices of agricultural products. In April, 1924, the index of prices of the latter (farm products) was 2 points below that of April, 1923, but wholesale prices of cloth and clothing had fallen off 16 points, fuel and lighting 21 points, metal and metal products 15 points, building materials 22 points, and house furnishing goods 12 points."

The "Agricultural Situation" report of the United States Department of Agriculture describes urban changes as follows: "The city is now beginning to taste the fruits of overexpanded producing capacity. The textile, the automobile, railway equipment, and many allied industries are in the position recently familiar to wheat, cattle, and hog producers of being all geared up and no place to go. Credit demands have grown so light that money is now relatively almost as cheap in New York as hogs in Iowa. The general trend of prices continue slightly downward, while prices of farm products about hold their own. The index of the purchasing power of farm products in terms of other commodities stood at 77 in May—the highest in 44 months—the year 1913 being considered as 100."

Conclusions

Through reoccurring adjustments and slight depressions, prices of manufactured products will undoubtedly find lower levels, and with it the disparity between the prices of farm and manufactured products will become less and less. Opinions may vary as to the extent to which farmers will be affected by "quiet times" in the city and by a somewhat poorer market for farm products. In general, however, it would seem that farmers have "scraped bottom" as to their purchasing power and that they are more likely to gain by cheaper materials and prices of things which they buy than they are likely to lose by a slight drop in prices for butter, cheese, and semi-luxury products.

BIG HAY CROP IN WISCONSIN

Very much in contrast to last year, farmers in southern Wisconsin have heavy yields of hay this year. In general, northern Wisconsin conditions are up to average, but with less promise of heavy yields than in southern Wisconsin. There is a good, heavy growth of alsike clover in mixed hay fields. The condition of tame hay for the State this year is 88 per cent, compared to 68 per cent last year. The present condition indicates a crop 24 per cent above last year and 11 per cent above the 5-year average. Very little clover and timothy hay have been cut up to this time, and good haying weather is needed to harvest the crop.

The first growth of alfalfa was rank and, in many cases, extremely heavy. A yield of 1.9 tons is reported for the first cutting, which was difficult to cure and to save due to frequent rains. There is enough moisture in the ground to give the second crop a good start.

OTHER CROPS

Pastures.—Pastures made rapid improvement during June and are in good condition in the southern part of the State.

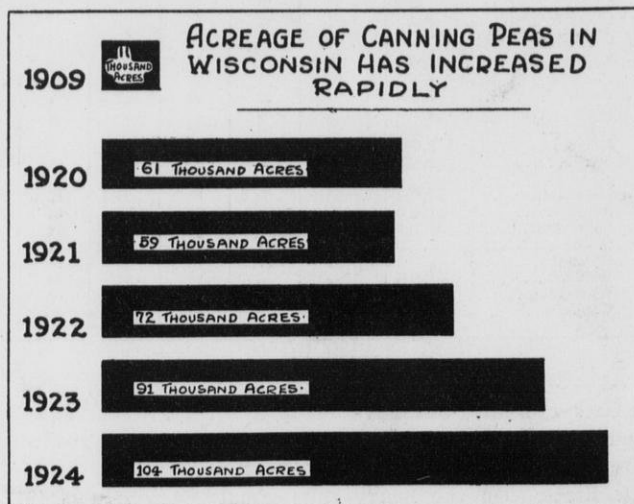
Field Beans.—This year's estimate of acreage of field beans is a 5 per cent increase over last year. There are frequent reports of poor stands. The condition on July 1 was 83 per cent compared to a 5-year average of 89.2 per cent.

Soy Beans.—There is a general increase over all the State in the acreage of soy beans with exception of the central sandy district of the State. Considerably larger acreages have been planted in the western part of the State. The acreage this year is estimated to be 24,600 acres compared to 17,600 acres last year, or an increase of 40 per cent.

Flax.—There is only a slight increase in the flax acreage—8,400 acres this year compared to 8,000 acres last year, or an increase of 5 per cent. There is an entirely new acreage scattered over the State this year, but in the leading flax growing counties, particularly Pierce County, the acreage is reduced.

Cabbage.—The commercial cabbage acreage in Wisconsin remains practically the same as last year. There is a 3 per cent increase in the Racine and Kenosha district, but a reduction of 6 per cent in the Appleton and Green Bay district.

The acreage of late commercial cabbage for ten producing states is 55,779 acres this year compared to 58,080 acres last year—a reduction of 4 per cent.



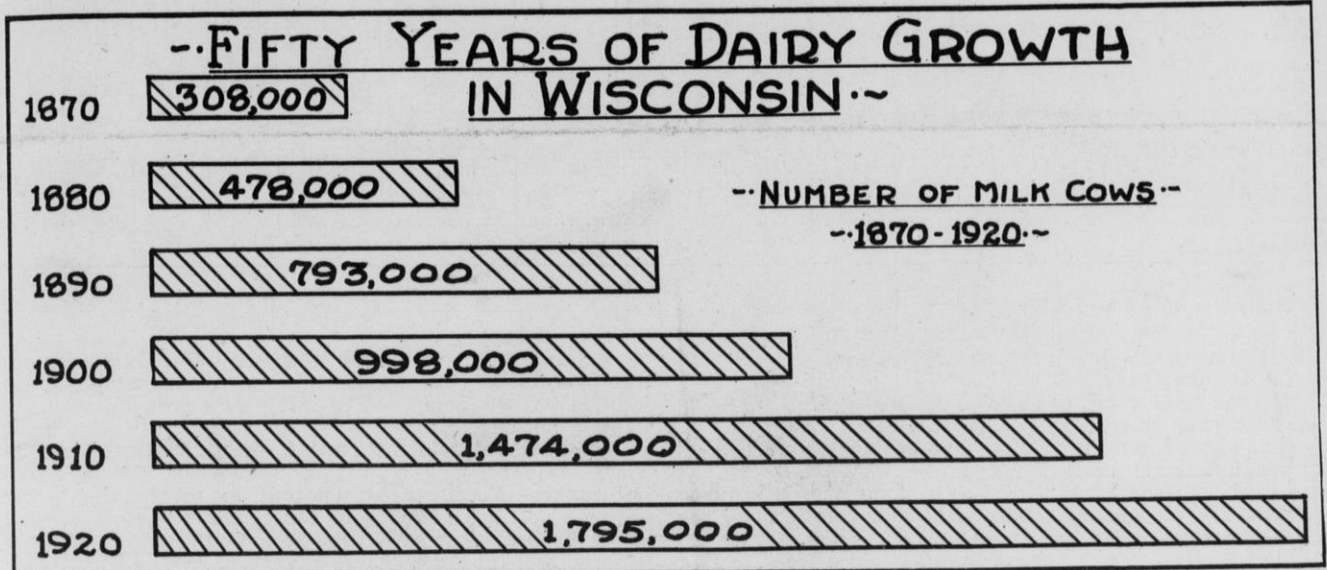
WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

Vol. III, No. 6

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

August, 1924



INTERNATIONAL DAIRY SHOW AT MILWAUKEE, SEPTEMBER 27TH TO OCTOBER 4TH

FEATURES OF THE WISCONSIN CROP SITUATION

A big hay crop in most of the State with poor haying weather. Yields of small grains generally good with considerable grain down and difficult to harvest. Corn continues backward, ripe corn prospects depending upon late frosts.

Potatoes promising, with excessive rains causing some rot in eastern Wisconsin.

Tobacco backward with hail damage in the Vernon County district.

eleven counties in the northwestern part of the State—is the crop below average. A late spring, together with a drought in June, made the crop thin in that corner of the State.

Except where clover dried out badly last summer, clover yields were generally heavy. Alfalfa has made an excellent growth and promises a good second crop if given good weather conditions for curing.

The total crop of tame hay in Wisconsin is estimated to be 30% above last year's production and 17% below the 5-year average production. The United States crop is the same as last year. Haying was practically finished in the storm districts of southern and eastern Wisconsin, and only in a few cases where hay was still out did the recent storms inflict any considerable damage.

POOR OUTLOOK FOR CORN

Corn made rapid improvement during the latter part of July in most of the State, but prospects for ripe corn depend upon late killing frosts. Fields are very uneven, low and poorly drained fields being extremely small. There are fields in the southern counties where the growth is as tall as usual for this date, but tasseling generally is from two to three weeks late. Crop reporters judge the condition on August 1 to be 69% of normal compared to a 5-year average for this date of 89%. The recent heavy rains and cool weather have further retarded the crop.

BIG HAY CROP

Farmers in southeastern Wisconsin rarely have as heavy yields of hay as have been cut this year, but frequent rains and poor weather made haying extremely difficult. Yields do not run as heavy as in southeastern Wisconsin as one goes north over the State, but in the greater part of the dairy areas farmers will go into the winter with more than a usual amount of hay. In only one region—a group of

STORMS MADE HARVESTING DIFFICULT

Ample rains and cool weather permitted small grains to fill very well and heavy yields were in prospect on August 1. Oats and barley indicated yields of 15% more than average. Harvesting which was under way in southern Wisconsin was interrupted by the heavy rains of August 3 and by a week of wet weather. Wind and rains laid the grain down in many areas making harvesting extremely difficult. There are occasional fields in southern Wisconsin where the binder will leave some grain, but binders will get practically all by cutting one way. In a group of four or five counties, however—Fond du Lac, Winnebago, Sheboygan, Washington, and Ozaukee—the rains were so excessive that there will be some grain that is too flat and twisted to be able to be harvested. About Fond du Lac the fields are still too wet for harvesting although the grain is ripe. There are frequent reports, not only from the Fond du Lac district but also from other portions of the State, of grain that is down starting to sprout and of some sprouting in the shocks.

CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR AUGUST 1, 1924

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)					Condition, August 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1924 preliminary	1923	Aug. 1, 1924 forecast	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of Aug. 1 forecast compared to 1923 final production	1918-22 average	Unit	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Corn.....	2,253	2,253	73,065	83,361	-12	87,674	Bu.	69	90	89.4
Potatoes.....	250	272	28,125	26,112	+8	31,427	Bu.	90	82	76.0
Tobacco.....	38.7	44.0	43,719	48,092	-9	59,202	Bu.	79	81	83.2
Oats.....	2,590	2,539	106,749	92,166	+16	92,532	Bu.	92	81	80.0
Barley.....	465	465	15,049	13,252	+14	15,989	Bu.	93	82	80.8
Rye.....	309	342	5,315	5,062	+5	6,622	Bu.	17.2 ¹	14.8 ¹	15.5 ²
Winter wheat.....	60	66	1,320	1,122	+18	1,613	Bu.	22.0 ¹	17.0 ¹	19.5 ²
Spring wheat.....	58	53	1,044	848	+23	4,153	Bu.	90	77	72.2
Buckwheat.....	27	28	437	392	+12	503	Bu.	90	75	83.2
Tame hay.....	3,187	3,187	5,512	4,239	+30	4,712	Tons	94	69	85.6
Alfalfa.....	217	155	434	355	+22	231	Tons	2.00 ¹	2.29 ¹	2.59 ²
Dry peas.....	33.3	36.2	510	528	-3	824	Bu.	88	79	81.0
Dry beans.....	10.5	10.0	117	90	+30	128	Bu.	88	83	85.0
Flax for seed.....	8.4	8.0	106	97	+22	67	Bu.	90	83	84.8
Cabbage, commercial.....	13.3	13.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	88	81.2
Sugar beets.....	27.0	20.0	181	122	+48	124	Tons	89	87	84.6
Apples.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	75	67.0
Pasture.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	65	73.2

¹Yield per acre, 1923.²Five-year average yield per acre 1922-18.

Flood damage was done to farms bordering or very close to the Milwaukee River.

Rye has made very good yields, the Wisconsin crop being 5% greater on an acreage 10% less than last year.

Buckwheat has made a thick, vigorous growth. Cabbage, although late, is in thrifty condition. Flood water has drowned out some cabbage fields along the Milwaukee River. The crop had a condition of 90% compared to the 5-year average of 81% on August 1.

POTATOES LOOK PROMISING

Potatoes generally were in good condition all over the State on August 1. Last year conditions were very spotted due to drought areas, but the uniformity of the crop this year is very unusual. Except for a threatening dry spell in the Barron district, the crop has had very favorable weather conditions. Stands were good, and vines made seasonal growth and were thrifty. Condition of the Wisconsin crop is given by crop reporters as 90% of normal, considerably above the average. Good yields were very general two years ago when the condition on August 1 was reported as 92%.

In the late potato growing states the conditions are likewise high but lower than in Wisconsin. Minnesota and Michigan report a condition of 89% of normal; New York

and Maine, 87%. In the far Western States conditions are relatively poor. The forecast for the United States is 399 million bushels compared to last year's production of 412 million bushels.

Excessive rains in a group of seven counties—Fond du Lac, Winnebago, Washington, Sheboygan, Ozaukee and Milwaukee—have caused potatoes to rot in the poorly drained portions of fields in the counties named. Wilted spots in Ozaukee and Washington Counties on August 9 showed root rot more or less advanced.

TOBACCO IS BACKWARD

The tobacco crop in Wisconsin is below average for this date. The crop is especially backward in the Vernon and Crawford district but somewhat further advanced in the southern district. Fields run very uneven and reports are frequent of root rot damage. The August 1 condition was reported as 79% of normal, compared to 83% as the 5-year average condition for this date. Hail damage from recent storms is reported from Vernon County, and poorly drained fields in southern Wisconsin are being given a further setback by cool, wet weather.

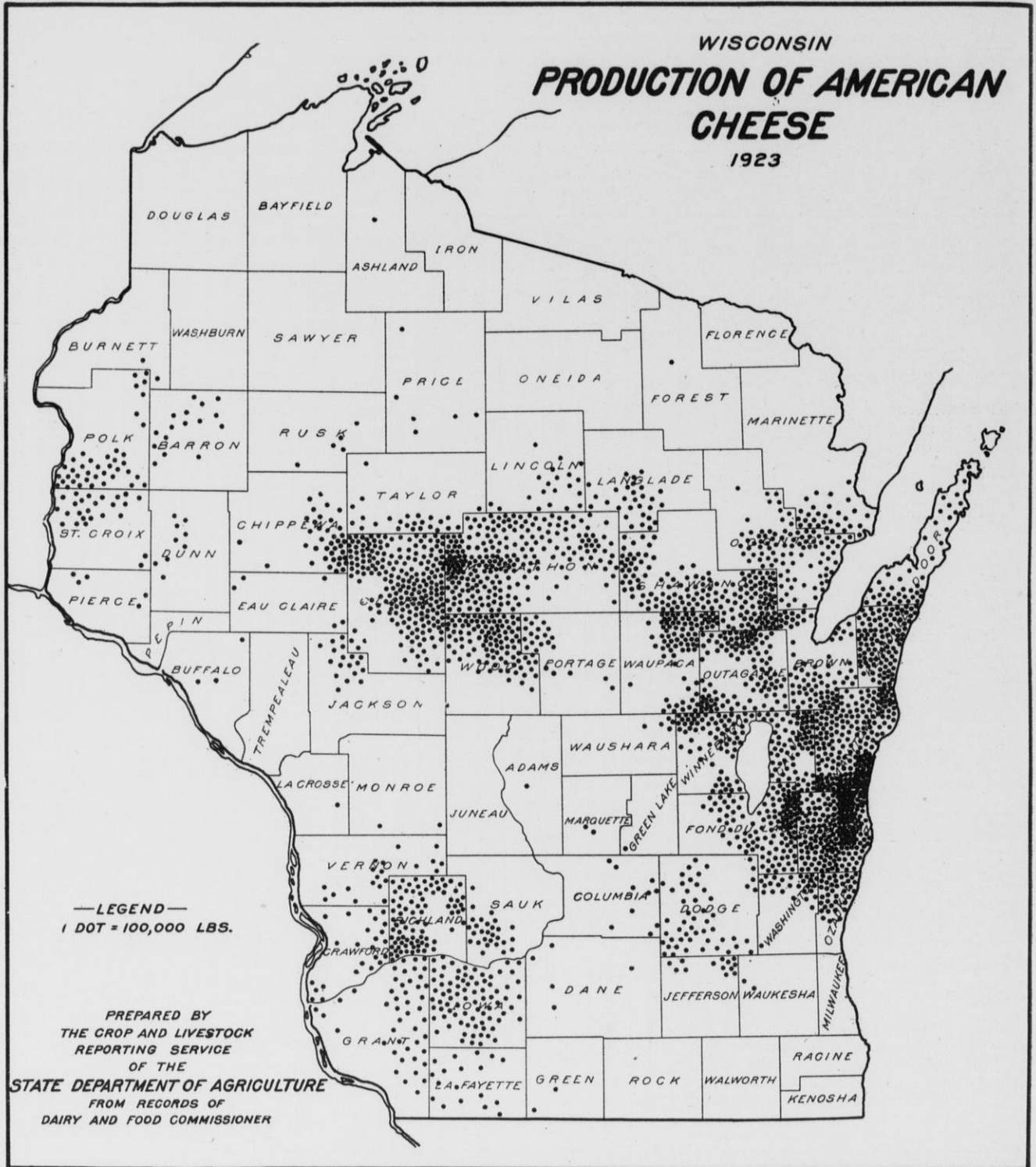
WET WEATHER DAMAGES SOME LATE PEAS

Yields of canning peas have been uniformly big and

CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR AUGUST 1, 1924

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)					Condition, August 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1924 preliminary	1923	Aug. 1, 1924 forecast	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of Aug. 1 forecast compared to 1923 final production	1918-22 average	Unit	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Corn.....	105,604	104,158	2,576,440	3,046,387	-15	2,899,428	Bu.	70.7	84.0	84.5
Potatoes.....	3,753	3,816	398,821	412,392	-3	390,616	Bu.	85.4	80.5	78.5
Tobacco.....	1,702	1,820	1,202,350	1,491,000	-19	1,360,661	Bu.	71.7	83.1	78.0
Oats.....	41,625	40,833	1,439,041	1,299,823	+11	1,302,516	Bu.	88.2	81.9	77.1
Barley.....	7,558	7,905	184,170	198,185	-7	186,036	Bu.	80.7	82.6	78.9
Rye.....	4,337	5,157	65,805	63,023	+4	78,412	Bu.	15.2 ¹	12.2 ¹	13.8 ²
Winter wheat.....	36,898	39,522	589,350	572,340	+3	624,653	Bu.	16.0 ¹	14.5 ¹	14.6 ²
Spring wheat.....	16,920	18,786	224,767	213,401	+5	256,336	Bu.	79.7	69.6	68.8
Buckwheat.....	794	737	15,099	13,920	+8	14,643	Bu.	87.7	82.7	57.7
Tame hay.....	61,020	60,162	89,017	89,098	Same	85,827	Tons	84.4	81.0	87.3

¹Yield per acre, 1923.²Five-year average yield per acre 1922-18.



SEVENTY-FOUR PER CENT OF THE AMERICAN CHEESE MADE IN THE UNITED STATES IS PRODUCED IN THE DOTTED AREAS.

many factories will have record packs. The heavy rains interrupted operations in the Sheboygan-Ozaukee district and fields have remained too soft and wet to enable harvesting the crop at the right stage for canning. A part of the canning pea acreage accordingly had to be left for seed in this district.

There are some excellent fields of sugar beets in eastern Wisconsin with the condition of the entire crop 5% above the 5-year average. The acreage is one-third larger than last year.

Frequent rains have put pastures in very good condition and practically assure liberal grazing for the fall months.

INTENDED PLANTINGS OF WINTER WHEAT AND RYE

Farmers in the United States express an intention to plan an acreage of winter wheat $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ greater than was planted last fall and 14% more rye than was planted last fall. Wisconsin farmers indicated the same percentage changes for both crops.

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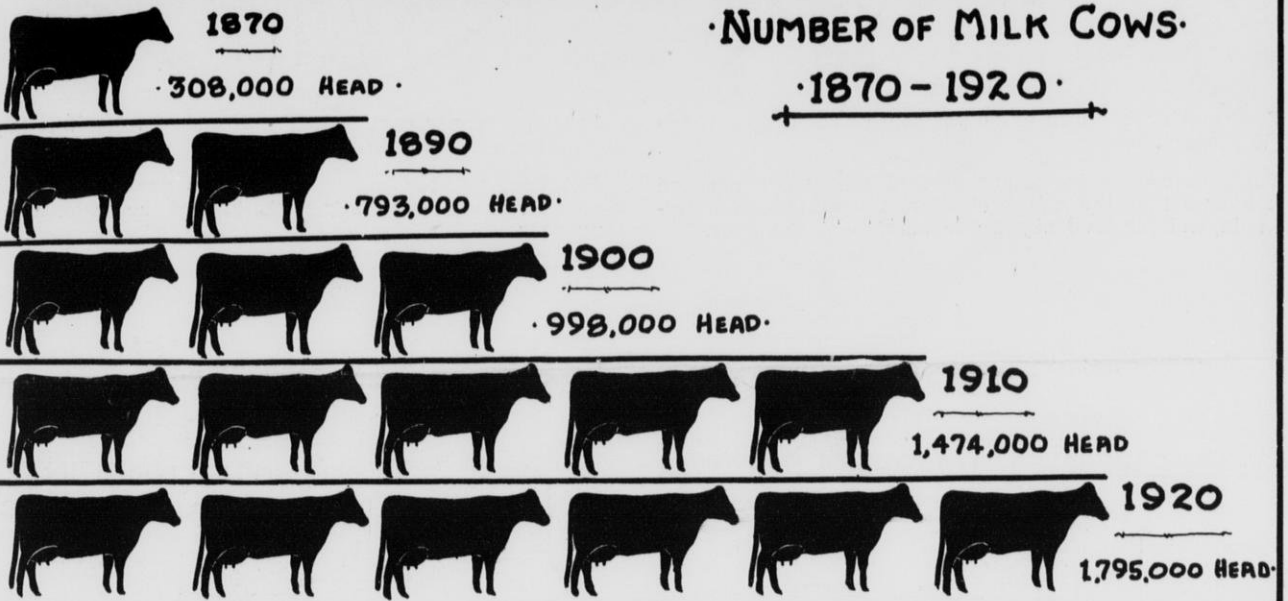
NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW EDITION

A GRAPHIC REVIEW OF WISCONSIN DAIRYING

GROWTH OF WISCONSIN'S DAIRY HERD

NUMBER OF MILK COWS

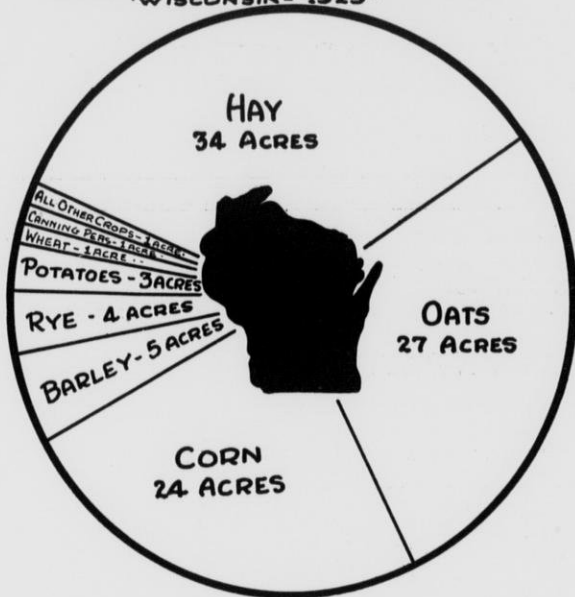
1870 - 1920



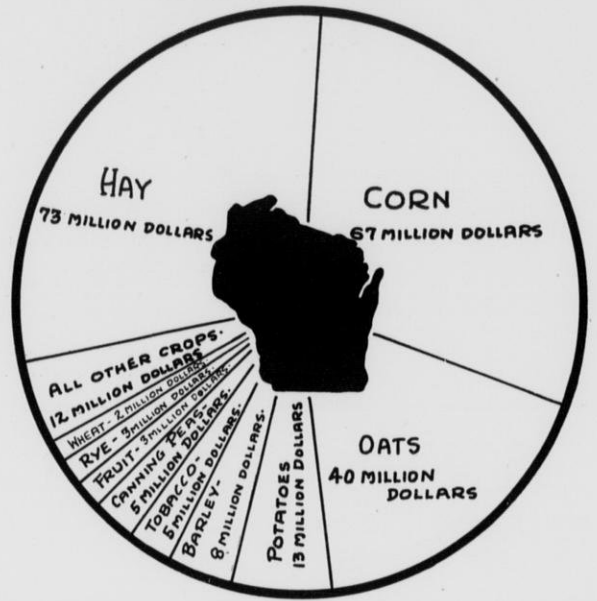
There are now six times as many cows in the state as there were fifty years ago.



ACREAGE OF LEADING CROPS FOR EACH 100 ACRES OF CROPPED LAND WISCONSIN - 1923



FARM VALUE OF CROPS IN WISCONSIN - DECEMBER 1, 1923



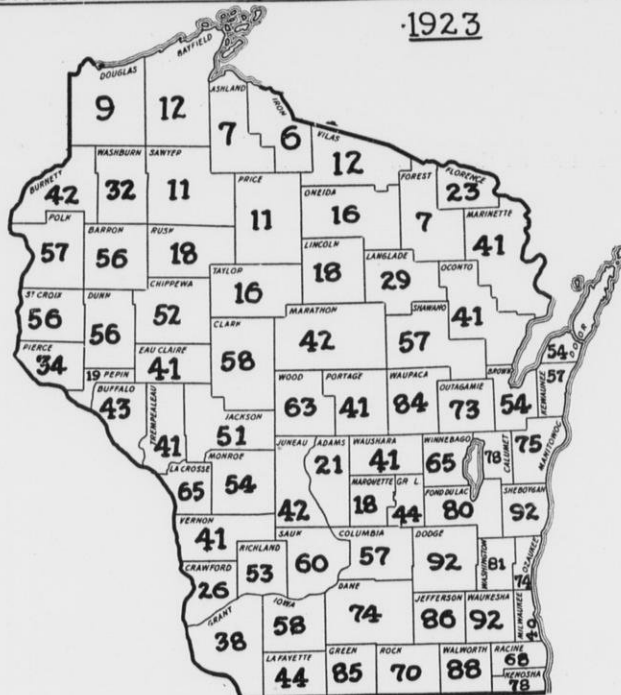
Feed crops are grown on 90 per cent of the crop acreage in Wisconsin.

Pastures are an important part of the state's acreage not included in the above chart and upon which dairymen depend for feed about five months of the year.

Seventy-five per cent of last year's crop value was kept on the farm to be fed to live stock.

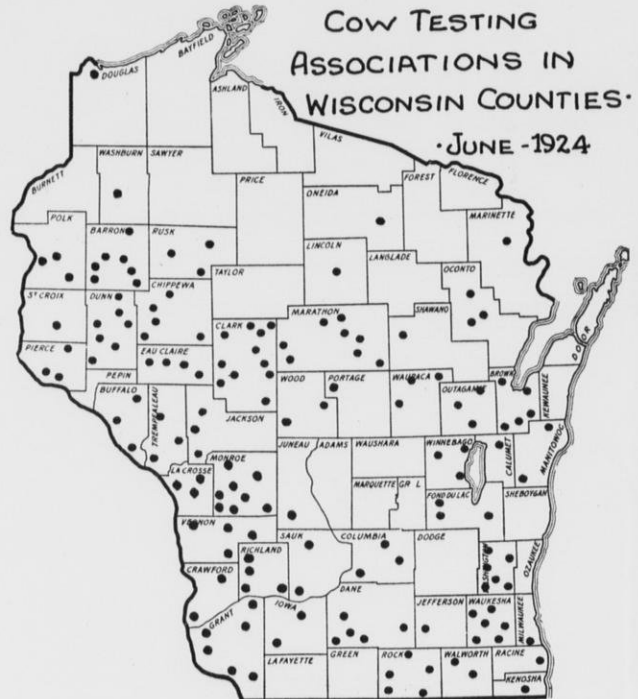
Potatoes, tobacco and canning peas are leading cash crops. Wisconsin normally packs half of the nation's canning peas.

THE NUMBER OF SILOS FOR EVERY 100 FARMS IN WISCONSIN COUNTIES - 1923



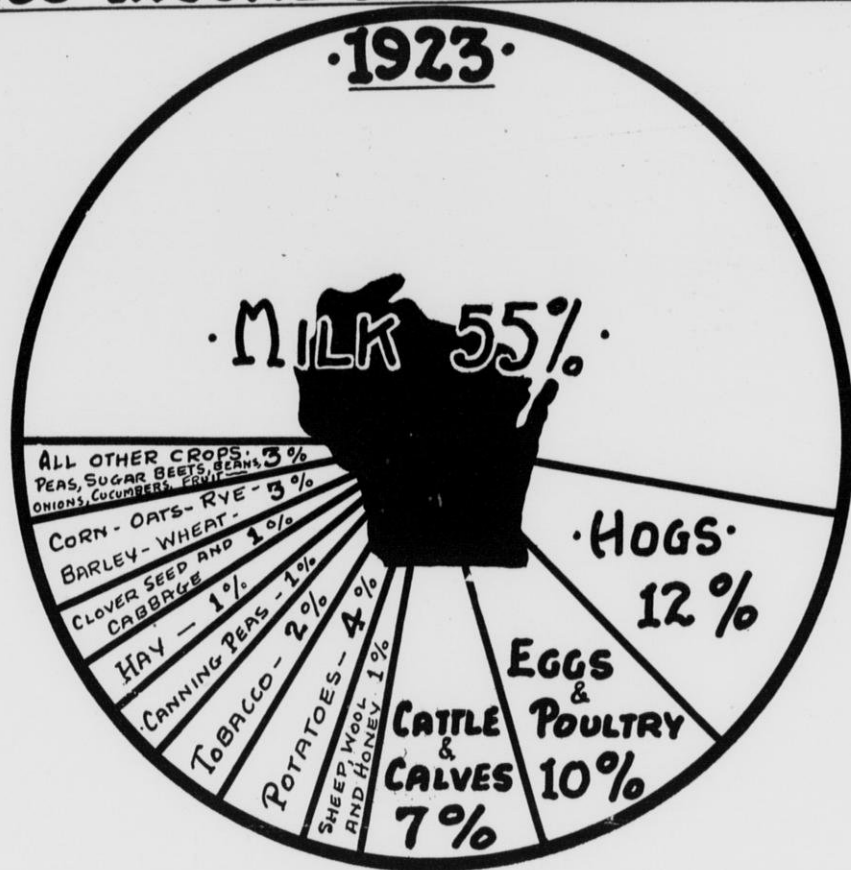
More than 100,000 silos aid Wisconsin farmers to feed succulent corn silage when cows are not on pasture. One million acres of corn—almost one-half of the corn acreage of the State—are cut for silage.

COW TESTING ASSOCIATIONS IN WISCONSIN COUNTIES - JUNE - 1924



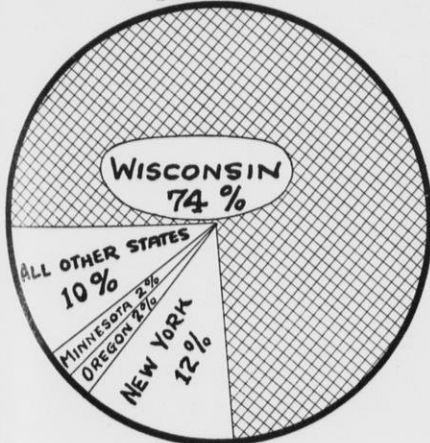
4,471 Wisconsin dairymen in 162 cow testing associations are keeping production and feed records of their cows. Ninety-five per cent of these dairymen are using pure-bred sires. The average production per cow is 273 pounds of butterfat and 7,106 pounds of milk. Twenty-three per cent of all the associations in the United States are concentrated in Wisconsin.

SOURCES OF THE GROSS INCOME OF WISCONSIN FARMS



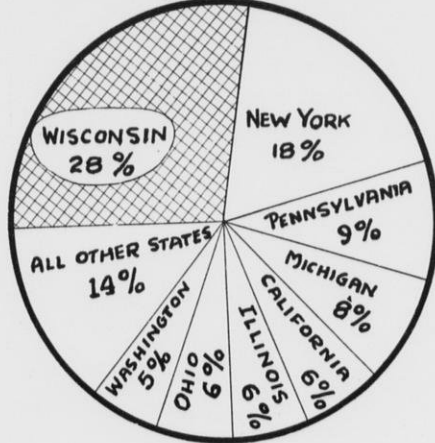
Monthly milk checks make up more than one-half of the total gross income of Wisconsin farms. Skimmilk and whey bring additional returns as part of the hog sales. Receipts from calves and cattle are likewise closely related to the dairy income. Eighty-five per cent of the 1923 income came from live stock and live stock products—only 15 per cent from cash crops. The growing of cash crops is quite specialized in different districts of the State. There is a considerable variety of these crops—potatoes, tobacco, canning peas, hay, clover seed, cabbage, rye, and sugar beets. The value of the groups represented in the chart are: Milk, \$187,857,000; hogs, \$41,181,000; eggs and poultry, \$33,482,000; cattle and calves, \$25,556,000; sheep and wool, \$2,415,000; honey, \$1,262,000; potatoes, \$13,056,000; tobacco, \$5,320,000; canning peas, \$4,707,000; hay, \$3,603,000; clover seed, \$1,968,000; cabbage, \$1,403,000; grains, \$11,936,000; fruits, \$3,475,000; all other crops, \$5,635,000.

U.S. PRODUCTION OF AMERICAN CHEESE - 1923 -



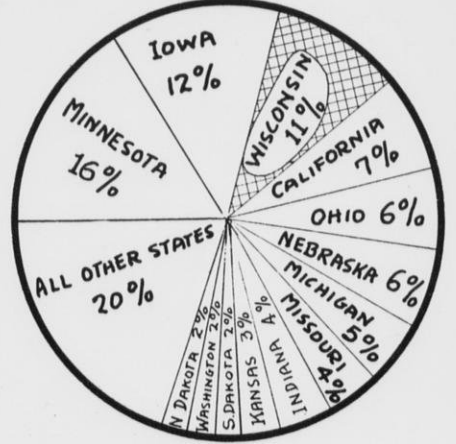
Wisconsin leads in the manufacture of American cheese, making 74% of the U. S. total.

U.S. PRODUCTION OF CONDENSED & EVAPORATED MILK - 1923 -



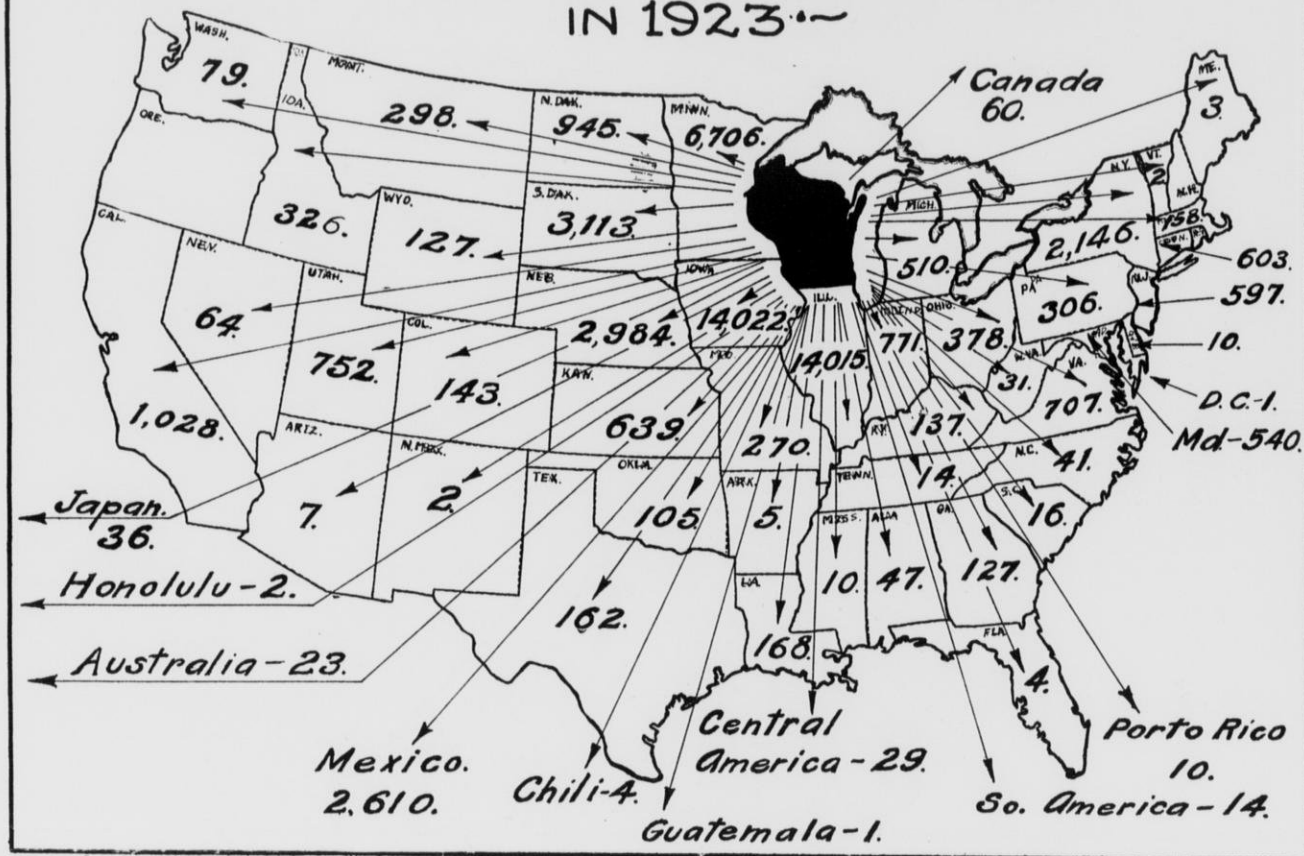
Wisconsin is first in the production of condensed and evaporated milk.

U.S. PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER - 1923 -



Wisconsin makes 11% of the creamery butter of the U. S., being surpassed in amount by Minnesota and Iowa.

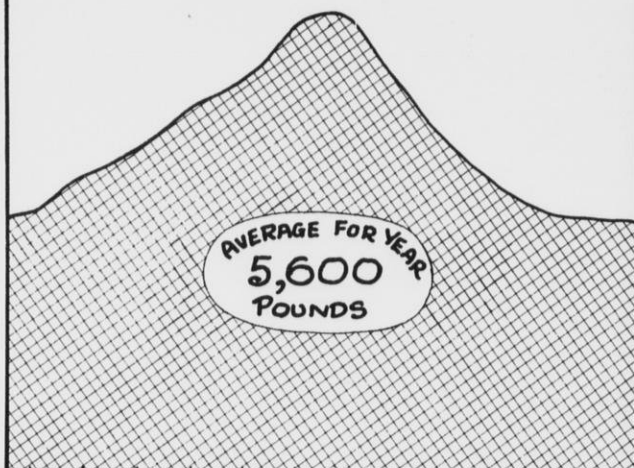
WHERE 56,000 WISCONSIN DAIRY CATTLE WERE SHIPPED IN 1923



Forty-five states and eight foreign countries bought dairy cattle in Wisconsin last year. Weather conditions for shipping and the convenience of buyers as to time and traveling make the fall months the most active buying season.

MILK PRODUCTION PER COW ON 450 WISCONSIN FARMS

CROP REPORTERS OF STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

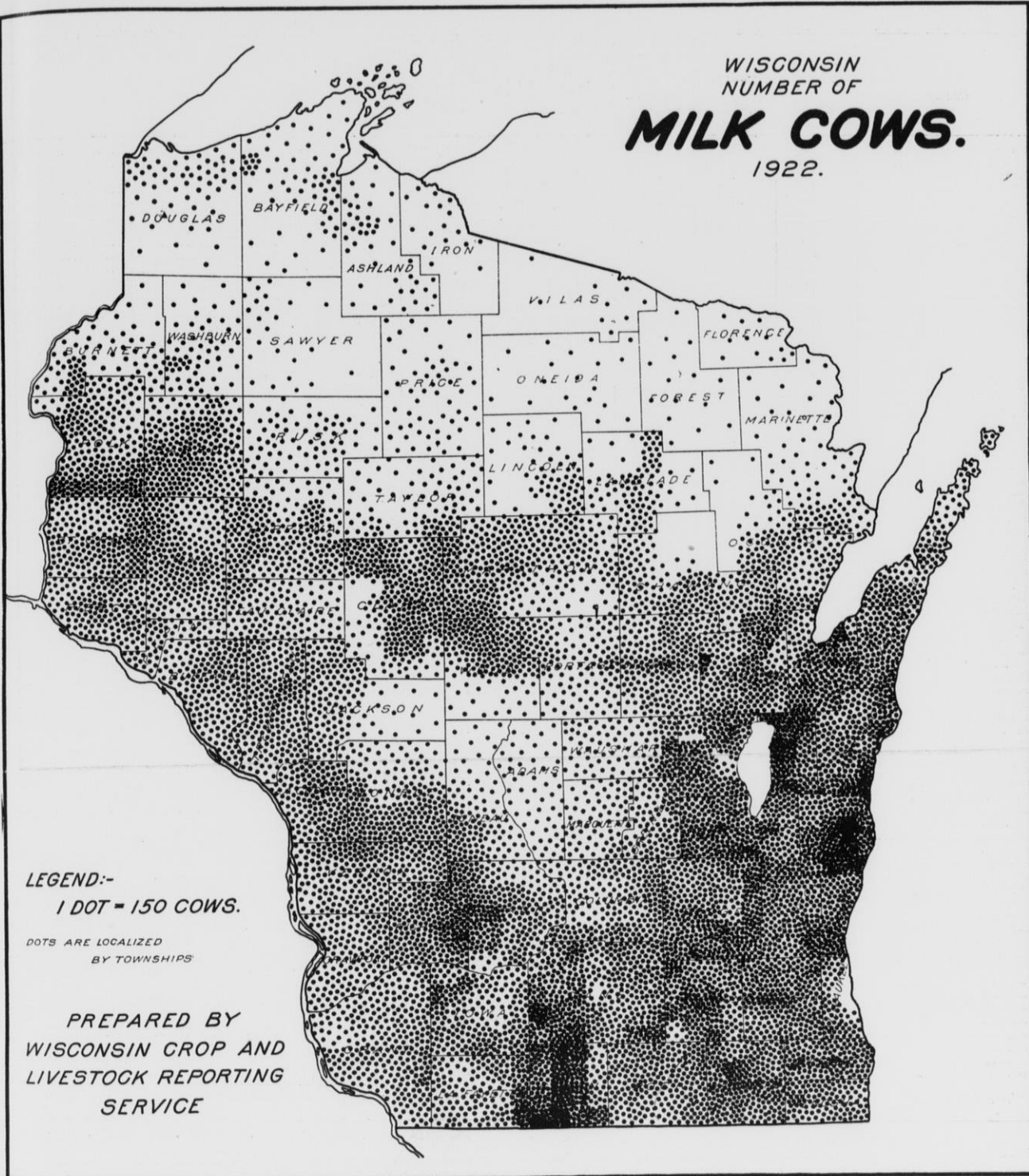


Milk production is greatest in June. Crop Reporters distributed throughout the state report an average production per cow of 20.4 pounds on June 1, 20.8 pounds on July 1, and the lowest production on January 1 of 11.4 pounds.



The butter district in Wisconsin is represented by the black shaded area. The cross lined area is a more or less undeveloped agricultural belt across the State.

WISCONSIN NUMBER OF MILK COWS. 1922.



Wisconsin is first in number of dairy cattle with 2,217,000 dairy cows and heifers on January 1, 1924. Dairy development has been especially rapid in a belt across the state from Green Bay to Polk County.

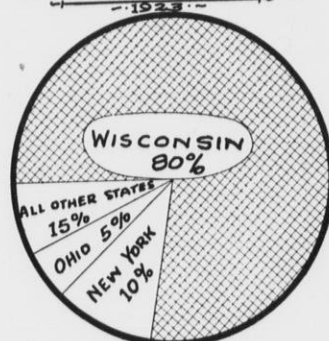


COUNTY DAIRY STATISTICS

County	Number of farms 1919 census	Number of silos May, 1923	Number of dairy cows and heifers (1 year old and over) Jan. 1, 1924	Milk production 1923 pounds	Value of milk production 1923	Production of creamery butter 1923 pounds (1)	Production of American cheese 1923 pounds (1)	Production of brick cheese 1923 pounds (1)	Production of Swiss cheese 1923 pounds (1)	Production of Limberger cheese 1923 pounds (1)
Adams	1,557	311	10,400	34,608,000	\$671,000	316,333	15,721	72,389		
Ashland	1,131	81	7,700	30,996,000	604,000	765,369	77,721			
Barron	4,516	2,348	50,900	215,134,000	4,389,000	6,340,953	2,637,959	3,095,157	209,301	
Bayfield	1,791	225	10,000	40,880,000	834,000	1,214,593				
Brown	3,498	1,783	39,300	168,960,000	3,430,000	5,817,282	8,397,058			
Buffalo	2,089	887	33,100	118,898,000	2,378,000	4,007,644	334,843	22,082		
Burnett	1,872	721	14,200	55,404,000	1,097,000	1,591,352	154,555			
Calumet	2,087	1,590	28,400	121,890,000	2,572,000	24,404	7,621,674			
Chippewa	3,729	1,880	46,700	189,000,000	3,856,000	3,631,405	3,746,955			
Clark	5,116	2,894	68,000	285,784,000	5,601,000	832,561	21,196,142	485,112		
Columbia	3,320	1,783	34,400	141,520,000	2,929,000	2,847,728	1,216,432	3,842,037	7,843	
Crawford	1,911	510	23,900	81,180,000	1,567,000	1,118,277	2,327,841			
Dane	6,217	4,406	89,200	378,504,000	7,911,000	5,731,208	878,402	2,055,718	3,788,480	620,024
Dodge	4,633	4,172	77,500	340,464,000	7,184,000	5,688,936	7,083,657	16,209,435	917,604	11,484
Door	2,396	1,073	22,300	90,428,000	1,836,000	121,915	4,342,610			
Douglas	1,557	152	8,500	34,238,000	716,000	688,951				
Dunn	3,566	1,942	45,100	173,118,000	3,462,000	6,085,293	1,161,114	279,079	10,273	
Eau Claire	2,308	908	24,800	93,400,000	1,887,000	2,514,221	563,424	7,898		
Florence	349	105	2,300	9,082,000	173,000	130,160	110,874			
Fond du Lac	4,190	3,204	59,700	247,464,000	5,024,000	4,043,226	11,519,928	674,028		
Forest	535	45	2,600	10,101,000	198,000					
Grant	4,022	1,564	42,700	163,769,000	3,177,000	4,926,264	4,756,139	16,576		
Green	2,330	2,060	50,800	225,680,000	4,875,000	231,313	350,493	1,725,181	7,276,167	2,980,257
Green Lake	1,507	668	18,400	69,611,000	1,385,000	1,386,505	62,738	583,976		
Iowa	2,527	1,468	44,200	171,450,000	3,343,000	1,300,540	6,984,298	383,366	3,334,903	
Iron	381	39	2,600	9,520,000	199,000	212,657				
Jackson	2,577	1,233	28,100	95,598,000	1,960,000	2,965,575	1,797,446			
Jefferson	3,263	2,774	52,600	243,264,000	5,230,000	2,606,410	800,190	892,050		
Juneau	2,479	945	24,200	78,440,000	1,553,000	2,604,825	134,666			
Kenosha	1,383	996	17,800	81,624,000	2,032,000	108,798				
Kewaunee	2,065	1,134	23,600	95,918,000	1,938,000	121,552	9,967,425			
La Crosse	1,720	1,084	28,000	111,342,000	2,327,000	4,944,309	110,190	169,819		
Lafayette	2,360	1,045	35,200	136,350,000	2,686,000	828,221	1,993,445	422,868	4,971,119	259,654
Langlade	1,780	490	15,200	62,464,000	1,193,000	886,917	2,989,425		62,780	
Langdon	1,586	310	14,700	57,477,000	1,115,000	732,229	2,797,336	154,098		
Lincoln	3,901	2,740	47,100	209,088,000	4,224,000	820,602	19,354,445			
Manitowoc	6,058	2,562	70,100	283,630,000	5,559,000	1,641,533	23,424,593			
Marathon	2,531	1,013	18,600	72,063,000	1,420,000	546,446	3,138,269			
Marinette	1,432	291	13,500	48,730,000	950,000	1,271,157	83,719	99,889		
Marquette	2,574	680	12,200	62,016,000	1,606,000	6,636,472				
Milwaukee	3,519	1,785	43,500	161,458,000	3,455,000	6,838,526	177,445			
Monroe	3,114	1,276	28,500	113,448,000	2,190,000	723,369	9,514,295			
Oconto	724	152	3,600	14,220,000	283,000	279,749				
Oneida	3,746	2,589	46,600	198,744,000	4,015,000	490,620	9,993,972	26,220		
Outagamie	1,727	1,280	20,800	96,288,000	2,157,000	236,475	3,859,831			
Ozaukee	1,034	185	10,000	36,450,000	733,000	2,077,339				
Pepin	3,105	1,020	30,600	119,022,000	2,440,000	4,441,980	515,400			
Pierce	4,058	2,278	44,300	176,760,000	3,553,000	5,371,714	3,161,935	742,760	6,762	
Polk	3,326	1,294	26,100	100,064,000	2,031,000	2,543,160	2,329,162			
Portage	1,935	230	12,300	49,600,000	967,000	1,236,062	788,391			
Price	2,215	1,388	25,300	118,810,000	2,840,000	366,406				
Racine	2,533	1,250	40,300	163,530,000	3,320,000	802,641	7,852,361			
Richland	3,660	2,540	44,300	196,560,000	4,521,000	1,980,359	128,051	154,874	613,431	380,549
Rusk	1,946	355	14,300	44,660,000	889,000	1,068,748	1,027,127	153,288	35,926	55,444
St. Croix	3,290	1,860	46,600	177,008,000	3,664,000	5,343,074	2,446,147	380,822		
Sauk	3,697	2,151	50,500	194,502,000	4,007,000	5,472,740	2,890,273	57,984		
Sawyer	823	144	4,400	16,800,000	323,000	387,832				
Shawano	3,977	2,169	44,800	186,294,000	3,614,000	301,744	15,509,871	540,866		
Sheboygan	3,664	3,280	48,700	213,089,000	4,326,000	2,468,005	19,442,688			
Taylor	2,260	410	19,500	78,368,000	1,528,000	1,943,860	2,147,039			
Trempealeau	3,138	1,286	39,000	142,333,000	2,946,000	6,100,849	40,528			
Vernon	4,101	1,520	42,000	160,515,000	3,162,000	4,760,561	1,945,405			
Vilas	417	65	1,700	6,496,000	124,000	122,218				
Walworth	2,779	2,362	48,000	222,630,000	5,299,000	517,419				
Washburn	1,380	432	9,400	36,225,000	696,000	525,776				
Washington	2,799	2,230	32,400	151,716,000	3,338,000	438,719	2,725,180	1,632,462		
Waukesha	3,406	2,914	46,400	212,704,000	5,233,000	355,865	325,704	532,523	397,001	
Waupaca	3,770	3,008	44,000	187,452,000	3,899,000	2,672,512	7,983,696			
Waushara	2,468	940	20,700	78,604,000	1,564,000	1,726,961	336,520			
Winnebago	2,711	1,720	35,100	147,795,000	3,000,000	2,579,263	6,777,263	124,619		19,897
Wood	3,065	1,831	34,700	133,950,000	2,652,000	1,527,901	10,511,004			
Total for state	189,295	100,060	2,217,000	9,075,182,000	\$187,860,000	148,989,584	264,597,185	35,537,156	21,631,590	4,327,370

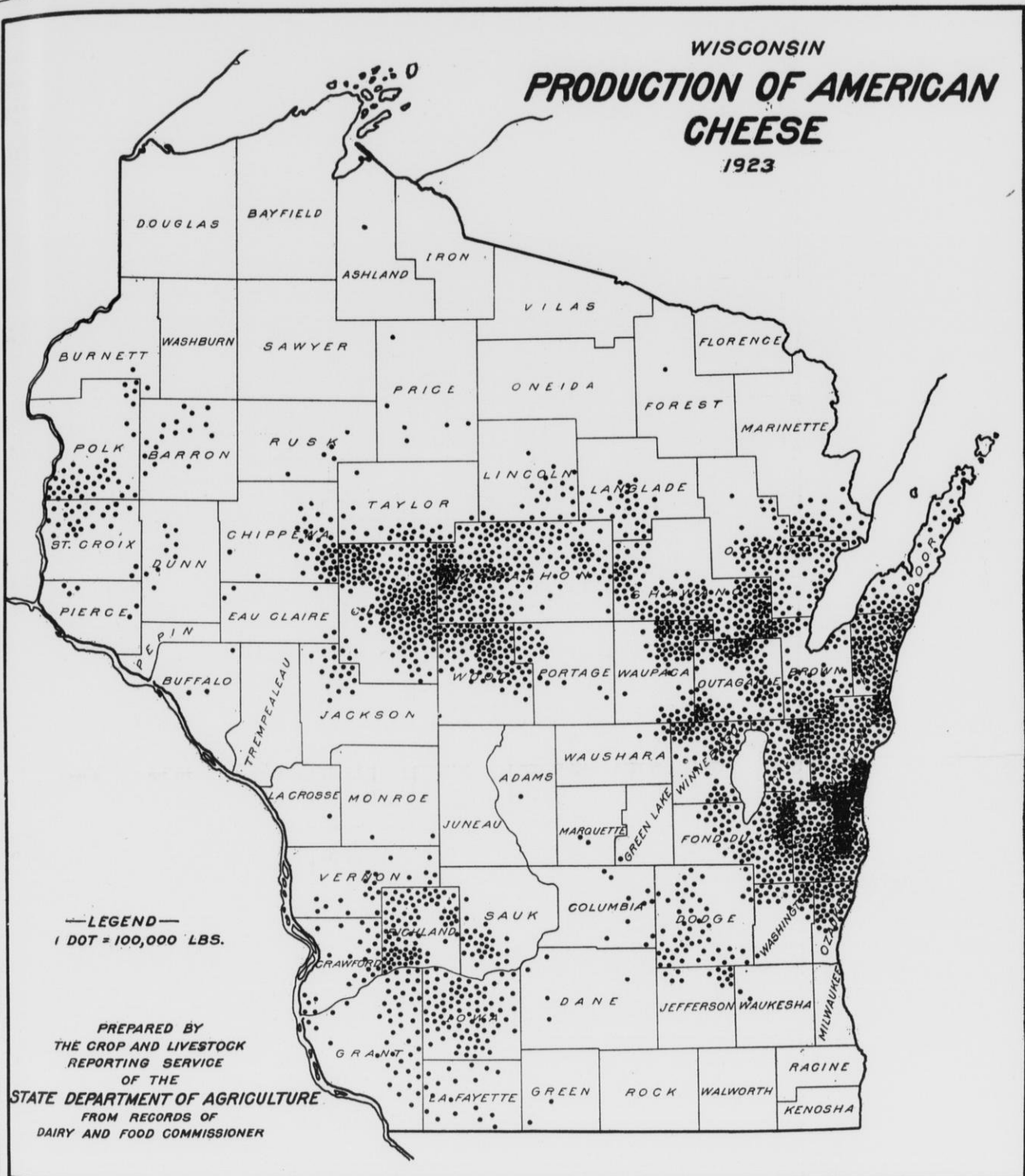
(1) Compiled by Dairy and Food Commissioner.

U.S. PRODUCTION OF SWISS, BRICK, MUNSTER & LIMBERGER CHEESE - 1923

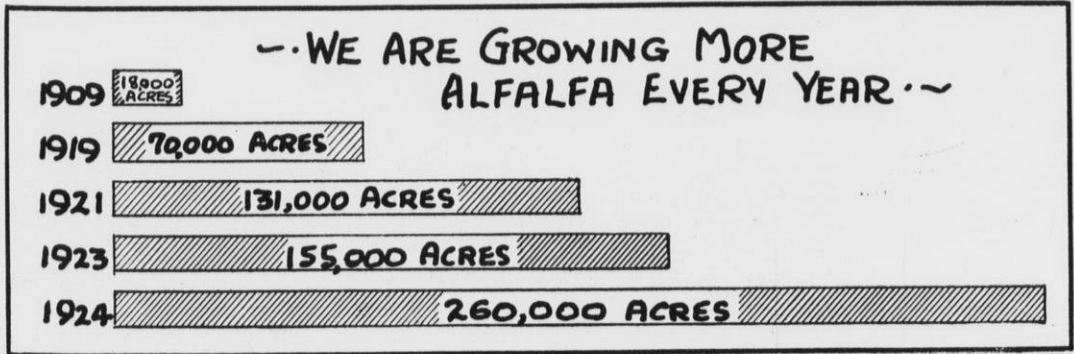


Wisconsin leads in foreign cheese.



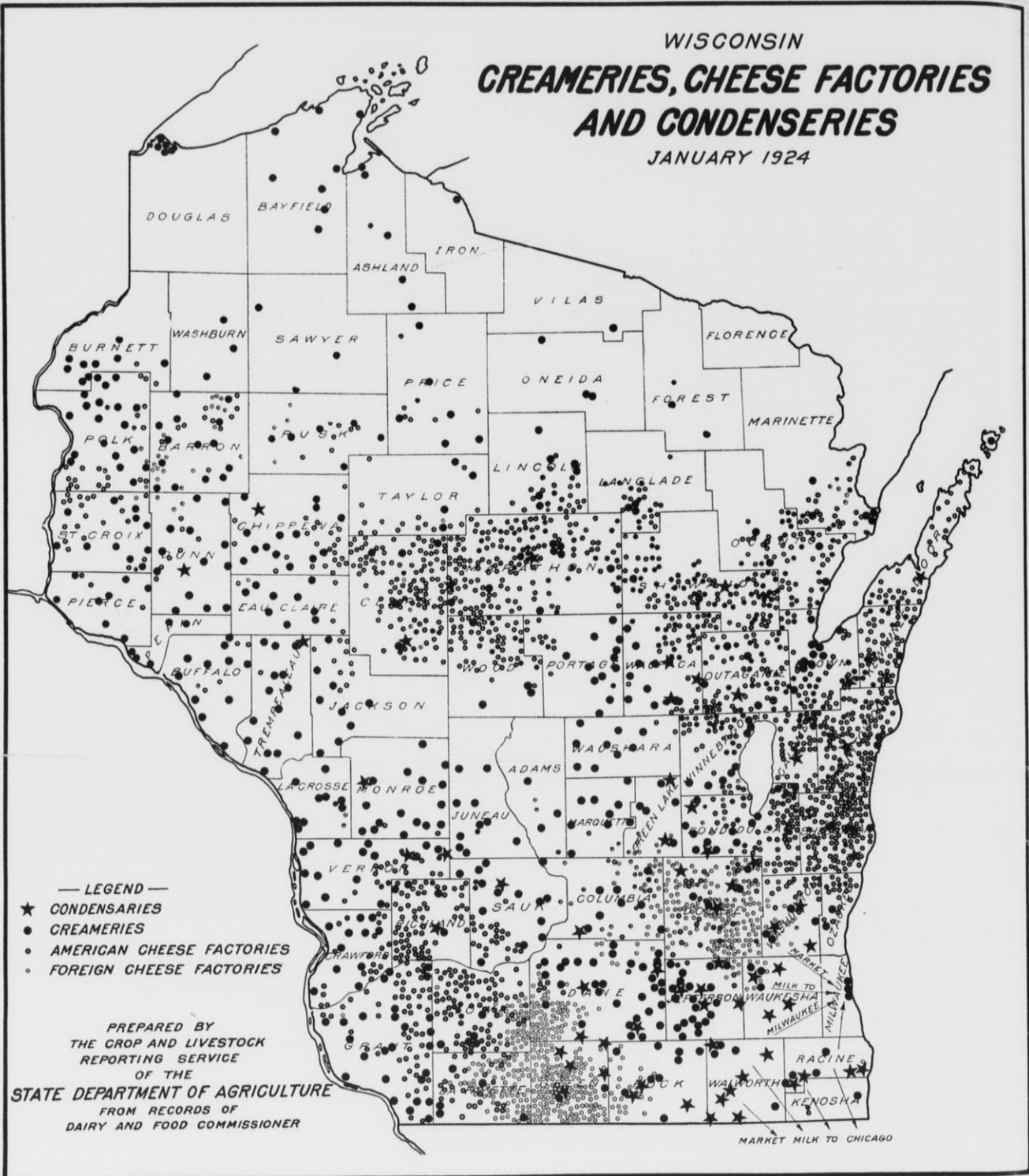


265,000,000 pounds of American cheese—74% of the nation's total—are produced in the dotted areas.



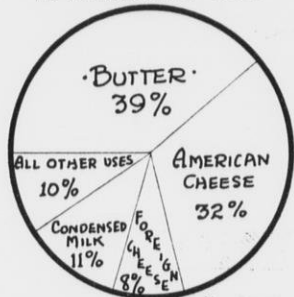
Wisconsin dairymen are eager to grow more alfalfa hay.

WISCONSIN
**CREAMERIES, CHEESE FACTORIES
 AND CONDENSERIES**
 JANUARY 1924



2,504 cheese factories, 611 creameries, 67 condenseries, and 815 receiving stations operate in handling Wisconsin's production of dairy products valued in 1923 at \$245,000,000.

**COMMERCIAL USES OF MILK
 IN WISCONSIN—1923**



Milk finds many uses in Wisconsin



3W7
153
3
8

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
H. C. TAYLOR, Chief

WISCONSIN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics
J. D. JONES, Jr., Commissioner

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

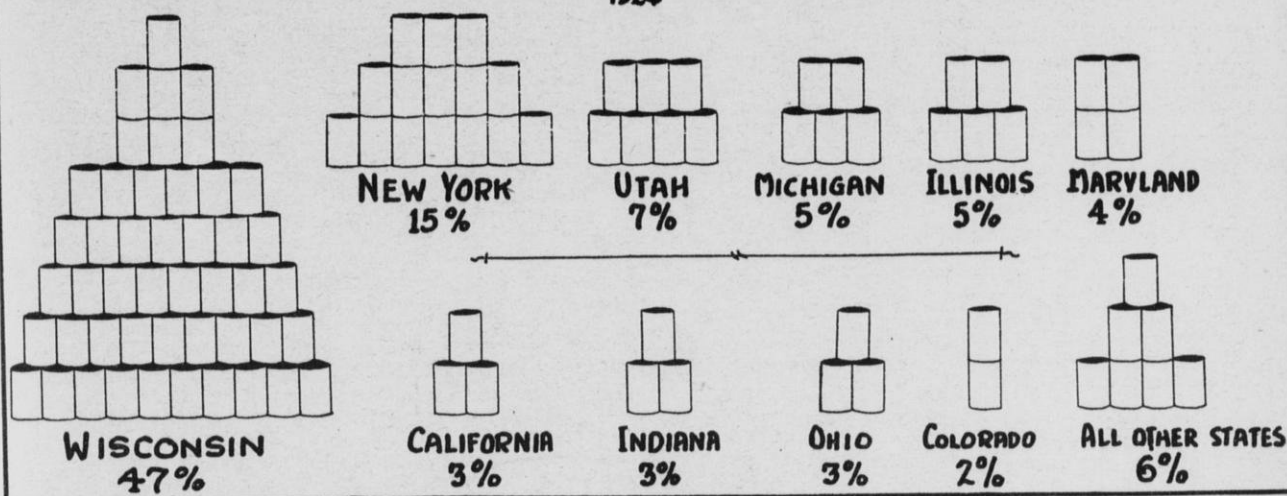
Vol. III. No. 8

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

September, 1924

WISCONSIN PRODUCES 47% OF THE NATION'S CANNING PEAS

1924



CORN NEEDS WARM WEATHER

Corn is from two to three weeks late, and ripe corn is dependent on warm weather and late frosts. Fields vary greatly, but in general the crop has made a very satisfactory growth of forage. Most of the acreage, however, is still in the milk stage. On the sandy soils of central Wisconsin the crop is further advanced and seed and crib corn is practically certain. There are many extremely poor fields that cannot make even good silage yields, but for the most part fields carry an unusually high percentage of big, well developed ears and give promise of heavy yields of ear corn if the crop matures. Crop reporters judged the condition on September 1st to be 25% below the five-year average.

POTATOES MAKING GOOD YIELDS

Potatoes have been promising throughout the season and continue so, with the exception of a district from Oshkosh to Milwaukee. Excessive rains in that section in early August caused considerable rotting. Indications are that the number of potatoes in a hill is not unusually large, but that the tubers will make good size and that the field run will contain a very small per cent of small potatoes.

The condition of the Wisconsin crop on September 1st was 89% of normal compared to 76% last year. The production forecast is 31,000,000 bushels compared to 26,000,000 bushels last year.

Killing frosts occurred in the Oneida County district on September 6th and 9th. The yields that were in prospect in that district have accordingly been reduced. Planting, however, is early in that district and reports state that average yields may be secured, in spite of the early frost.

August weather favored the crop in most of the potato growing states, so that the August forecast for the United States is 413,000,000 bushels, which is almost the same as last year's production of 412,000,000 bushels. The crop in

the western states is poor, but the prospect in the northern states is uniformly good.

HAY AND GRAIN CROPS HELP DAIRYMEN

Heavy rains in eastern Wisconsin lodged grain and greatly delayed harvesting. Yields of oats and barley that were in sight on August 1st were accordingly reduced somewhat. Weather conditions were also poor for grain that was in the shock. However, in spite of the difficulty of harvesting, yields are above average. The total production of these two feed crops is about 12% above last year. This fact, together with a big hay crop, strengthens the position of Wisconsin dairymen in the face of a small crop of ripe corn.

Clover has made a heavy second growth. Catches of clover in the new seedings are uniformly excellent and pastures are providing abundant feed.

TOBACCO CROP ONE-THIRD LESS THAN LAST YEAR

A number of factors have brought about a short tobacco crop. Cool and wet weather, wind and hail—have all inflicted damage. A considerable acreage is extremely small and spindly. The condition is estimated to be 59% of normal compared to an average condition of 85%. A crop of about 33,000,000 pounds is in prospect compared to last year's harvested crop of 48,000,000 pounds.

A BIG PACK OF CANNING PEAS

The pack of canning peas in Wisconsin and in the United States this year is the largest on record. The Wisconsin estimate of 10,210,000 cases is 18% above the record 1922 pack of 8,650,000 cases.

The United States crop is 31% above 1922 and 46% above last year. The big crop in the United States is due to a 13% increase in acreage and a 25% larger yield per acre than last year.

CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 1924

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)					Condition, September 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1924 pre- liminary	1923	Sept. 1, 1924 forecast	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of Sept. 1 fore- cast compared to 1923 final production	1918-22 average	Unit	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Corn.....	2,253	2,253	70,294	83,361	-16	87,674	Bu.	65	87	89.2
Potatoes.....	250	272	30,038	26,112	+15	31,427	Bu.	89	76	70.4
Tobacco.....	38.7	44.0	32,651	48,092	-32	59,202	Lbs.	59	85	85.4
Oats.....	2,590	2,539	103,704	92,166	+12	92,532	Bu.	88	81	78.6
Barley.....	465	465	14,692	13,252	+11	15,989	Bu.	89	81	79.6
Spring wheat.....	58	53	1,060	848	+25	4,153	Bu.	87	74	65.4
Buckwheat.....	27	28	424	392	+8	503	Bu.	84	82	82.2
Tame hay.....	3,187	3,187	5,454	4,239	+29	4,712	Tons	93	70	.....
Alfalfa.....	217	155	434	355	+22	231	Tons	2.00 ¹	2.29 ¹	2.59 ²
Dry peas.....	33.3	36.2	509	528	-4	824	Bu.	15.3 ¹	14.6 ¹	15.4 ¹
Dry beans.....	10.5	10.0	115	90	+28	128	Bu.	81	79	83.2
Flaxseed.....	8.4	8.0	103	97	18	67	Bu.	85	85	84.2 ³
Cabbage, commercial.....	13.3	13.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	80	78.0
Sugar beets.....	27.0	20.0	170	170	Same	166	.....	84	85	86.0
Apples.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57	80	70.0
Pasture.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	94	64	72.0

¹Average yield per acre.
²Five-year average yield, 1918-22.
³Four-year average.

SEED CORN SITUATION

Prof. R. A. Moore, College of Agriculture

The seed corn situation may be extremely serious this year. However, corn is growing at a rapid rate, and if we can have two or three more weeks we will secure a good supply of seed. To be on the safe side, every farmer growing standard varieties of corn should save as much seed as he can possibly secure.

If we have a killing frost before corn has ripened, the corn should be gathered as quickly as possible after the frost. The greatest harm that comes to corn after the frost has killed the leaves comes from leaving the ears on the stalks. The quicker the ears are picked and put in the drying room the better. Corn that is merely dented, even though it carries considerable moisture, will make fair seed if properly kiln dried. Extreme care must be used in having plenty of ventilation in drying.

On account of the great shortage of corn which is in prospect in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio there will undoubtedly be a great demand for seed corn, and I sincerely hope that Wisconsin farmers will have an abundant supply to furnish the call which will undoubtedly come to us for kiln dried seed of the standard varieties.

BETTER TIMES FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

The expected sometimes happens. Agriculture has traveled a long lane of distress, but the upturn in wheat and hogs plus well sustained cotton prices have brought it to a turn in the road. As things stand, it looks as though most of the major crops might have a higher gross value than last year. This has been widely heralded, numerous urban spokesmen having been busily counting the farmers' blessings ever since corn was knee high.

Wheat Prices.

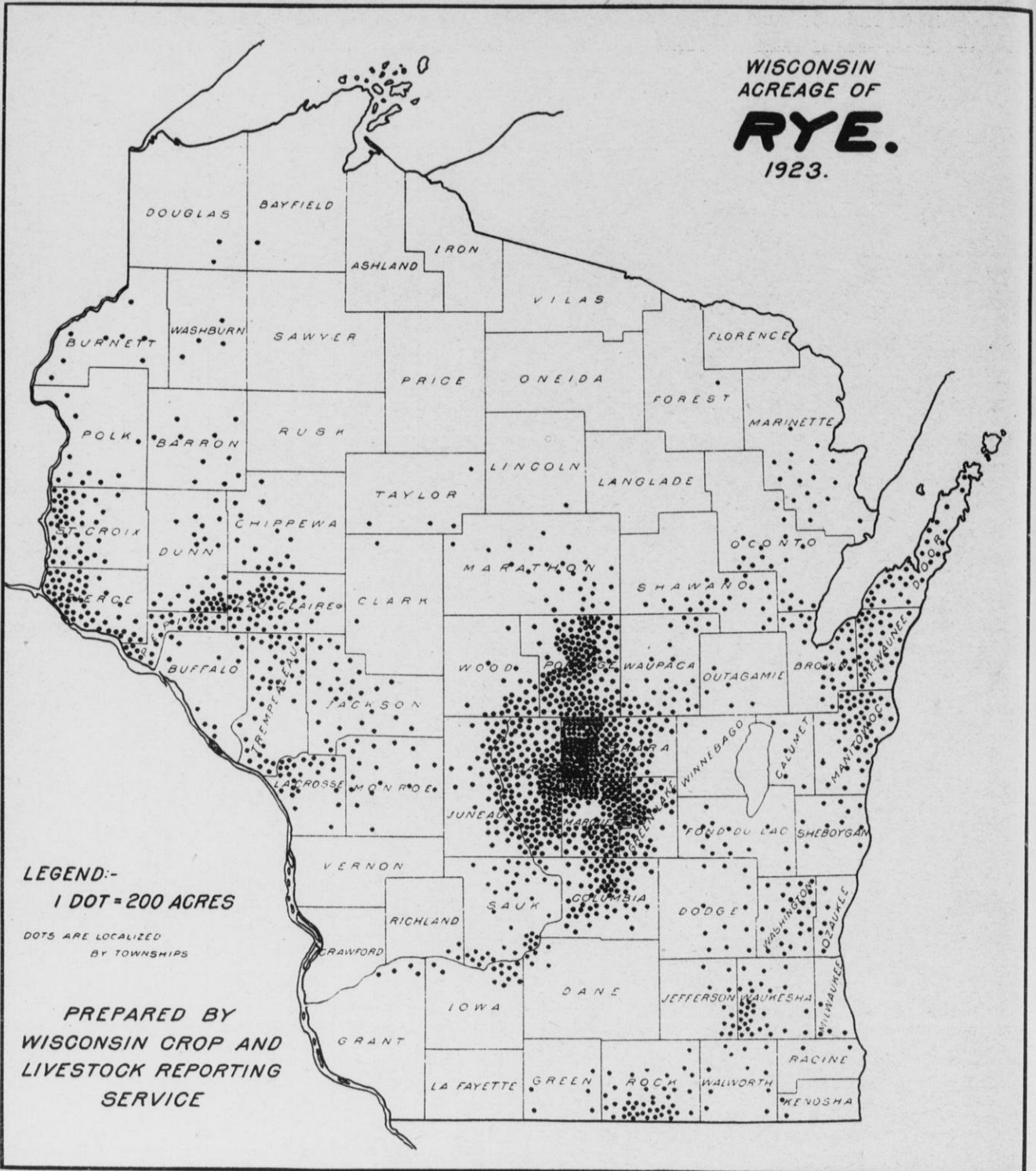
The wheat situation has certainly changed since last fall, when growers were wondering where they could borrow enough more money to pay their taxes. The country-wide yield will apparently run over 15 bushels per acre, the best in six years, and for once the price improved in time to help the producer. The rise in price may probably be attributed to a short Canadian crop as much as any one factor. It was a curious freak of weather that cut the yield so sharply a few miles north of our border yet gave us a crop better than usual. Movement of wheat has been heavy and accomplished with no little credit to the railroads.

The other major money crops also give good promise, on the whole. Potatoes and fruit are on the way to good

CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 1924

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)					Condition, September 1 Per Cent of Normal		
	1924 pre- liminary	1923	Sept. 1, 1924 forecast	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of Sept. 1 fore- cast compared to 1923 final production	1918-22 average	Unit	1924	1923	1919-23 average
Corn.....	105,604	104,158	2,512,888	3,046,387	-18	2,899,428	Bu.	66.4	83.3	84.1
Potatoes.....	3,753	3,816	412,761	412,392	Same	390,616	Bu.	83.9	77.7	75.0
Tobacco.....	1,702	1,820	1,195,099	1,491,000	-20	1,360,661	Lbs.	70.6	86.6	77.9
Oats.....	41,625	40,833	1,486,412	1,298,823	+24	1,302,516	Bu.	89.3	80.3	75.5
Barley.....	7,558	7,905	194,455	198,185	-2	186,036	Bu.	82.5	79.5	76.2
Spring wheat.....	16,920	18,786	247,404	213,401	+16	256,336	Bu.	82.3	85.1	68.1
Buckwheat.....	794	737	15,152	13,920	+9	14,643	Bu.	86.0	80.5	86.6
Tame hay.....	61,020	60,162	88,454	89,098	-1	85,827	Tons	84.3	81.5	.....

WISCONSIN
ACREAGE OF
RYE.
1923.



LEGEND:-
1 DOT = 200 ACRES

DOTS ARE LOCALIZED
BY TOWNSHIPS

PREPARED BY
WISCONSIN CROP AND
LIVESTOCK REPORTING
SERVICE

THE RYE ACREAGE IN WISCONSIN IS CONCENTRATED IN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE STATE. YIELDS WERE GOOD THIS YEAR AND PRICES ARE ABOUT 25 CENTS A BUSHEL MORE THAN LAST YEAR

crops and apparently fairly good prices. Cotton looks like the largest crop with the best income in five years. Cotton now illustrates the profitable adjustment of production to demand.

Feed Outlook.

The feed outlook is good as to roughage and small grains. There is plenty of hay, and oats are turning out a splendid yield practically everywhere. Corn, however, is another story. There will be none too much mature corn in the cribs this fall. This corn situation is another case of bad weather.

Even if corn were cheap, hogs would still be headed toward a higher price level. As it is, expensive corn will

be likely to induce still further liquidation of breeding stock and hog prices may be expected to reach a materially higher point by next September.

Causes.

All in all, agriculture is coming through in decidedly the best shape since 1920. The improvement is not without its causes. There is a double-barreled lesson for producers in the situation—first, that prices respond when supply comes down to the level of demand; second, that this season's rise in wheat and corn prices is a good deal due to a freak of the weather.—U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

PAUL O. NYHUS, Agricultural Statistician

No Dec issue.

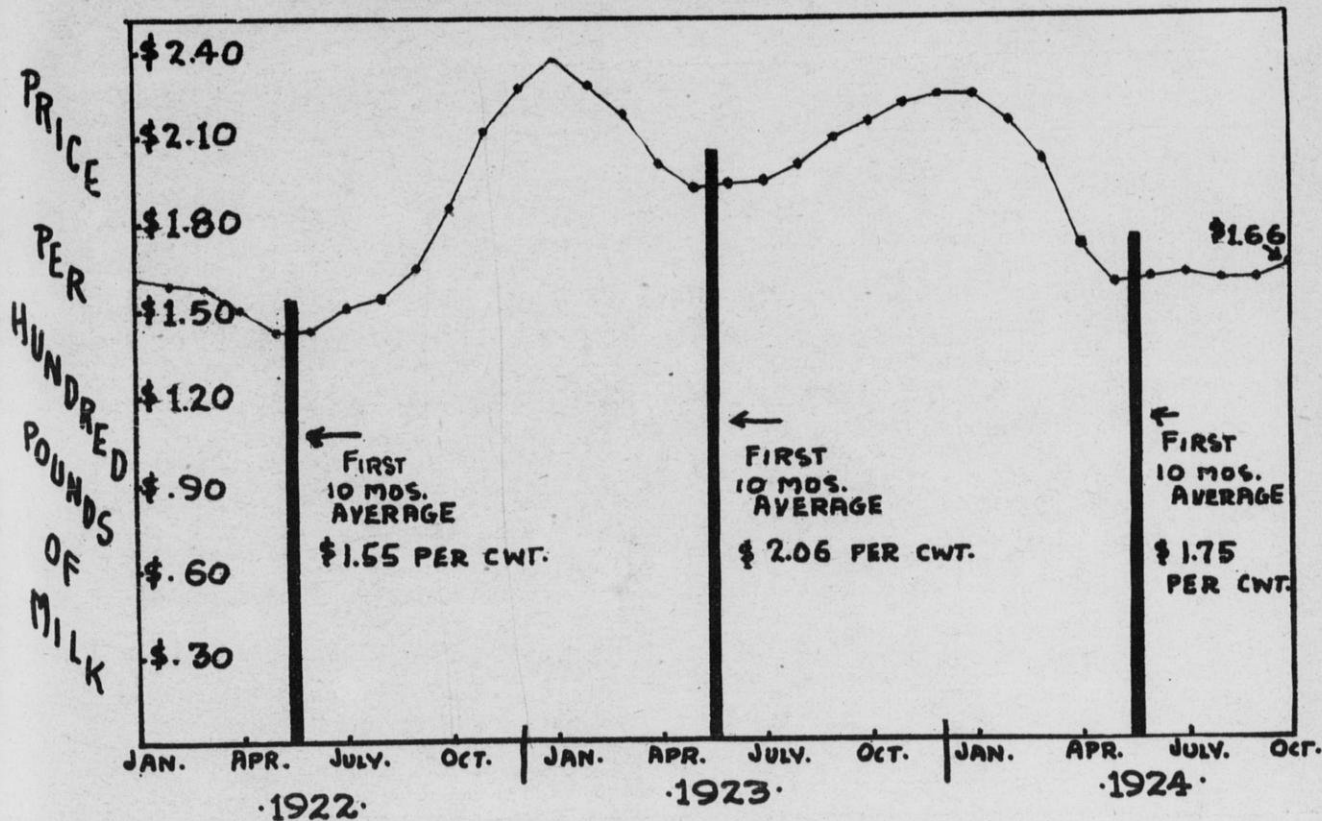
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Vol. III. No. 9

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

November, 1924

~FARM PRICES OF MILK IN WISCONSIN~ ~MONTHLY AVERAGES OF ALL USES~



Milk prices dropped sharply this spring to a level 15 per cent below last year.

1924 PROVES GOOD HAY AND GRAIN YEAR BUT POOR FOR CASH CROPS

Returns from cash crops in Wisconsin—potatoes, tobacco, cabbage, and sugar beets—are disappointing this year. Canning peas is the single exception among the cash crops of importance. The main program, however, of Wisconsin farmers of raising hay and grain for live stock, has been quite satisfactory. Heavy to bumper yields of hay were general this year. Hay stacks in uncommon numbers attest to this fact. Much grain was lost at harvest time, but yields nevertheless were above average. To these two crops—hay and small grains—70% of the Wisconsin crop acreage is devoted.

FAVORABLE WEATHER FOR HANDLING SOFT CORN CROP

Wisconsin farmers had very little ripe corn when killing frosts of the latter part of September put an end to the hopes for a crop that might mature. Farmers estimate that only 15% of the corn crop was harvested or matured without frost damage.

Farmers everywhere in the Corn Belt are faced with a problem of the best means of making use of a great

deal of soft corn, but in Wisconsin fully 60% of the corn acreage has been put into silos so that in this state the problem is less difficult.

The estimate of the United States corn crop is the smallest since 1913 with only 63.2% of the crop of merchantable quality. Over most of the Corn Belt, weather during October was very favorable for ripening and drying the crop. The estimate of production is about the same as a month ago, but the quality is much better than seemed probable.

Yields of silage in most of the state ran a ton and a half below average. The tonnage was particularly light in northern and eastern Wisconsin, where the crop was especially backward throughout the summer. In those sections many farmers having a small corn acreage found it difficult to fill their silos.

Yields of ear corn range from 25 to 30 bushels in southern and western Wisconsin, but only 20% is of merchantable condition—indicating the extremely poor quality. Dry, warm weather during October was very favorable and helped greatly to dry out corn that has been left for grain.

There was very little corn fit for seed in northern and eastern Wisconsin at the time of killing frost, but

CROP SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN FOR NOVEMBER 1, 1924

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)					Average Yield per Acre		
	1924 preliminary	1923	Nov. 1, 1924 forecast	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of Nov. 1 forecast compared to 1923 final production	1918-22 average	Unit	1924 preliminary	1923	1918-22 average
Potatoes.....	250	272	32,250	26,112	+24	31,427	Bu.	129	96	100.8
Tobacco.....	38.7	44.0	36,765	48,092	-24	59,202	Lbs.	950	1,093	1,253.3
Oats.....	2,509	2,539	103,600	92,166	+12	92,532	Bu.	40.0	36.3	38.1
Barley.....	465	465	14,880	13,252	+12	15,980	Bu.	32.0	28.5	29.7
Spring Wheat.....	58	53	1,218	848	+44	4,153	Bu.	21.0	16.0	15.2
Winter Wheat.....	60	66	1,320	1,122	+18	1,613	Bu.	22.0	17.0	19.5
Rye.....	309	342	5,315	5,062	+ 5	6,622	Bu.	17.2	14.8	15.5
Buckwheat.....	27	28	432	392	+10	503	Bu.	16.0	14.0	15.5
Tame hay.....	3,187	3,187	5,960	4,239	+41	4,712	Tons	1.87	1.33	1.58
Alfalfa.....	217	155	629	355	+77	231	Tons	2.90	2.29	2.63
Dry peas.....	33.3	36.2	509	528	- 4	824	Bu.	15.3	14.6	15.4
Dry beans.....	10.5	10.0	120	90	+33	128	Bu.	11.4	9.0	10.9
Flaxseed.....	8.4	8.0	109	97	+12	67	Bu.	13.0	12.1	11.2
Cloverseed.....	74.0	126.0	81	164	-51	256	Bu.	1.1	1.3	1.8
Cabbage ¹	13.3	13.3	102	127	-20	122 ³	Tons	7.7	9.5	8.55 ²
Sugar beets.....	27.0	20.0	144	170	-15	166	Tons	73 ²	89 ²	87.4 ²

¹ Commercial

² Condition, November 1.

³ Four year average 1919-22

in the rest of the state there was a sufficient amount so that home supplies of seed corn could be picked. With this situation, farmers have undoubtedly guarded themselves against a seed corn shortage.

LATE BLIGHT BRINGS LOSSES TO WISCONSIN POTATO GROWERS

Since the crop had an almost ideal growing season potato yields proved better than farmers had expected. Maine, New York, Michigan and Minnesota, in common with Wisconsin, have had very favorable growing conditions and the November estimate for the United States is 7% greater than the October forecast. The new estimate is 454,000,000 bushels, which is 10% greater than last year's crop of 412,000,000 bushels.

With a big production, prices are extremely low and the sentiment among farmers in all the potato districts of the United States is one of discouragement. In addition to the low prices of 20c to 25c a bushel, Wisconsin farmers have a great deal of late blight rot to contend with. Except in some northeastern counties, the blight is general in Wisconsin, causing severe losses in some of the main potato localities. The disease was not very noticeable at the time of early digging and many farmers put potatoes into cellars with a belief that they had a good quality crop. Reports of disease caused these farmers to inspect their potatoes in storage, and in many cases blight and occasionally soft rot were found throughout the bins. Since the disease became noticeable there has been careful picking and sorting on the field, from

the pits, and in storage, to eliminate all potatoes showing blight.

Farmers estimate that about 16% of the Wisconsin crop of 32,250,000 bushels will be unfit for table or seed stock, chiefly because of blight damage. Several starch factories that have been idle for some years are now operating and receiving potatoes that are unfit for storage. At present prices farmers are storing to a great extent in the hope of better prices later in the season.

SMALL TOBACCO HARVEST

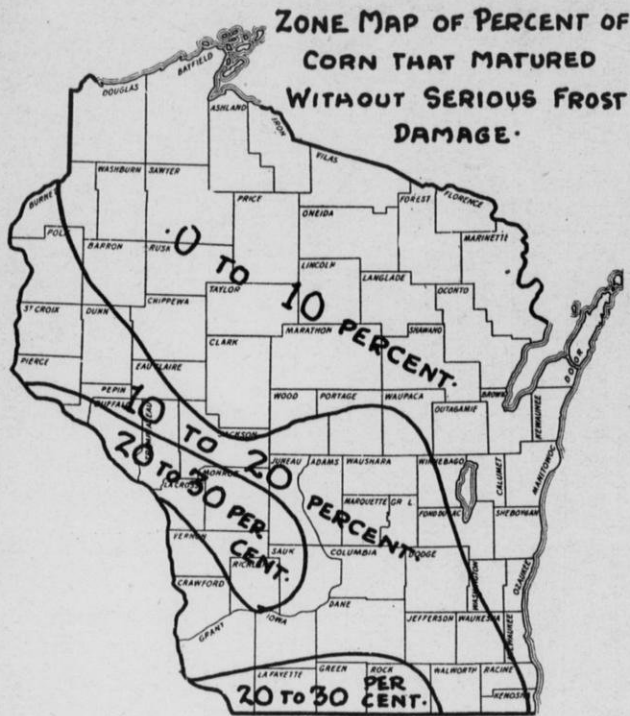
The Wisconsin tobacco crop suffered greatly both as to yield and quality from a cold, wet, growing season. Dane and Rock County yields were approximately 1,000 pounds per acre with 900 pounds in Vernon County. The state yield is 950 pounds, compared to a five-year average of 1,254. Short leaves and rust damage make the crop of poor quality. The Wisconsin estimate is 37 million pounds, which is 24% below last year's harvested crop of 48 million pounds.

SEPTEMBER WEATHER IMPROVED CRANBERRY YIELDS

The cranberry outlook about September 1st was very uncertain. There was a splendid set of berries at that time, but the fruit was extremely small. The outlook was dependent upon warm, bright weather that would give the berries size. To a large extent, September brought this development in the crop. Growers who delayed harvesting had a larger crop by a rapid improve-

CROP SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES FOR NOVEMBER 1, 1924

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		Production (000 omitted)					Average Yield per Acre		
	1924 preliminary	1923	Nov. 1, 1924 forecast	1923	Per Cent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of Nov. 1 forecast compared to 1923 final production	1918-22 average	Unit	1924 preliminary	1923	1918-22 average
Corn.....	105,604	104,158	2,477,538	3,046,387	-19	2,899,428	Bu.	23.5	29.3	28.5
Potatoes.....	3,753	3,816	454,119	412,392	+10	390,616	Bu.	121.0	108.1	98.9
Tobacco.....	1,702	1,820	1,211,835	1,491,000	-19	1,360,661	Lbs.	712.0	810.0	783.6
Oats.....	41,625	40,833	1,509,409	1,299,823	+16	1,302,516	Bu.	36.3	31.8	30.5
Barley.....	7,558	7,905	200,958	198,185	+ 1	186,036	Bu.	26.6	25.1	23.8
Spring wheat.....	16,920	18,786	266,456	213,401	+25	256,336	Bu.	15.7	11.4	11.9
Winter wheat.....	36,898	39,522	589,350	572,340	+ 3	624,653	Bu.	16.0	14.5	14.6
Rye.....	4,337	5,157	65,805	63,023	+ 4	78,410	Bu.	15.2	12.2	13.8
Buckwheat.....	794	737	15,520	13,920	+11	14,643	Bu.	19.5	18.9	19.2
Tame hay.....	61,020	60,162	95,055	89,098	+ 7	85,827	Tons	1.56	1.48	1.47
Clover seed.....	744	800	817	1,233	-34	1,610	Bu.	1.2	1.5	1.6
Sugar beets.....	917	651	7,409	7,006	+ 6	6,775	Tons	8.08	10.66	9.69



The crop in Wisconsin is estimated to be 102,000 tons or 20% below last year's production of 127,000 tons. The New York crop is larger than last year.

SUGAR BEET HARVEST

Wisconsin farmers planted a much larger acreage of sugar beets this season and the crop was very promising in early August. This favorable outlook was lost during two months of cool, wet weather, and small yields are now being harvested in eastern Wisconsin where this crop is chiefly grown. The Wisconsin crop is 15% below last year on a one-third larger acreage.

SHORTAGE OF CLOVER SEED

New seedings of clover in central and western Wisconsin were killed by drouths a year ago. Clover seed prospects were accordingly poor in those sections. In the rest of the state there was an excellent second growth of clover and farmers hoped for a good crop of clover seed. Wet weather, however, encouraged a rank growth so that seed formation was disappointing. Yields average only 1.1 bushels per acre from a small acreage that was finally cut for seed. The Wisconsin crop is placed at 81,000 bushels, which is only half of last year's production. The total crop for the United States is likewise extremely small—34% below last year and only half of the five-year average crop.

SEASON UNFAVORABLE FOR CUCUMBERS

Many new localities in Wisconsin contracted cucumbers for pickles this spring for the first time and the acreage planted was 42% more than last year. The acreage in this crop has come to be 17,222 acres, compared to 12,130 acres last year. Weather conditions were extremely unfavorable, however, and the yield was only 28 bushels per acre, compared to 50 bushels last year. The total production in Wisconsin is 20% less than last year.

Michigan leads in the production of cucumbers for pickles, with a crop of 870,000 bushels. Wisconsin follows next with 482,000 bushels, and Indiana third, with 298,000 bushels. The yield in every state was small this year. There was a 44% larger acreage planted, but the total production of 2,786,000 bushels is 16% less than last year.

THE DAIRY SITUATION

The situation in dairy markets still continues to be of more or less concern. Some encouraging developments have occurred, but nothing has taken place which dairy interests as a whole could consider particularly favorable.

The big surplus of butter in storage is what hangs over butter markets as a weakening influence. On October 1st, the holdings were 153,271,000 pounds, as compared with 96,117,000 pounds on October 1, 1923. This surplus of around 57,000,000 pounds is somewhat startling in itself, but of equal concern is the slowness which has featured the outward movement. October closes with butter prices actually lower than they were in June and July. All this time the market has been more or less nervous and unsettled, with never an approach to anything resembling firmness. Last year, from the middle of July until the first of November, prices advanced 11 cents. The failure of prices to follow the usual upward tendency this fall has practically made it impossible to move storage butter except at a loss.

Practically No Foreign Imports.

Changes in the foreign situation were most favorable from the standpoint of American producers, for while no material export business resulted, imports into this country were practically eliminated. The London market is now approximately 10 cents higher than New York, which, with an added 8 cents to cover import tariff, makes the New York market unattractive to foreign producers.

More Butter Being Used.

With the butter situation occupying the center of attention, the increase in consumption this year has been an outstanding support. The increase has been in part due to the normal growth in population, which, on the basis of last year's consumption per person, amounts to three million pounds per month. But an additional 22 million pounds have been consumed beyond the amount that can be explained by increase in population. This greater use of butter is mainly due, no doubt, to lower prices. Furthermore, there is evidence here and there of an effort to stimulate consumption either through advertising or through attractive retail prices which make butter a "leader."

Cheese and Condensed Milk.

There is nothing unusual to be said with reference to cheese markets. Production has held up well for the season, and storage stocks are in excess of last year, but there is not the apparent anxiety regarding either that there is over the butter outlook. Condensed milk markets also appear to have reached a somewhat more favorable position.—Extracts from Report of U. S. Department of Agriculture.

HENRY CANTWELL WALLACE 1866-1924

Henry Cantwell Wallace, a distinguished son of a distinguished father, has been summoned. Farmer, professor of agriculture, editor and publisher of the periodical which bears his name, a Cabinet minister—long steps in a short lifetime, and the canvas on which he painted the picture of his life now completed. His place in the sun was not the accident of birth or of fortuitous circumstances. He laid his own foundation and built his own character.

His life was touched and molded by a good wife, the saving grace of successful manhood, without which man may not occupy the highest plane of life.

He opened his editorial mind to critical readers. "He was known and read of all men." His methods were measured and his motives appraised every week, and they were always wholesome.

He had a strong mind and a tender heart, two human traits that set a man in high places.

He committed himself to the established principles of right, and consistently supported them—qualities peculiarly essential in public men at this time.

He looked to the temporal welfare of our people through the responsibilities of his great department of government with anxiety, but he looked toward the spiritual world without fear. To his physicians, as the end approached, he said: "However this may turn out, I know you have done all men can do, and it is all right."

Secretary Wallace had every grateful environment in which to labor and to live. Yet, in the prime of life, surrounded by respecting associates and the devoted affection of an unbroken family, his answer to the final summons was, "It is all right."—Hon. Hubert Work, Secretary of the Interior.