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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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IN THIS ISSUE

United States Crops—1953

Even though there was a severe drought in part of the nation, the total volume of all crops produced in 1953 was almost equal to the second-highest output of 1952. Lower prices and in some cases smaller yields resulted in declines in some crop values.

Milk Production

Milk production on Wisconsin farms and throughout the nation is at a high level. The seasonal increase in milk production in the state was much above average.

Egg Production

Wisconsin laying flocks are the largest since the winter of 1950. A record egg production in December is reported for the nation, but no change from a year ago is shown for Wisconsin's egg output.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Wisconsin farm product prices in December averaged the lowest for any month since the summer of 1950. Prices paid by farmers have dropped only moderately and the purchasing power of farm products is well below a year ago.

Current Trends

Total non-agricultural income in the nation is well above a year ago, but agricultural income is down. Freight-car loadings have dropped from a year ago. Wholesale and retail prices are about equal to a year ago as a whole.

Special News Items (page 4)

- More Cattle on Feed
- Wisconsin Farm Wages Up
- Lower per Acre Values for Wisconsin Crops

DESPITE A SEVERE DROUGHT in a large part of the country, last year's volume of crops produced in the nation was almost equal to the second-largest output reported for 1952. The total acreage harvested in 1952 was below average, but record yields of many crops offset the decrease in acreage.

The crop season began under about normal conditions in most areas of the country. During the early growing season crops made mostly good progress, but in late June prospects began to be clouded by a widespread shortage of moisture. In some central and southwestern areas this moisture shortage developed into a major drought.

The shortage of summer rainfall outside the drought area was favorable for cotton development and for harvesting most crops. Corn and soybeans matured with much less than usual moisture content. Rice, peanuts, sugarcane, sweetpotatoes, and sorghums developed well and cured tobacco weighed out heavier than expected. The extended fall season was ideal for maturing and harvesting potatoes, sugarbeets, and other late-growing crops in the North.

Nearly 340½ million acres of crops were harvested in the nation in 1953. This is nearly 1½ million acres less than were harvested in 1952 and a reduction of more than 4 million acres from the 10-year average.

A relatively large tonnage of the eight grains was harvested in 1953. However, feed grain tonnage in 1953 is small compared with recent standards with the 117 million tons, 2½ million tons below the 1952 output and exceeded in five of the last seven years. The tonnage of oilseeds available from last year's crops is among the largest on record.

Many Lower Crop Values

The table on the following page presents detailed information on the acreage, production, and value of many of the important crops produced in the United States last year. Although crop production was almost equal to the second-highest volume on record, the value of many crops was well below last year. Prices of many crops dropped during 1953, and the values per acre declined although yields of some crops were the highest on record.

Corn is the nation's leading crop from the standpoint of acreage, production, and value. Last year the crop was a little smaller than the one harvested in 1952 and prices were a little lower. The 1953 corn crop of about 3,176 million bushels was val-

Weather Summary, December 1953

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	December 1953	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-16	39	16.8	15.0	1.89	1.00	+ 0.85
Spooner....	-23	45	19.4	16.5	2.09	0.85	+ 8.14
Park Falls..	-14	42	18.7	15.5	2.32	1.34	+ 4.78
Rhineland..	-17	48	20.5	16.8	1.69	1.11
Wausau....	-7	42	23.8	19.0	1.87	1.15	+ 2.61
Marinette..	-4	50	27.9	24.1	1.72	1.50	- 0.67
Escanaba...-	2	48	26.5	22.4	2.26	1.43	+ 1.66
Minneapolis-	14	45	22.0	19.4	1.76	0.85	+ 3.03
Eau Claire..	-9	48	23.0	19.4	1.42	1.25	+ 3.30
La Crosse..	-10	52	26.0	20.5	1.42	1.22	+ 3.21
Hancock....	-14	50	23.5	20.1	1.61	1.20	+ 4.83
Oshkosh....	-4	51	26.0	22.9	1.56	1.25	- 4.40
Green Bay..-	6	51	25.5	20.1	1.59	1.26	- 1.66
Manitowoc..	1	50	28.9	25.2	1.41	1.74	- 8.65
Dubuque....	-9	54	25.7	23.4	2.96	1.35	+ 2.10
Madison....	-3	53	27.8	23.0	2.17	1.40	- 0.34
Beloit.....	-3	55	29.2	25.3	2.12	1.75	- 9.90
Milwaukee (airport)...	3	53	28.7	25.7	1.87	1.48	- 4.70
Average for 18 Stations	-8.4	48.7	24.4	20.8	1.87	1.28	- 0.12

¹Average for 17 stations.

ued at more than 4½ billion dollars. This value was 8 percent below the 1952 value. Hay production in the nation was also smaller and the crop of over 105 million tons was valued at 2,318 million dollars or 10 percent less than the value of the 1952 crop.

Farm income in the nation was further lowered in 1953 by the sharp decline in winter wheat production. The value of the winter wheat crop, which ranked third in crop values, was about 1,740 million dollars or 21 percent below the previous year.

Wisconsin Has Sharp Increase in Milk Output

Milk production on Wisconsin farms increased 17 percent from November to December, which was well above the usual gain. Mild weather and liberal feeding were important factors in increasing milk production per cow. With production per cow at an all-time high for the month, milk production in December of over 1 billion pounds was 7 percent above December 1952 and a record for the month.

Wisconsin dairy herds produced nearly 16 billion pounds of milk last year, which was nearly 4 percent more milk than was produced in 1952. Milk production in Wisconsin and for the nation last year was highest on record according to early es-

Crop Summary of the United States, 1952 and 1953

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Yield per Acre			Production (000 omitted)			Unit	Value of Production (000 omitted)	
	1953 (Preliminary)	1952	10-year average 1942-51	1953 (Preliminary)	1952	10-year average 1942-51	1953 (Preliminary)	1952	10-year average 1942-51		1953 (Preliminary)	1952
Corn	80,279	81,099	86,447	39.6	40.4	35.2	3,176,615	3,279,403	3,036,380	Bu.	4,605,423	4,988,554
Oats	39,358	38,422	39,503	30.9	32.8	33.5	1,216,416	1,260,127	1,324,614	Bu.	892,598	990,275
Barley	8,534	8,244	11,831	28.2	27.4	25.1	241,015	226,014	295,299	Bu.	271,132	304,532
Rye	1,382	1,383	2,108	13.0	11.6	12.2	17,998	16,046	25,837	Bu.	21,498	27,694
Spring wheat other than durum	19,062	18,060	16,082	14.6	12.0	16.0	278,058	216,906	253,952	Bu.	569,837	446,866
Durum wheat	1,865	2,174	2,579	7.0	10.3	14.8	12,967	22,493	37,360	Bu.	38,753	54,869
Winter wheat	46,681	50,692	45,249	18.8	20.9	17.6	877,511	1,059,558	797,237	Bu.	1,740,262	2,212,669
Buckwheat	175	161	373	18.2	19.9	17.2	3,193	3,205	6,370	Bu.	2,990	4,515
Dry peas	262	211	471	12.79	12.37	12.64	3,350	2,610	5,998	Cwt.	15,515	12,476
Dry edible beans	1,398	1,261	1,791	12.96	12.87	10.07	18,114	16,235	17,876	Cwt.	142,171	130,105
Soybeans for grain ¹	14,366	14,338	11,114	18.3	20.8	19.7	262,341	298,052	219,596	Bu.	667,556	809,314
Flax	4,380	3,303	4,107	8.4	9.1	9.3	36,813	30,174	38,312	Bu.	127,598	112,135
Red clover seed	1,412	1,705	1,836	59	58	51	83,237	98,707	92,267	Lb.	20,215	30,595
Sweet clover seed	235	272	285	152	161	146	35,585	43,760	42,140	Lb.	3,185	4,096
Timothy seed	196	242	358	126	131	148	24,695	31,790	53,979	Lb.	3,031	4,330
Alfalfa seed	942	1,340	900	141	135	91	133,226	180,326	82,007	Lb.	28,852	59,073
Alsiak seed	64	71	115	193	187	126	12,432	13,217	14,400	Lb.	2,097	3,564
All tame hay	59,099	60,038	60,286	1.58	1.56	1.49	93,084	93,518	89,669	Ton	2,318,367	2,581,992
Alfalfa	20,269	18,913	15,925	2.19	2.23	2.21	44,374	42,230	35,252	Ton		
All clover and timothy	20,761	21,851	22,087	1.44	1.47	1.40	29,851	32,035	31,024	Ton		
Annual legume	2,703	2,831	5,067	1.84	.82	.79	2,283	2,317	4,019	Ton		
Grain cut green	2,831	3,271	2,588	1.20	1.08	1.22	3,411	3,542	3,172	Ton		
Millet, Sudan and other hay	12,535	13,172	14,620	1.05	1.02	1.11	13,165	13,394	16,203	Ton		
Wild hay	14,819	14,416	14,380	.82	.75	.88	12,216	10,827	12,627	Ton		
Potatoes	1,508	1,402	2,265	247.8	249	191.2	373,711	349,098	411,007	Bu.	341,234	685,604
Tobacco	1,638	1,772	1,677	1249	1273	1158	2,046,037	2,254,512	1,948,844	Lb.	1,064,534	1,124,473
Cabbage for market	151.8	131		8.09	8.24		1,228.4	1,079.1		Ton	34,944	61,317
Cabbage, kraut	17.1	16.4	17.3	12.41	10.79	9.95	211.9	177.3	175.5	Ton	2,860	3,526
Onions, commercial	132.1	116.8		187	170.5		24,712	19,902		Cwt.	36,611	91,979
Sorgo, sirup	41	41	128	66.8	63.3	63.2	2,739	2,595	7,991	Gal.	6,123	5,766
Sugar beets	747	665	745	16.1	15.3	13.4	12,029	10,169	10,027	Ton	144,348	121,970
Cucumbers for pickles	150.7	150.9	116.6	92	92	78	13,846	13,822	9,138	Bu.	21,433	21,498
Peas, processing	430.6	425.4	431.5	2144	2033	1996	923,080	864,780	864,400	Lb.	43,473	39,137
Corn, processing	501.8	489	467.4	3.00	3.12	2.55	1,504.7	1,526.1	1,181.1	Ton	35,082	36,537
Snap beans for processing	137.5	114.4	129.6	2.17	2.08	1.81	298.58	238.07	232.2	Ton	36,664	28,624
Beets, processing	16.4	15.1	16.6	9.38	8.27	8.47	154.1	124.9	141.9	Ton	3,009	2,741
Green lima beans for processing	109.2	94	80.37	1940	1912	1376	211,800	179,700	115,700	Lb.	16,206	13,330
Tomatoes, processing	292.3	376.1	469.2	11.09	9.37	6.58	3,241.8	3,523.4	2,993.4	Ton	89,261	102,595
Apples, commercial ²							92,584	92,489	109,224 ³	Bu.	262,111	235,539
Cherries ⁴							225	198 ³	238 ³	Ton	48,250	34,090
Cranberries ⁵	28	28	26	44.2	29.0	29.9	1,230	804	788 ³	Bbl.	19,119	15,092
Maple sugar ⁶	6,675 ⁷	7,056 ⁷	8,505 ⁷				126	159	340	Lb.	115	134
Maple sirup ⁶							1,254	1,654	1,939	Gal.	5,928	7,305
Strawberries	112	129.4		111	91		12,435	11,794		Crt. ⁸	86,675	79,462
Grapes							2,641	3,164	2,874 ³	Ton	126,801	124,584
Grand total ⁹	340,444	341,846	344,909									

¹Not included in acreage grown for hay. ²35 states. ³Includes some quantities not harvested. ⁴12 states. ⁵5 states. ⁶11 states. ⁷10,000 trees tapped. ⁸24-quarts. ⁹Total harvested acreage of 59 crops (excluding duplications). Includes some crops not listed above.

timates. The past year ended with December milk production in the United States estimated to be about 5 percent above December 1952 and the total production for the year more than 4 percent above the milk output of 1952.

Wisconsin's Egg Output Last Year Above 1952

Wisconsin layers produced 203 million eggs during December—the same as in December 1952 but 4 percent more than the 5-year average for the month. While the December rate of lay was lower than a year earlier the number of layers on hand was the largest for the month since 1950. The December laying rate, while lower than the same month a year earlier, was still the second highest on record for the month.

The nation's total egg production for December exceeded by nearly 5 percent the output in December 1952 and was the highest on record for the month. The high egg total for the month compared with a year earlier was due to a greater number of

layers and a highest rate of lay for the month on record.

Wisconsin poultrymen had a good year in 1953. Poultry raisers derived a good return from eggs, the largest single income item. Only once in 1953 did the mid-month price of eggs average lower than the corresponding month in 1952. Prices paid by farmers for poultry ration during 1953 also ran lower than the previous year. The egg-feed price relationship was more favorable in 1953. During some months in 1953 the mid-month price of farm chickens averaged higher than the same months in 1952 but in other months the price was lower.

This year appears to be starting out as a good one for poultrymen. Egg prices are at a fair level and layer numbers are not much above a year ago. This combined with a good demand for eggs and relatively low cold storage supplies of eggs presents an encouraging picture at the present time. Chick orders for flock replacements will depend in large part upon the price of eggs during the hatching season.

Farm Product Prices Lowest Since Summer of 1950

The farm prices received index for Wisconsin continued to decline. At mid-December the index was 263 percent of the 1910-14 base, a drop of 9 percent compared with a year earlier. The over-all level of farm commodity prices is now the lowest since the summer of 1950 and has fallen about a fifth since the present downward cycle started in the fall of 1952. During 1953 the farm price index ranged from a high of 285 at the beginning of the year to a low of 263 this past December. The record for 1953 will show that farm prices were about 12 percent below 1952.

It would be wrong to assume that all farm prices are in a slump. There are many crosscurrents. Hog prices finished the year 41 percent higher than December of 1952 and egg prices were 11 percent higher for the same period of comparison. Most important to Wisconsin farmers has been the weakness in dairy markets. This weakness does not come from any great over-all shrinkage in demand

Current Trends

WISCONSIN	Latest Report		Previous Reports			UNITED STATES	Latest Report		Previous Reports		
	Date	Reported figure ¹	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure ¹	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month
Farm Price Indexes² 1910-14=100					Farm Price Indexes⁵, 1910-14=100						
Farm prices, general.....%	Dec.	263	264	288	292	Farm prices, general.....%	Dec.	252	249	269	278.2
Livestock and livestock products.....%	Dec.	266	268	288	298	Livestock and livestock products.....%	Dec.	269	263	280	301.8
Dairy products.....%	Dec.	282	290	317	299	Dairy products.....%	Dec.	283	289	309	289.8
Meat animals.....%	Dec.	258	240	263	316	Meat animals.....%	Dec.	285	267	291	339.0
Poultry.....%	Dec.	208	196	229	233	Poultry and eggs.....%	Dec.	219	225	221	239.2
Eggs.....%	Dec.	209	247	188	221	Crops.....%	Dec.	233	234	257	252.4
Crops.....%	Dec.	201	199	236	220	Feed grains and hay.....%	Dec.	197	188	218	219.2
Feed grains and hay.....%	Dec.	181	179	205	221	Prices farmers pay.....%	Dec.	260	259	267	251.8
Fruits.....%	Dec.	235	233	235	205	Purchasing power, farm products.....%	Dec.	97	96	101	110.5
Prices farmers pay.....%	Dec.	282	282	288	268	Dairy Production and Markets					
Purchasing power, farm products.....%	Dec.	93	94	100	109	Milk price, wholesale ⁵%	Dec. 1 ^f	4.6	4.72	5.11	4.79
Dairy Products and Markets					Milk price of butterfat in cream⁵, per lb.....cts						
Milk price per cwt. ²\$	Nov.	3.75	3.77	4.46	3.86	Price (wholesale) 92-score butter, Chicago ⁶ , per lb.....cts	Dec. 1 ^f	66.3	66.8	70.1	71.8
All utilizations.....\$	Nov.	3.5 ^c	3.57	4.13	3.71	Total milk production ⁵ , (000,000 omitted).....lbs	Dec.	8791	8255	8389	7908 ³
For cheese.....\$	Nov.	3.71	3.7	4.18	3.71	Creamery butter production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Nov.	90765	92375	75884	77255
For butter.....\$	Nov.	3.70	3.67	4.40	3.74	American cheese production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Nov.	56230	61505	51781	46558
Condensery products.....\$	Nov.	4.00	4.0 ^c	4.95	4.16	Evaporated whole milk production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Nov.	152500	162200	166123	146220
Market milk.....\$	Dec. 15	70	72	76	78.8	Dried skim milk production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Nov.	68290	65150	43848	32877
Farm price of butterfat in cream ²cts	Dec.	36.89	37.6 ^f	38.43	-----	Human food.....lbs	Nov.	1570	1690	1498	686
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound, American (cheddar).....cts	Dec.	1117	956	1043	945 ⁵	Animal feed.....lbs	Nov.	37916	31290	30520	27723
Total milk production ²lbs	Dec.	10.33	11.10	10.09	10.54	Butter receipts at 4 markets ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Dec.	16471	18859	16406	15382
(000,000 omitted).....lbs	Dec.	35.08	35.97	41.31	40.57	Cheese receipts at 4 markets ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Dec. 31	282191	790598	72723	70515
Calves born during month being raised ²%	Dec.	209	181	201	192.6	American cheese.....lbs	Dec. 31	397804	109983	205178	176465
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow ³lbs	Dec.	141.9	120.9	131.7	112.7	Swiss cheese.....lbs	Dec. 31	10700	11018	12495	7071
Grains and concentrates fed daily ³lbs	Jan. 1	7.00	6.46	6.82	6.39	All other cheese.....lbs	Dec. 31	22429	20324	21130	18502
Per farm.....lbs	Jan. 1	32.58	33.47	34.48	34.64	All varieties of cheese.....lbs	Dec. 31	430933	432325	238803	202038
Per cow in herd.....lbs	Jan. 1	-----	-----	-----	-----	Total frozen poultry.....lbs	Dec. 31	278409	287153	278595	263214
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced.....lbs	Nov.	13640	12855	10274	7439	Eggs, shell.....cases	Dec. 31	78	137	153	119
Wisconsin creamery butter production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Nov.	27310	28320	25470	22433	Eggs, shell, frozen and dried, (case equivalent).....cases	Dec. 31	1304	1864	1846	6084
Wisconsin American cheese production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Dec.	7816	5420	4631	-----	Poultry Production⁵					
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Dec.	11220	13041	10421	10246	Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no	Dec.	387884	376759	380473	378663
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs	Dec.	-----	-----	-----	-----	Eggs per 100 layers.....no	Dec.	1358	1275	1324	1154
Poultry Production²					Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk⁵, (000 omitted)						
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no	Dec.	13418	13060	13060	14134	Dried whole milk.....lbs	Nov. 30	11316	11743	17009	17353
Eggs per 100 layers.....no	Dec.	1516	1341	1556	1383	Dried skim milk.....lbs	Nov. 30	71549	71314	126585	41380
Total eggs produced, (000,000 om.).....no	Dec.	203	175	203	195	Dried buttermilk.....lbs	Nov. 30	9861	10936	12155	5493
Feed Price Changes²					Condensed milk (case goods).....lbs						
Index of wholesale feed prices, 1910-14=100.....%	Dec.	215.8	207.2	234.0	241.1	Evaporated milk (case goods).....lbs	Nov. 30	6047	5248	7519	9678
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration.....\$	Dec.	26.15	24.87	30.14	30.62	Total eggs produced, (000,000 omitted).....no	Dec.	5267	4803	5037	4371
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy.....lbs	Dec.	139.6	150.8	136.4	128.2	Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection⁵, (000 omitted)					
Wisconsin byproduct wholesale feed cost per ton, f.o.b. Madison.....\$	Dec.	50.30	45.10	57.60	60.10	Cattle.....no	Nov.	1609	1782	1151	1175
Standard bran.....\$	Dec.	75.10	67.75	91.75	82.66	Calves.....no	Nov.	658	776	510	585
Linseed oil meal.....\$	Dec.	55.80	51.00	70.00	63.51	Sheep and lambs.....no	Nov.	1159	1529	1069	1173
Corn gluten feed.....\$	Dec.	102.95	93.55	114.90	130.32	Hogs.....no	Nov.	5540	4994	5772	5921
Tankage.....\$	Dec.	50.60	44.60	57.40	60.87	Business and Industry					
Standard middlings.....\$	Dec.	85.15	74.20	88.05	85.24	Wholesale prices ⁷ , 1910-14=100.....%	Dec.	247	247	246	-----
Soybean meal.....\$	Dec.	27.63	26.25	29.90	32.17	All commodities ⁷%	Nov.	279	280	277	252.4
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration.....\$	Dec.	161.1	200.4	134.4	148.5	Retail prices, 1910-14=100.....%	Oct.	410.3	409.6	396.1	340.5
Amount of ration 10 doz. eggs would buy.....lbs	Dec.	-----	-----	-----	-----	All commodities.....%	Oct.	428.7	429.3	408.9	345.6
Farm Product Prices²					Mfg. production workers employment (adjusted)⁹, 1947-49=100.....%						
Milk cows, per head.....\$	Dec. 15	175	175	250	239.40	Industrial production (adjusted) ⁹ , 1947-49=100.....%	Nov.	108.4	109.7	107.8	-----
Hogs, per cwt.....\$	Dec. 15	22.10	19.50	15.70	18.94	Freight-car loadings (adjusted) ⁹ , 1947-49=100.....%	Nov.	-----	132	133	108.4
Beef cattle, per cwt.....\$	Dec. 15	9.80	10.20	16.00	19.22	Footnotes:					
Veal calves, per cwt.....\$	Dec. 15	16.70	15.70	22.20	26.56	¹ Preliminary.					
Sheep, per cwt.....\$	Dec. 15	5.20	5.20	5.70	9.36	² Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service, based on reporters' data.					
Lambs, per cwt.....\$	Dec. 15	16.70	15.80	19.80	23.03	³ 10-year average.					
Wool, per lb.....\$	Dec. 15	.48	.48	.47	.57	⁴ Computed on the basis of the average reported quantity fed at the beginning and end of the month in herds of Wisconsin dairy correspondents times number of days in month.					
Chickens, per lb.....\$	Dec. 15	22.4	22.8	25.1	27.0	⁵ Agricultural Marketing Service U. S. D. A.					
Eggs, per doz.....\$	Dec. 15	44.5	52.6	40.2	47.2	⁶ Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A.					
Wheat, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	1.85	1.83	2.03	2.18	⁷ Bureau of Labor Statistics converted to 1910-14 base.					
Corn, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	1.40	1.34	1.43	1.53	⁸ U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1947-1949=100.					
Oats, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	.75	.74	.82	.86	⁹ Federal Reserve Board.					
Barley, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	1.21	1.22	1.45	1.55						
Rye, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	1.03	1.00	1.62	1.62						
Buckwheat, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	.84	.83	1.35	1.29						
Flaxseed, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	3.45	3.40	3.65	4.62						
Red clover seed, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	14.64	14.40	17.34	24.32						
Alfalfa seed, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	15.24	14.40	21.36	29.98						
Timothy seed, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	5.08	5.00	5.54	6.12						
All hay, baled, per ton.....\$	Dec. 15	19.80	19.60	19.50	22.16						
Alfalfa hay, baled, per ton.....\$	Dec. 15	21.10	21.10	20.70	24.32						
Clover and timothy hay, baled, per ton.....\$	Dec. 15	18.40	17.60	17.90	-----						
Potatoes, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	1.10	1.00	2.25	1.47						
Apples, per bu.....\$	Dec. 15	3.10	3.00	3.10	2.20						

but from heavy supplies. Milk production in 1953 was the highest on record and it has been exceptionally high so far this winter. Producers are expected to receive an average of \$3.65 per hundred for December milk deliveries. With the

exception of 1949 this would be the lowest December return per hundred pounds since price controls eight years ago. Low returns are indicated for all utilizations of milk. Moreover, the spread between fluid market milk and manufacture milk is less than

half as much this December as for the same month a year ago. Reduced out-of-state shipments and diversions to manufacturing uses have reduced prices for Grade A milk. Livestock prices have rebounded somewhat from their last year lows

reached in October and November. Aside from hogs, however, the improvement has been small. Lamb prices made about normal seasonal increases, but price changes have been minor for cattle. The value of milk cows per head reflects both the lower prices for milk and lower beef price. Values per head average \$175 in December compared to \$250 in December 1952.

A sharp increase in hog prices was mostly responsible for raising the index of prices received by farmers 1 percent in the United States during the month ending December 15. At 252 percent of its 1910-14 average the index was 6 percent less than a year earlier.

More Cattle in State's Feed Lots

The number of cattle in feed for market this year is less than a year ago in the nation, but Wisconsin showed an increase. That's the estimate based on reports from farmers early this month.

Cattle on feed on Wisconsin farms on January 1, estimated at 104,000 head, show an increase over a year ago of 4 percent. Corn Belt farmers report 10 percent fewer cattle on feed and for the nation a decline of 9 percent from last year is reported.

The Corn Belt total on January 1 was estimated at 4 052,000 cattle on feed and it was second only to last year's record-high. The West Corn Belt states declined 12 percent, while feeding in the East Corn Belt was only 2 percent below last year. Iowa, the leading feeding state, showed a 16 percent decrease, while Nebraska the second ranking state this year reported a 17 percent decrease. Illinois was down 8 percent but cattle feeding in other eastern Corn Belt states showed increases from 4 to 5 percent.

Shipments of feeders into the nine Corn Belt states, for which state inspection records are available, were down 18 percent last fall. That seems to account for the decrease in number on feed on January 1. Corn Belt farmers waited until the beef price and feeder prices stabilized last year. During the first part of last year

steer prices dropped rapidly making steer feeding unprofitable for those who paid high feeder prices. By late fall, however, it appeared that the feeder and steer price had stabilized enough so feeders could be bought out west and fed out in the Corn Belt with less risk. Although inshipments were down in the fall the Corn Belt imported 9 percent more feeders during December than the year before.

Wisconsin Farm Wages Highest for Any January

Wages paid by Wisconsin farmers at the beginning of January were the highest on record for the date. Farm wage rates this winter are about 2 percent above January 1953 although farm product prices and farm incomes are down from a year ago.

Reports from Wisconsin crop correspondents indicate that hired workers averaged \$122 a month with board and room and \$166 a month with a house. Wages average \$6.00 a day with board and room and \$7.50 a day without board or room. Hourly rates average 99 cents without board or room.

Farm wages by the month with board and room are a little lower now than a year ago but the averages of the other rates are higher. Rates paid hired workers this winter are lower than last fall except for the monthly rate with a house. Monthly rates with a house average a little above the rates of October last year.

Lower Prices and Yields Cut Crop Values Per Acre

The values of the production per acre of crops grown on Wisconsin farms last year were practically all below the values estimated for 1952. In some instances the decreases in values were only slight with some increase in yield per acre offset much of the decline in prices from 1952. For some crops, however, decreases in prices and yields combined to lower crop values per acre.

Record yields of Wisconsin corn failed last year to offset the decline in corn prices from 1952, and the per acre value of \$81.90 was 46 cents less than in 1952. Much sharper reduc-

tions in the per acre value is shown for the other cereal crops. These decreases come from lower farm prices last year and smaller yields per acre than in 1952.

Weather conditions last year were not particularly good for seed production, and yields of some grass seeds were comparatively low. The per acre value of red clover harvested for seed was \$12.72 compared with \$17.94 in 1952.

The value of hay per acre the past year was somewhat less than in 1952 as a result of lower yields offsetting some increase in the farm price. The per acre value of Wisconsin hay averaged \$38.49 and was lower than for some of the cereal crops.

Highest values per acre are reported for the truck and canning crops. The commercial onion crop continues to have the highest per acre value although there was a sharp drop in prices from 1952. These high values for truck and canning crops do not always indicate large net incomes to farmers engaged in truck and canning crop production. Costs of producing these crops are high and often cut deeply in the returns from these crops.

Crop Values per Acre—Wisconsin

Crop	Dollars per Acre	
	1953	1952
Cereals		
Corn.....	81.90	82.36
Oats.....	31.12	35.55
Barley.....	43.75	49.35
Rye.....	12.65	18.74
Spring wheat.....	42.75	49.72
Winter wheat.....	44.40	49.77
Buckwheat.....	14.38	22.62
Other grains and seeds		
Soybeans for grain.....	36.25	45.04
Flax.....	42.71	47.44
Red clover seed.....	12.72	17.94
All hay.....	38.49	39.20
Other field crops		
Potatoes.....	282.00	488.05
Cabbage for market.....	250.00	377.66
Cabbage for kraut.....	137.60	157.95
Onions: commercial.....	361.48	1,100.34
Cucumbers for pickles.....	135.29	142.78
Peas for canning.....	90.19	85.20
Corn for canning.....	60.04	72.65
Snap beans for canning.....	193.58	194.84
Beets for canning.....	146.16	147.65
Green lima beans for canning.....	106.59	112.90
Carrots.....	260.00	269.33

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IN THIS ISSUE

1954 Livestock Inventory

The number of milk cows and all cattle on Wisconsin farms this year is the largest reported in any January. For the nation a record number of all cattle was also estimated but milk cow numbers are still below the all-time high. Swine numbers show a decrease from last year in the state and nation but there are more sows for spring than a year ago. Livestock values as a whole are well below a year ago for both Wisconsin and the United States.

Milk Production

Unusually mild weather and heavy feeding of milk cows have helped to make the all-time high for January milk production in both the state and nation.

Egg Production

Egg production on Wisconsin farms was smaller in January than a year ago. January egg output on the nation's farms was a record for the month.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers for products sold showed no change from December to January but was 9 percent below January last year. Prices paid increased slightly between the two months.

Current Trends

Stocks of butter and cheese and frozen poultry are larger than a year ago. Storage stocks of dried, condensed, and evaporated milk and eggs are smaller than a year ago.

Special News Item (page 4)

Wisconsin Livestock Marketings

AN ALL-TIME HIGH in the number of all cattle on farms in Wisconsin and the nation as a whole is shown in the January 1954 livestock inventory. Included in the cattle on farms is a record number of Wisconsin dairy cows. Although showing an increase over a year ago, milk cow numbers on farms in the nation did not reach the record-high of 1945.

While cattle and turkey numbers have increased in the state during the past year, the annual count shows fewer swine, horses and mules, and chickens on Wisconsin farms. No change in the number of sheep and lambs occurred during the past year.

For the nation, changes in livestock numbers also include fewer head of swine, sheep and lambs, and horses and mules than were on farms a year ago. Increases in chickens and turkeys accompanied the rise in milk cow and all cattle numbers.

Milk cow numbers may continue upward in the state and nation with the larger number of heifers one to two years old kept for milk cows. The number of heifer calves on Wisconsin farms, however, shows a decline from a year ago. This drop may have resulted in part from the declines in milk and milk cow prices in recent months.

An increase in hog numbers is indicated with the number of sows on Wisconsin farms 7 percent larger than a year ago and an increase of 6 percent shown for the nation. The number of swine on farms in the state and nation has declined for the past two years, but an increase seems assured.

Sheep and lamb numbers in the nation are smaller than estimated for the past two years but larger than reported for 1951. No change from last year is estimated for the state. The number of stock sheep in Wisconsin in the past two years has been higher than in any year since 1947.

Horse Numbers Decline

The slow decline in horse and mule numbers continues in both the state and nation. Now the numbers of horses in the state averages less than one per farm.

At the beginning of this year there were fewer chickens on Wisconsin farms than were reported in the January livestock inventory for any year of record. For the nation, the number of chickens on farms increased slightly over a year ago but was smaller than estimated for January 1, 1952. Turkey numbers in both the state and nation are above a year ago.

Weather Summary, January 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	January 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth	-31	30	5.8	10.3	1.33	1.01	+ 0.32
Spooner	-35	32	9.3	10.4	0.60	0.88	- 0.28
Park Falls	-33	31	9.2	9.4	0.79	1.29	- 0.50
Rhineland	-30	32	10.6	10.5	0.67	1.06	- 0.39
Wausau	-26	36	15.2	13.9	0.54	1.19	- 0.65
Marinette	-19	36	19.1	19.1	0.87	1.56	- 0.69
Escanaba	-16	35	16.7	17.5	1.22	1.53	- 0.31
Minneapolis	-25	36	10.3	14.6	0.25	0.80	- 0.55
Eau Claire	-26	37	22.2	13.6	0.27	1.17	- 0.90
La Crosse	-20	40	15.5	15.7	0.56	1.22	- 0.66
Hancock	-26	37	13.4	14.4	0.61	1.13	- 0.52
Oshkosh	-20	40	17.9	17.4	0.53	1.43	- 0.90
Green Bay	-19	37	15.8	16.1	0.43	1.29	- 0.86
Manitowoc	-16	40	21.9	19.4	0.63	1.65	- 1.02
Dubuque	-15	40	18.7	19.4	0.68	1.37	- 0.69
Madison	-14	43	19.8	19.1	0.76	1.31	- 0.55
Beloit	-12	42	23.0	20.7	0.63	1.81	- 1.18
Milwaukee (airport)	-13	43	23.0	21.9	0.92	1.58	- 0.66
Average for 18 Stations	-22.0	37.1	16.0	15.7	0.68	1.29	- 0.61

Total Value of Livestock Lower

The total value of Wisconsin's livestock on farms at the beginning of the year is estimated at more than 677 million dollars compared with about 863½ million dollars a year ago. This is a decrease of more than a fifth in value in the past year. The value of all cattle on farms accounted for 85 percent of the total value of Wisconsin livestock and was about a fourth below January last year.

Swine, chicken, and turkey values were higher this year than a year ago. While the total number of swine on Wisconsin farms was smaller this year the value was a fourth above January 1953. Livestock values in the state followed to a great extent the trend in values for the nation. For the nation, the total value of all livestock on farms was a fifth below January 1953.

Additional information on livestock numbers and values for Wisconsin and the nation may be found in the table on page 2 of this issue. These inventory figures were made possible because of the excellent reports on livestock numbers made by thousands of farmers in the state and nation early this year.

Number and Value of Livestock, January 1

Wisconsin

Class of Livestock	Number (000 omitted)								Farm Price per Head			Farm Value (000 omitted)		
	1954 (Prelim- inary)	1953 (Re- vised)	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1954 (Prelim- inary) Dollars	1953 Dollars	1943-52 Dollars	1954 (Prelim- inary) Dollars	1953 Dollars	1943-52 Dollars
Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over kept for milk	2,604	2,528	2,431	2,383	2,383	2,383	2,457	2,559	175.00	240.00	191.00	455,700 ¹	606,720 ¹	470,944 ¹
Heifers, 1 to 2 years old kept for milk cows	621	599	545	525	511	476	501	505						
Heifer calves being saved for milk cows	625	650	601	563	540	537	497	526						
All other calves	133	138	126	103	71	74	72	84						
Cows and heifers 2 years old and over not kept for milk	43	37	29	23	17	20	20	22						
Heifers, 1 to 2 years not for milk	51	42	45	35	30	26	26	28						
Steers, 1 year old and over	125	117	99	90	93	89	98	101						
Bulls, 1 year old and over	73	80	78	80	82	85	94	97						
All Cattle	4,275	4,191	3,954	3,802	3,727	3,690	3,765	3,922	134.00	184.00	152.00	572,850	771,144	586,404
Horses	126	143	172	202	224	264	300	337	79.00	73.00	76.60	9,954	10,804	25,939
Mules	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	65.00	65.00	82.00	65	130	228
Sows and gilts	365	340	385	405	410	380	355	355						
Other hogs over 6 months	310	445	494	396	353	372	387	431						
Pigs under 6 months	1,050	1,050	1,160	1,105	970	898	815	819						
All Swine	1,725	1,835	2,039	1,906	1,733	1,650	1,557	1,605	39.50	29.70	31.90	68,138	54,500	57,989
Ewes 1 year and over	182	180	167	152	145	148	170	187						
Ewe lambs	52	55	61	50	38	34	42	52						
Wether and ram lambs	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	3						
Rams and wethers 1 year and over	10	9	9	8	7	8	9	9						
Stock sheep and lambs	246	246	230	213	192	192	223	251	14.00	19.00	16.80	3,444 ²	4,074 ²	4,216 ²
Sheep and lambs on feed	66	66	51	57	60	55	66	90						
All Sheep and Lambs	312	312	290	270	252	247	289	341	14.42	19.21	15.76	4,500	5,994	5,423
All Chickens	13,620	13,774	14,269	14,933	15,463	15,454	16,143	16,733	1.55	1.50	1.39	21,111	20,661	22,987
Turkeys	86	57	57	52	43	34	36	71	7.50	7.00	6.84	645	399	447
Total Value												677,263	863,632	699,417

United States

Cows and heifers 2 years old and over kept for milk	24,735	24,094	23,369	23,722	23,853	23,862	24,615	25,842	146.00	202.00	156.00	3,614,427 ¹	4,862,803 ¹	3,894,924 ¹
Heifers 1 to 2 years kept for milk cows	6,032	5,974	5,719	5,510	5,394	5,327	5,550	5,524						
All other cattle	63,910	63,569	58,756	52,793	48,716	47,641	47,006	49,188						
All Cattle	94,677	93,637	87,844	82,025	77,963	76,830	77,171	80,554	92.40	128.00	109.00	8,746,058	11,998,139	8,919,864
Horses	3,432	3,798	4,330	4,993	5,548	6,096	6,704	7,340	48.80	47.20	58.40	167,568	179,395	431,893
Mules	1,603	1,753	1,913	2,074	2,233	2,402	2,575	2,789	61.40	65.30	118.00	98,402	114,426	333,209
Swine, including pigs	48,179	54,294	63,582	62,852	58,852	56,257	54,590	56,810	36.60	26.00	29.20	1,763,714	1,409,988	1,796,030
Sheep and lambs	30,902	31,861	32,088	30,635	29,826	30,943	34,337	37,498	13.98	15.92	14.23	431,963	507,320	555,199
All Chickens	439,271	429,731	449,925	442,657	456,549	430,876	449,644	467,217	1.43	1.41	1.36	629,024	606,935	653,344
Turkeys	5,323	5,305	5,822	5,091	5,124	4,622	3,959	5,879	6.31	6.16	6.35	33,594	32,687	36,768
Total Value												11,870,323	14,848,890	12,726,307

¹Included in value of all cattle. ²Included in value of all sheep and lambs.

Weather Conditions Favor Increased Milk Production

Enough milk was produced on Wisconsin farms alone during January to fill nearly 16 glasses of 8 ounces each for each man, woman, and child living in the nation. Milk output in the state last month was 10 percent above January last year and nearly a fourth above the 10-year average production for the month.

Milk production per cow on Wisconsin farms was at an all-time high for February 1 of 20.8 pounds. The amount of grain and concentrates fed per cow at the beginning of the month averaged 6.7 pounds, which was a little above a year earlier and 10 percent higher than the average feeding rate for the date.

Wisconsin dairy herds produced 1,292 million pounds of milk during January. This production was 14 percent of the nation's output of 9,172

million pounds. National milk production in January was estimated at 5 percent above January last year and nearly 11 percent above the 10-year average production for the month.

February 1 milk production per cow in the nation was a record for the date. Other factors increasing milk output over a year ago include a high rate of feeding, above normal temperatures which have been common over much of the dairy states, and a record high percent of the milk cows being milked.

Many Farm Product Prices Show Seasonal Declines

The Wisconsin index of farm prices in mid-January was 260 percent of the 1910-14 average. Except for some recovery in livestock prices, most farm commodities continued to lag behind usual seasonal price changes. Farm prices in January for the state aver-

aged 9 percent below the beginning month of 1953. The present downward cycle began in October 1952 when the index stood at 322. In the past two months the general farm price level has held steady. While 19 percent below the 1952 peak, Wisconsin farm products prices are still above the average for 1949 and 1950.

Considering the record farm output of milk in December and January, milk prices may not be unduly depressed. Production for January was up 10 percent over the previous record for the month set last year. Milk prices are also down 10 percent compared with January last year—about the same as the increase in milk supplies. Dairy markets have been largely dominated by government support buying prices.

The decline in milk prices in the fluid markets has been twice as large as the drop in manufactured milk prices. Market milk prices to produc-

Current Trends

WISCONSIN					UNITED STATES						
	Latest Report		Previous Reports				Latest Report		Previous Reports		
	Date	Reported figure ¹	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure ¹	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month
Farm Price Indexes² 1910-14=100					Farm Price Indexes², 1910-14=100						
Farm prices, general.....%	Jan.	260	260	285	292	Farm prices, general.....%	Jan.	259	254	268	282.4
Livestock and livestock products.....%	Jan.	264	263	286	297	Livestock and livestock products.....%	Jan.	277	269	281	302.4
Dairy products.....%	Jan.	267	278	297	298	Dairy products.....%	Jan.	274	282	294	291.4
Meat animals.....%	Jan.	285	258	289	330	Meat animals.....%	Jan.	309	285	303	349.6
Poultry.....%	Jan.	214	208	224	234	Poultry and eggs.....%	Jan.	213	218	218	212.2
Eggs.....%	Jan.	192	209	189	173	Crops.....%	Jan.	240	238	254	259.8
Crops.....%	Jan.	200	197	234	224	Feed grains and hay.....%	Jan.	207	205	222	232.4
Feed grains and hay.....%	Jan.	186	181	201	226	Prices farmers pay.....%	Jan.	263	260	267	254.6
Fruits.....%	Jan.	252	252	230	207	Purchasing power, farm products.....%	Jan.	98	98	100	110.9
Prices farmers pay.....%	Jan.	234	282	288	269	Dairy Production and Markets					
Purchasing power, farm products.....%	Jan.	92	92	99	109	Milk price, wholesale ⁵\$	Jan. 15	4.38	4.58	4.84	4.73
Dairy Products and Markets					Farm price of butterfat in cream⁵, per lb.....cts.						
Milk price per cwt. ³\$	Dec.	3.60	3.78	4.11	3.86	Price (wholesale) 92-score butter, Chicago ⁶ , per lb.....cts.	Jan. 15	65.9	66.3	68.3	73.9
All utilizations.....\$	Dec.	3.49	3.60	3.82	3.76	Total milk production ⁵ , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	Jan.	9172	8791	8706	8268 ³
For cheese.....\$	Dec.	3.65	3.69	3.97	3.75	Creamery butter production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Dec.	108240	90765	94592	81294
For butter.....\$	Dec.	3.61	3.70	4.03	3.84	American cheese production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Dec.	63225	56230	54166	46968
Condensery products.....\$	Dec.	3.75	4.05	4.51	4.06	Evaporated whole milk production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Dec.	155700	152500	172807	150400
Market milk.....\$	Dec.	3.75	4.05	4.51	4.06	Dried skim milk production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Dec.	94250	68290	66113	43767
Farm price of butterfat in cream ³cts.	Jan. 15	70	70	72	81.4	Human food.....lbs.	Dec.	1980	1570	1581	780
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound, American (cheddar).....cts.	Jan.	36.55	36.89	38.12	-----	Animal feed.....lbs.	Dec.	42139	37916	32263	30669
Total milk production ³ , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	Jan.	1292	1140	1176	1041 ³	Butter receipts at 4 markets ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Jan.	18094	16471	18008	17805
Cows in herd freshening ²no.	Jan.	9.65	10.33	10.17	10.21	Cheese receipts at 4 markets ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Jan.	293842	281702	85737	59467
Calves born during month being raised ²%	Jan.	35.90	35.08	43.00	39.30	American cheese.....lbs.	Jan. 31	395494	401168	194286	158782
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow ⁴lbs.	Jan.	218	209	216	203.4	Swiss cheese.....lbs.	Jan. 31	11652	10731	13648	6782
Grains and concentrates fed daily ⁴ , Per farm.....lbs.	Feb. 1	143.7	141.9	138.6	118.4	All other cheese.....lbs.	Jan. 31	18208	20109	19565	16891
Per cow in herd.....lbs.	Feb. 1	7.07	7.00	7.12	6.76	All varieties of cheese.....lbs.	Jan. 31	425354	432008	227499	182455
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced.....lbs.	Feb. 1	31.10	32.58	33.21	33.35	Total frozen poultry.....lbs.	Jan. 31	265618	275887	261072	257970
Wisconsin creamery butter production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Dec.	16510	13640	13472	9003	Eggs, shell.....cases	Jan. 31	76	89	120	193
Wisconsin American cheese production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Dec.	31475	27310	27880	24511	Eggs, shell, frozen and dried, (case equivalent).....cases	Jan. 31	1154	1301	1367	5690
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Jan.	8289	7816	5042	3975	Poultry Production⁵					
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Jan.	12025	11220	10640	11805	Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.	Jan.	382215	387884	374131	378262
Poultry Production³					Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk⁵, (000 omitted)						
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.	Jan.	12808	13418	12903	14031	Dried whole milk.....lbs.	Dec. 31	10220	11316	15181	14048
Eggs per 100 layers.....no.	Jan.	1578	1516	1618	1494	Dried skim milk.....lbs.	Dec. 31	76864	71549	129817	35609
Total eggs produced, (000,000 om.).....no.	Jan.	202	203	209	209	Dried buttermilk.....lbs.	Dec. 31	9298	9861	11832	5356
Feed Price Changes³					Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection⁶, (000 omitted)						
Index of wholesale feed prices, 1910-14=100.....%	Jan.	218.0	215.8	232.2	248.1	Cattle.....no.	Dec.	1653	1609	1252	1143
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration.....%	Jan.	26.97	26.15	29.75	31.58	Calves.....no.	Dec.	634	658	523	509
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy.....lbs.	Jan.	127.9	137.7	129.4	124.2	Sheep and lambs.....no.	Dec.	1227	1159	1218	1118
Wisconsin byproduct wholesale feed cost per ton, f.o.b. Madison	Jan.	53.50	50.30	58.00	61.74	Hogs.....no.	Dec.	5194	5540	7251	6502
Standard bran.....\$	Jan.	77.90	75.10	90.90	86.79	Total personal income ⁷%	Nov.	406.1	410.3	393.8	340.0
Linseed oil meal.....\$	Jan.	59.75	55.80	70.00	65.91	Total non-agricultural income ⁷%	Nov.	424.3	428.7	408.7	345.3
Corn gluten feed.....\$	Jan.	104.95	102.95	111.65	133.76	Total agricultural income ⁷%	Nov.	241.4	242.0	258.6	292.3
Tankage.....\$	Jan.	52.40	50.60	57.50	61.89	Mfg. production workers employment (adjusted) ⁸ , 1947-49=100.....%	Nov.	106.8	108.4	109.2	-----
Standard middlings.....\$	Jan.	87.60	85.15	83.10	85.71	Industrial production (adjusted) ⁸ , 1947-49=100.....%	Dec.	-----	130	133	-----
Soybean meal.....\$	Jan.	27.94	27.63	29.62	33.03	Freight-car loadings (adjusted) ⁸ , 1947-49=100.....%	Dec.	88	92	99	-----
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration.....\$	Jan.	146.7	161.1	136.1	113.9	1 Preliminary.					
Amount of ration 10 doz. eggs would buy.....lbs.	Jan.	146.7	161.1	136.1	113.9	2 Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service, based on reporters' data.					
Farm Product Prices³					3 10-year average.						
Milk cows, per head.....\$	Jan. 15	175	175	255	243.00	4 Computed on the basis of the average reported quantity fed at the beginning and end of the month in herds of Wisconsin dairy correspondents times number of days in month.					
Hogs, per cwt.....\$	Jan. 15	23.80	22.10	17.40	19.52	5 Agricultural Marketing Service U. S. D. A.					
Beef cattle, per cwt.....\$	Jan. 15	10.90	9.80	17.60	20.40	6 Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A.					
Veal calves, per cwt.....\$	Jan. 15	20.80	16.70	24.10	27.82	7 U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1947-1949=100.					
Sheep, per cwt.....\$	Jan. 15	5.20	5.20	6.30	10.12	8 Federal Reserve Board.					
Lambs, per cwt.....\$	Jan. 15	17.50	16.70	19.90	23.62						
Wool, per lb.....\$	Jan. 15	.48	.48	.48	.57						
Chickens, per lb.....cts.	Jan. 15	23.4	22.4	24.7	28.0						
Eggs, per doz.....cts.	Jan. 15	41.0	44.5	40.3	36.9						
Wheat, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	1.88	1.85	2.03	2.18						
Corn, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	1.39	1.40	1.43	1.58						
Oats, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	.76	.75	.81	.89						
Barley, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	1.23	1.21	1.38	1.58						
Rye, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	1.05	1.03	1.59	1.66						
Buckwheat, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	.88	.84	1.37	1.32						
Flaxseed, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	3.40	3.45	3.65	4.74						
Red clover seed, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	16.26	14.64	17.40	24.86						
Alfalfa seed, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	16.80	15.24	21.40	30.90						
Timothy seed, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	5.36	5.08	5.54	6.33						
All hay, baled, per ton.....\$	Jan. 15	21.50	19.80	20.10	22.82						
Alfalfa hay, baled, per ton.....\$	Jan. 15	22.90	21.10	21.30	24.92						
Clover and timothy hay, baled, per ton.....\$	Jan. 15	19.70	18.40	18.00	-----						
Potatoes, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	1.10	1.10	2.25	1.56						
Apples, per bu.....\$	Jan. 15	3.10	3.10	2.85	2.30						

ers this January averaged \$3.55 a hundred pounds compared with \$4.19 per hundred for January a year ago—a decline of 15 percent. Milk used in manufacturing on the other hand averaged \$3.40 per hundred to producers this January or 7 percent be-

low the \$3.68 average for January 1953. Within the manufacturing uses, however, there are also some interesting differences in comparing returns to producers this January with January a year ago. December condensery prices averaged 10 percent lower

to producers while milk at butter-powder plants averaged 8 percent lower. American cheese plants averaged 9 percent lower, Swiss cheese plants 9 percent lower, and varied product plants averaged 11 percent below December of 1952. There are

compelling reasons for these differences, and the willingness of consumers to buy the various milk products is an important factor.

United States Prices

Higher prices for hogs, beef cattle, and commercial vegetables, together with small increases for lambs, chickens, wheat, and hay during the month ended January 15, 1954 raised the United States index of prices received by farmers 2 percent above the revised December level. The January index at 259 percent of its 1910-14 average was 3 percent below the 268 of a year earlier.

The mid-January parity index, prices paid for commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates, rose 1 percent to 282 percent of the 1910-14 average. This was primarily the result of increases in the prices paid for feeder livestock and increases in the indexes of farm wage rates, interest on farm mortgage indebtedness, and taxes on farm real estate. The parity index is now slightly lower than a year ago.

Wisconsin Egg Output Below a Year Ago

The number of layers in Wisconsin farm flocks during January was just a little lower than January last year. This was the first time since January 1953 that layer numbers have averaged under the corresponding months a year earlier. As a result of the slight decline in layer numbers and some drop in rate of lay the January total egg output was over 3 percent below a year earlier. The laying rate while under the January record established last year was the second highest for the month.

Total egg output in the nation during January was a record for the month. Production was less than 1 percent above the first month last year but was a tenth more than average for January. Like the state, the nation's laying rate in January was second only to the record rate for January last year. The number of

layers in January exceeded the number for the same month last year by about 2 percent.

Farmers May Buy More Chicks

Wisconsin crop reporters on February 1 indicated their intentions to purchase around 2 percent more chicks this year than they bought last year. Actual purchases and February plans may differ due in large part to comparative egg and feed prices during the hatching season. The nation's farmers plan to buy about the same number of chicks as they bought last year. Intentions to buy chicks in the East North Central States, which includes Wisconsin, are 6 percent under purchases for 1953. Farmers in this state plan to buy fewer straight run and sexed cockerel chicks than were bought last year. Plans are for buying more sexed pullet chicks.

Cattle Marketings Increase Despite Record Inventory

When farmers wish to increase the number of livestock on farms they generally do it by cutting down on the number of animals sent to market. This is necessary since the size of the calf, hog or lamb crop is closely related to the numbers of mature animals kept for breeding. Build-up of breeding stock comes from raising more young animals to maturity and slower culling of older animals.

With cattle numbers on Wisconsin farms exceeding all past records, one might expect marketings to be at a low level. Actually this has not been true this past year. Marketings of Wisconsin cattle in 1953 were slightly over 626,000 head—18 percent above 1952. Only in five of the past 33 years have cattle marketings been above 600,000 head. The record of 654,000 head in 1947 came during the liquidation period following the last peak in the cattle cycle at the end of World War II. Cattle marketings for 1953 were the second highest on record, which is unusual in that they were

accompanied by rising cattle numbers on our farms.

Calf slaughter in 1953 of 1,344,963 head was the greatest in the state's history. It exceeded 1952 by nearly a fifth and the previous record set in 1944 by 2 percent. The records show that the total cattle and calves marketed by Wisconsin farmers last year was the largest ever. Along with this record, the state produced the highest volume of milk on record and began the year 1954 with the greatest number of cattle and calves on its farms so far recorded.

Hog marketings for 1953 declined 14 percent following the heavy marketings in 1952 and the smaller inventory of swine on farms. Marketings of 2,626,973 head of hogs for 1953 were below levels for recent years but were still 1 percent above the 10-year, 1943-52, average.

Marketings of sheep and lambs from Wisconsin farms showed a pronounced decline between 1943 and 1951. Beginning in 1952, this down trend was reversed. Totals for 1953 of 224,724 sheep and lambs marketed represent a gain of 22 percent over the previous year. Marketings still have a long way to climb, however, before they reach the peak set back in the years of the early thirties. Farm inventory numbers have been gaining in the past two years, resulting in slightly larger lamb crops.

Movement of Wisconsin Livestock to Packers and Stockyards Number 1940-1953

Year	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
1940	457,493	1,066,900	2,388,426	318,475
1941	495,458	1,130,186	2,314,741	328,119
1942	601,903	1,190,559	2,657,411	363,476
1943	464,710	1,133,752	2,983,076	410,544
1944	605,653	1,313,023	3,224,756	369,426
1945	566,021	1,217,446	1,976,155	343,678
1946	468,870	1,132,178	2,083,997	331,255
1947	654,208	1,294,086	2,151,518	281,300
1948	563,657	1,201,619	2,242,524	288,155
1949	543,348	1,213,288	2,534,689	201,705
1950	611,719	1,140,799	2,764,274	195,693
1951	558,987	1,053,846	2,877,664	164,309
1952	530,770	1,124,996	3,047,887	184,039
1953*	626,261	1,344,963	2,626,973	224,724

*Preliminary.

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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IN THIS ISSUE

Spring Planting Plans

Planting intentions reports from Wisconsin farmers indicate increases over a year ago in the planted acreages of corn, barley, tobacco, soybeans, and onions. Smaller acreages of spring wheat, flax, and potatoes are planned. No changes in Wisconsin's oat and hay acreages are indicated. The nation's corn acreage may be the same as last year but larger acreages of oats and hay are expected.

Milk Production

Milk production on farms during February was up nearly 10 percent in Wisconsin and 5 percent in the nation compared with the production for February last year.

Egg Production

Egg production on Wisconsin farms last month showed no change from February last year, but output in the nation was up 3 percent from February 1953.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Wisconsin farm product prices as a whole dropped more than 1 percent from January to February. The February average was 7 percent below a year earlier and the lowest for any month in three and a half years.

Current Trends

Stocks of dried, condensed, and evaporated milk are smaller than a year ago. Manufacturing production workers employment, industrial production, and freight car loadings are all below levels of a year ago. Non-agricultural incomes are above last year.

Special News Item (page 2)
Feeder Pig Prices

PLANTING PLANS for this spring were reported by farmers in the state and nation early this month. If these plans are carried out, Wisconsin's corn acreage will be slightly larger than last year but no change is expected for the acreages of oats and hay. Some rather important acreage changes from a year ago are shown for some of the minor crops grown in the state.

Wisconsin farmers now expect to have about 2½ million acres of corn, about 3 million acres of oats, and nearly 4 million acres of hay this year. The acreage of these crops will make up the bulk of the state's crop acreage again this year. The corn acreage may be 1 percent above last year and equal to the 10-year average planted acreage. Compared with the 10-year average acreages, the state's oat acreage may be 3 percent larger but a decrease of 3 percent is expected in the hay acreage.

The 85,000 acres of barley will be 5 percent above a year ago but less than half of the 10-year average acreage. Spring wheat plantings may be three-fourths of the 1953 acreage and about half of average. Flax acreages are expected to be 71 percent of last year and only 42 percent of the average planted acreage.

Potato growers plan a reduction of 15 percent in the 1954 acreage, and the canning pea acreage may be 2 percent smaller than planted last year. The potato acreage may be only 53 percent of average while the canning pea acreage is expected to be only 6 percent smaller.

Tobacco producers plan an increase of 10 percent in acreage, and onion growers expect to increase the acreage 4 percent over that planted last year. Both acreages will be below average for the state.

Planting Plans in the Nation

For the sixteen crops covered in the intentions-to-plant report for the nation, a total of 282¼ million acres is indicated or over 11 million acres more than were planted last year. The intended corn acreage is less than 1 percent below last year, but the spring wheat acreage including durum may be only three-fourths of last year's planting. Seven percent more acres of oats and 2½ percent more acres of hay are planned by the nation's farmers this year.

The potato acreage may be reduced a tenth for the nation as a whole but little change is shown for the tobacco acreage. The canning pea acreage may drop 2 percent, which is the same

Weather Summary, February 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	February 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-13	48	25.2	13.3	0.87	1.02	+ 0.17
Spooner.....	-15	51	27.7	13.0	1.06	.81	- 0.03
Park Falls...	-14	50	25.5	12.4	0.69	1.17	- 0.98
Rhinelandler	-13	48	24.0	12.8	0.65	1.15	- 0.89
Wausau.....	-7	50	29.8	15.7	1.15	1.11	- 0.61
Mar.nette...	-7	50	30.7	21.0	0.97	1.54	- 1.26
Escanaba...	-5	48	27.7	17.6	1.53	1.37	- 0.15
Minneapolis	-2	56	31.8	18.2	0.32	0.89	- 1.12
Eau Claire...	-3	53	30.4	16.4	0.44	1.24	- 1.70
La Crosse...	-1	56	32.8	19.3	0.19	1.11	- 1.58
Hancock...	-12	51	28.7	16.8	0.68	1.17	- 1.01
Oshkosh...	-4	52	29.9	18.9	0.86	1.23	- 1.27
Green Bay...	-6	50	27.6	17.3	0.98	1.36	- 1.24
Manitowoc...	0	54	32.0	20.8	1.01	1.60	- 1.61
Dubuque...	1	57	33.7	22.6	0.46	1.11	- 1.34
Madison.....	0	58	32.9	21.9	0.63	1.13	- 1.05
Beloit.....	4	59	36.3	22.6	0.56	1.56	- 2.18
Milwaukee (airport)...	4	60	33.1	24.2	1.31	1.27	- 0.62
Average for 18 Stations	- 5.2	52.8	30.0	18.0	0.80	1.21	- 1.03

decrease as shown for Wisconsin. A reduction of 10 percent is expected for the onion acreage. Increases of 18 percent in the flax and 12 percent in the soybean acreages are shown.

Wisconsin Milk Production A Record for February

Wisconsin dairy herds produced nearly a tenth more milk in February than in February last year and a fifth more than the 1943-52 average for the month. The February milk production in the state is estimated at more than 1¼ billion pounds and accounted for a seventh of the nation's output.

Nationally, milk production on farms in February was nearly 9 billion pounds. This was 5 percent more milk than was produced in February last year and nearly 11 percent more than the 10-year average output for the month.

The increased milk production in the state and nation is the result of larger dairy herds than a year ago and an all-time high in milk production per cow. Weather conditions have been unusually favorable to milk production this winter, and output per cow has also been increased by liberal feeding.

In Wisconsin, particularly, the high level of milk production this year may be due in part to the shift in the percentage of cows freshening in the fall

Wisconsin and United States Planted Acreage

Crop	Wisconsin					United States				
	Acreage planted (000 omitted)			1954 as a percent of		Acreage planted (000 omitted)			1954 as a percent of	
	Intended 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1953	10-year average 1943-52	Intended 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1953	10-year average 1943-52
Corn.....	2,589	2,563	2,595	101	100	81,037	81,403	87,383	99.6	92.7
Oats.....	3,030	3,030	2,934	100	103	47,256	44,015	43,927	107.4	107.6
Barley.....	85	81	185	105	46	14,095	9,597	12,454	146.9	113.2
Spring wheat.....	30	40	58	75	52	16,657	21,903	20,048	76.0	83.1
Flax.....	5	7	12	71	42	5,383	4,560	4,223	118.0	127.5
Potatoes.....	53	62	100	85	53	1,364	1,532	2,184	89.0	62.5
Tobacco ¹	16.3	14.8	21.0	110	78	1,630	1,638	1,717	99.5	94.9
Soybeans ²	84	70	76	120	111	18,075	16,085	13,523	112.4	133.7
All hay ¹	3,927	3,927	4,064	100	97	75,793	73,918	74,629	102.5	101.6
Canning peas.....	132.0	134.6	140.5	98	94	456.4	464.2	462.9	98.3	98.6
Onions.....	2.8	2.7	3.10 ³	104	90 ³	119.4	132.1	119.3 ³	90.4	100.1 ³

¹Acreage harvested. ²Grown alone for all purposes.

³4 year, 1949-52 average.

and winter months. A recent survey of dairy reporters shows that 43 percent of their cows freshened in the four months September through December 1953. Forty percent of the cows freshened in the four months of 1952, and the 1935-39 average is 32 percent.

Wisconsin Farm Flocks Have Fewer Layers

The number of layers in Wisconsin farm flocks declined more than seasonally from January to February this year. During February layer numbers were 2 percent below February last year and a tenth below the 5-year average for the month. This reduction in the number of layers was offset by a higher rate of production per bird last month, and February egg output in Wisconsin of 189 million eggs was equal to the 1953 production for the month.

Total egg production on the nation's farms during February exceeded by over 3 percent the output for the corresponding month last year. An increase in layer numbers as well as a higher rate of lay per bird contributed to this increased egg production. Egg production per layer was the second highest for the month for both the state and nation.

Chick Production Up

Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries in Wisconsin during the first two months of this year showed an increase over a year ago. A larger output in March than a year ago is also indicated in hatchery reports. The egg-feed price relationship is favorable at the present time for increased chick production. This relationship is expected to continue at least for a while since feed prices usually do not show abrupt changes and the demand for eggs is good.

Milk Leads Drop In Farm Prices

Mid-February farm commodity prices as a whole in Wisconsin dropped to the lowest point in over 3½ years. The index of farm prices at 258 percent of the 1910-14 average was 1½ percent below January and nearly 7 percent below February a year ago.

Most of the February decline in the

index was due to the drop in milk prices. The average seasonal decline in milk prices between January and February over the past five years is slightly more than 2½ percent compared with nearly 4½ percent this year. Returns to milk producers are expected to average \$3.35 per hundred pounds for February deliveries compared with \$3.70 per hundred for February 1953.

Meat animal prices continued to make recovery during February due largely to stronger hog markets. Hog and beef prices averaged 80 cents a hundred higher to farmers in February than in January. Veal prices were slightly lower in mid-February. Sheep prices were also lower but lamb prices began their customary spring increase.

Crop prices for the most part have held fairly stable so far in 1954. Potatoes are an exception. Potato prices decline in February about one year out of three. This February they declined 14 percent from January which is the sharpest drop for the month in the records as far back as 1910. Prices per bushel averaged \$1.25 less this February than February last year.

The purchasing power of the Wisconsin farm dollar was 91 percent of the 1910-14 average. One has to go back in the records to February of 1941 to find a lower figure. When the index of purchasing power of Wisconsin farmers is compared on the 1947-49 base years it stands at 83 percent of the 1947-49 average. On the basis of the 1947-49 average the purchasing power nationally is 91 percent as measured by wholesale prices, 87 percent measured by consumer prices and 89 percent as measured by retail food prices.

United States Farm Prices

The national index of prices received by farmers declined slightly during the month ending in mid-February. Declines in prices of commercial vegetables, dairy products, fruits, poultry, and eggs slightly more than offset decreases in meat animal, cotton, and wheat prices. The index at 258 percent of its 1910-14 average in mid-February was 2 percent less than the 264 February a year earlier.

The mid-February 1954 parity index, prices paid, interest, taxes, and

wage rates, held steady at its January level, which is one point above February 1953. This index is now higher than in the corresponding month a year earlier for the first time since September 1952. Prices paid by farmers for production goods increased slightly from January to February this year, but not enough to raise the over-all index, with prices of family living items, interest, taxes, and wage rates unchanged.

Wisconsin Dairymen Report Prices of Feeder Pigs

At the beginning of March Wisconsin dairy reporters furnished information on prices, weights, and ages of feeder pigs sold. Here is a summary of the farmers' reports.

An average of the reports for the state as a whole shows that feeder pig prices were about \$17.00. Feeder pigs averaged 8.3 weeks and weighed 41 pounds.

A wide range of prices is shown in the reports, but the prices were closely related to the weight and age of the pigs sold. For the most part farmers in the northern part of the state sold pigs a week or so younger than in the southern part of Wisconsin. These younger pigs were marketed at lighter weights and sold for less than the heavier pigs sold at an older age in the southern part of the state.

Farmers in the southwestern counties of the state reported the highest prices for feeder pigs. In this area prices averaged \$19.67 a head for feeder pigs. Pigs averaged nine and a half weeks old and averaged 49 pounds. The age and weight of the pigs marketed in the southwestern counties were the highest for any area in the state.

More Pigs This Spring

The spring pig crop in the Corn Belt is expected to be larger than indicated in the annual December Pig Survey. Reports from farmers in Wisconsin and five other Corn Belt states on March 1 show that the number of sows to be bred for farrowing this spring in the six states will be 3 percent larger than expected earlier. These six states produced about half

Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

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April 1954

IN THIS ISSUE

April Crop Report

Farmers report considerable concern over moisture conditions as vegetation emerges slowly and field work begins in Wisconsin. Little field work was accomplished in the state before April 1.

Milk Production

Milk production in the state and nation during the first quarter of this year exceeded the corresponding period last year. March milk output in Wisconsin was up about 8 percent from a year earlier.

Egg Production

A decline from a year ago in the number of layers offset increased production per layer on Wisconsin farms, and egg production during March was below March last year. For the nation, egg production in March was above a year ago.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Wisconsin farm product prices are generally lower than a year ago—hog prices continue to be one of the few exceptions. The sharper than usual seasonal decline in the index of farm product prices was due to lower milk prices.

Current Trends

Stocks of dried, condensed, and evaporated milk in the nation are well below a year ago but record stocks of butter and cheese are reported.

Special Items (page 4)

Wisconsin Farm Wages
Below a Year Ago
Record Farm Stocks
of Corn

THE 1954 CROP SEASON begins with some apprehension shown by farmers concerning the moisture conditions in the state and many parts of the nation. What little snow cover there was in Wisconsin disappeared early, but temperatures in March averaged a little below normal for the state as a whole. Very little field work was accomplished before the first of April, according to reports from the state's farmers.

Even though the winter was open and precipitation has been below normal since late last summer, the condition of the state's rye and pasture is fair to good. Observations by our crop reporters indicate pasture conditions in the state averaged 78 percent of normal on April 1 and rye conditions 80 percent of normal. These condition figures are substantially below a year ago when the condition of pasture and rye average 89 percent of normal.

Rye and Pasture Conditions, April 1

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	1954	1953	10-yr. av. 1943-52	1954	1953	10-yr. av. 1943-52
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Rye.....	80	89	90	82	82	86
Pasture....	78	89	90	73	81	83

The near-dormant stage of vegetation at the beginning of April made reporting the condition of clover and alfalfa fields difficult. However, Wisconsin farmers were of the opinion at the beginning of the month that grasses and legumes probably would come through in good condition if the state received adequate precipitation early this spring.

Smaller Winter Wheat Crop

Early estimates of the winter wheat crop to be harvested this year show decreased production from a year ago for both the state and nation. Production of winter wheat in the state is

Winter Wheat Production

	Thousands of bushels			1954 as a percent of	
	Indicated 1954	1953	10-yr. average 1943-52	1953	10-yr. average 1943-52
Wisconsin.....	609	720	705	84.6	86.4
United States....	677,981	877,511	832,977	77.3	81.4

Weather Summary, March 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	March 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	6	44	22.4	24.6	1.70	1.54	+ 0.33
Spooner.....	5	48	24.7	26.4	2.17	1.46	+ 0.68
Park Falls..	5	49	21.9	24.0	2.65	1.62	+ 0.05
Rhineland..	1	51	22.4	24.8	1.24	1.35	- 1.00
Wausau.....	1	49	28.0	28.2	1.87	1.64	- 0.38
Marinette..	5	56	29.8	30.5	2.26	1.77	- 0.77
Escanaba... 6	47	26.0	26.2	1.70	1.78	- 0.23	
Minneapolis 1	53	27.9	30.9	2.10	1.48	- 0.50	
Eau Claire.. 3	56	28.7	30.1	1.80	1.82	- 1.72	
La Crosse... 6	57	30.2	31.6	1.41	1.86	- 2.03	
Hancock... 1	61	27.9	29.5	0.90	1.56	- 1.67	
Oshkosh... 5	64	29.4	30.8	1.21	1.66	- 1.72	
Green Bay... 7	63	28.9	28.5	1.11	1.76	- 1.89	
Manitowoc 10	63	31.3	30.7	1.41	2.09	- 2.29	
Dubuque... 5	59	30.8	33.3	1.79	2.25	- 1.80	
Madison... 7	62	31.5	32.5	1.19	1.83	- 1.69	
Beloit..... 7	64	33.7	34.8	1.66	2.18	- 2.70	
Milwaukee (airport) 10	66	31.6	33.3	1.65	2.19	- 1.16	
Average for 18 Stations	3.2	56.2	28.2	29.5	1.66	1.77	- 1.14

expected to be only 609,000 bushels and the nation's crop may total about 678 million bushels. Winter wheat production in the nation according to the present estimate will be 23 percent below the 1953 crop and 19 percent under average.

Nation's Crop Prospects

For the nation, field preparations were mostly advanced on April 1, but severe March weather retarded vegetative growth. Lack of reserve moisture in the subsoil was still causing concern although some improvement had taken place in March.

Prospects for fall seeded grasses and legumes generally appear to have improved because of March precipitation. However, the future of the new seedings is still somewhat uncertain in some areas that were dry last fall. Rye conditions average about equal to a year ago but pastures conditions are lower.

First Quarter Milk Output Well Above Last Year

Milk production in the first quarter of this year increased 9 percent for Wisconsin and about 5 percent for the nation compared with the output of the corresponding period in 1953.

Wisconsin's milk output on farms during March is estimated at 1,563 million pounds, which is nearly 8½

Current Trends

WISCONSIN						UNITED STATES					
		Latest Report		Previous Reports				Latest Report		Previous Reports	
	Date	Re-ported figure ¹	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure ¹	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month
Farm Price Indexes² 1910-14=100						Farm Price Indexes⁵, 1910-14=100					
Farm prices, general.....%						Farm prices, general.....%					
Livestock and livestock products.....%						Livestock and livestock products.....%					
Dairy products.....%						Dairy products.....%					
Meat animals.....%						Meat animals.....%					
Poultry.....%						Poultry and eggs.....%					
Eggs.....%						Crops.....%					
Crops.....%						Feed grains and hay.....%					
Feed grains and hay.....%						Prices farmers pay.....%					
Fruits.....%						Purchasing power, farm products.....%					
Prices farmers pay.....%											
Purchasing power, farm products.....%											
Dairy Products and Markets						Dairy Production and Markets					
Milk price per cwt. ²						Milk price, wholesale ⁶\$					
All utilizations.....\$						Farm price of butterfat in cream ⁶ , per lb.cts.					
For cheese.....\$						Price (wholesale) 92-score butter, Chicago ⁶ , per lb.cts.					
For butter.....\$						Total milk production ⁵ , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.					
Condensery products.....\$						Creamery butter production ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs.					
Market milk.....\$						American cheese production ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs.					
Farm price of butterfat in cream ²cts.						Evaporated whole milk production ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs.					
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound, American (cheddar).....cts.						Dried skim milk production ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs.					
Total milk production ² , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.						Human food.....lbs.					
Cows in herd freshening ²%						Animal feed.....lbs.					
Calves born during month being raised ²%						Butter receipts at 4 markets ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs.					
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow ⁴lbs.						Cheese receipts at 4 markets ⁶ , (000 omitted).....lbs.					
Grains and concentrates fed daily ²											
Per farm.....lbs.											
Per cow in herd.....lbs.											
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced.....lbs.											
Wisconsin creamery butter production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.						Cold-Storage Holdings⁶, (000 om.)					
Wisconsin American cheese production ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.						Creamery butter.....lbs.					
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.						American cheese.....lbs.					
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets ⁵ , (000 omitted).....lbs.						Swiss cheese.....lbs.					
						All other cheese.....lbs.					
						All varieties of cheese.....lbs.					
						Total frozen poultry.....lbs.					
						Eggs, shell.....cases					
						Eggs, shell, frozen and dried, (case equivalent).....cases					
Poultry Production²						Poultry Production⁵					
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.						Layers on hand in month, (000 omitted).....no.					
Eggs per 100 layers.....no.						Eggs per 100 layers.....no.					
Total eggs produced, (000,000 om.).....no.						Total eggs produced, (000,000 omitted).....no.					
Feed Price Changes²						Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk⁵, (000 omitted)					
Index of wholesale feed prices, 1910-14=100.....%						Dried whole milk.....lbs.					
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration.....\$						Dried skim milk.....lbs.					
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy.....lbs.						Dried buttermilk.....lbs.					
Wisconsin byproduct wholesale feed cost per ton, f.o.b. Madison						Condensed milk (case goods).....lbs.					
Standard bran.....\$						Evaporated milk (case goods).....lbs.					
Linseed oil meal.....\$											
Corn gluten feed.....\$						Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection⁶, (000 omitted)					
Tankage.....\$						Cattle.....no.					
Standard middlings.....\$						Calves.....no.					
Soybean meal.....\$						Sheep and lambs.....no.					
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration.....\$						Hogs.....no.					
Amount of ration 10 dos. eggs would buy.....lbs.											
Farm Product Prices²						Total personal income⁷.....%					
Milk cows, per head.....\$						Total non-agricultural income⁷.....%					
Hogs, per cwt.....\$						Total agricultural income⁷.....%					
Beef cattle, per cwt.....\$						Mfg. production workers employment (adjusted) ⁸ , 1947-49=100.....%					
Veal calves, per cwt.....\$						Industrial production (adjusted) ⁸ , 1947-49=100.....%					
Sheep, per cwt.....\$						Freight-car loadings (adjusted) ⁸ , 1947-49=100.....%					
Lambs, per cwt.....\$											
Wool, per lb.....\$											
Chickens, per lb.....cts.											
Eggs, per doz.....cts.											
Wheat, per bu.....\$											
Corn, per bu.....\$											
Oats, per bu.....\$											
Barley, per bu.....\$											
Rye, per bu.....\$											
Buckwheat, per bu.....\$											
Flaxseed, per bu.....\$											
Red clover seed, per bu.....\$											
Alfalfa seed, per bu.....\$											
Timothy seed, per bu.....\$											
All hay, baled, per ton.....\$											
Alfalfa hay, baled, per ton.....\$											
Clover and timothy hay, baled, per ton.....\$											
Potatoes, per bu.....\$											
Apples, per bu.....\$											

percent above March last year and a fifth more than the average production for the month. About 10,713 million pounds of milk were produced on farms in the nation during March. The nation's milk output was 5 percent above March last year and nearly

12 percent above the monthly average. Milk production in the state and nation in March was the highest for the month. Mild weather, heavy feeding, and increased milk cow numbers continue to contribute to the record milk production in the state and nation.

March milk production was above a year ago in every state in the nation except Utah, Oklahoma, and Texas, and it was the highest for the month in 17 of the 31 states for which estimates were made.

¹ Preliminary.
² Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service, based on reporters' data.
³ 10-year average.
⁴ Computed on the basis of the average reported quantity fed at the beginning and end of the month in herds of Wisconsin dairy correspondents times number of days in month.
⁵ Agricultural Marketing Service U. S. D. A.
⁶ Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A.
⁷ U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1947-1949=100.
⁸ Federal Reserve Board.

Wisconsin Egg Output Below March Last Year

Layers on Wisconsin farms declined 6 percent in number from February to March this year. This is a larger falling off than the average seasonal decline for this period. Egg prices have dropped lately and probably influenced farmers to cull their flocks heavily. The number of layers in March was 12 percent below the 5-year average for the month.

Egg production per layer during March was a record for the month but it was offset by the drop in layers from March last year. March egg production totaled 211 million eggs—2 percent under the same month last year.

Both the number of layers and the rate of production per bird in March were higher than the same month last year in the nation. As a result total egg production was over 5 percent above March a year ago. The March laying rate was a record for the month.

More Than Seasonal Drop In Wisconsin Farm Prices

The March index of Wisconsin farm commodity prices received by farmers was 254 percent of the 1910-14 base period. The decline in the index between February and March was 3 percent compared with an average decline of 1 percent between the two months for the past five years. Based on past records farm prices are expected to decline in March in three out of four years.

The sharper than average seasonal decline this March was due to lower milk prices. Returns per hundred pounds of milk to producers for March deliveries are expected to average \$3.30 compared with \$3.43 for February and \$3.59 for March last year. The expected average March milk price would be the lowest for any month in over three years.

Livestock prices have held quite steady since February. Slight advances occurred in beef and sheep and lamb prices. Hog prices have been maintained at record levels for the first quarter of 1954. Milk cow values have steadied largely due to the leveling in beef prices.

Continued lowering of the index of the purchasing power extended through March. The index at 90 percent of the 1910-14 base was 5 percent below March a year ago and results from only a 1 percent decrease in farm costs compared with a 7 percent decline in farm prices.

United States Farm Prices

The index of prices received by farmers declined slightly during the month ending in mid-March to 256 percent of the 1910-14 average. Lower prices for eggs, milk, hogs, potatoes, and butterfat in cream were primarily responsible for the decline. These decreases were only partially offset by higher prices for beef cattle, commercial vegetables, cotton, lambs, wheat, and soybeans. The March index compares with 258 in February and 264 in March a year ago.

Wisconsin Has Record Farm Stocks of Corn

Wisconsin farmers have the largest stocks of corn reported for any April. Farm stocks of other grains are below a year ago and less than the average holdings for April.

Stocks of corn on Wisconsin farms at the beginning of April were estimated at over 48½ million bushels—more than 1 million bushels above a year ago and about 23 million bushels above the April 1 average holdings. Farm stocks of oats totaled about 46½ million bushels are 2½ million bushels below a year ago and 1½ million bushels under average. Farmers have 1 million bushels of barley, 169 thousand bushels of rye, and 162 thousand bushels of soybeans. These stocks are all below a year ago and average. Barley stock are half of the April 1 holdings on Wisconsin farms.

Farm stocks of feed grains in the nation on April 1 were 2 percent larger than a year earlier and about 11 percent above average. An estimated 1,469 million bushels of corn make up the bulk of the farm stocks of feed grains. Holdings of corn are slightly above a year ago and a sixth above the April 1 average.

In terms of supply per grain-consuming animal unit to be fed, the current farms stocks of grain in the

United States on April 1 exceeded tonnages for the date in any year of record except 1949 and 1950. Only a little over 25 million tons of feed grains disappeared from farms in the nation in the first quarter of this year, which is 1 million tons less than in the corresponding period in 1953. The disappearance this year is less than any comparable quarter since 1941 except for 1948.

Wisconsin Farm Wages Show Slight Decline

Wisconsin farmers report they are paying lower wages to hired workers now than they did in January. This is contrary to the general trend of increasing pay as spring work begins on the state's farms.

At the beginning of April Wisconsin crop correspondents reported wages paid hired workers averaging \$161.00 a month with a house and \$120.00 with board and room. Wages per day averaged \$5.60 with board and room and \$7.20 without board or room. Hourly rates average 95 cents without board or room.

The rates paid hired workers by Wisconsin farmers now are below the average rates reported for April 1 last year. This decline in wages is somewhat in line with the decline in farm product prices and falling income in the past year. Wages paid hired workers, however, continued to climb even though farm product prices weakened last year and the rates reached an all-time high at the beginning of this year.

Wisconsin Farm Wage Rates

	Per month		Per day		Per hour
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	Without board or room
1953					
Jan....	\$161.00	\$124.00	\$5.60	\$7.10	\$.95
Apr....	168.00	126.00	5.80	7.30	.96
July....	167.00	125.00	6.00	7.50	.98
Oct....	164.00	127.00	6.20	7.60	.99
1954					
Jan....	166.00	122.00	6.00	7.50	.99
Apr....	161.00	120.00	5.60	7.20	.95

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics

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May 1954

IN THIS ISSUE

May Crop Report

Hay and pasture conditions improved during the past month because of abundant rainfall. Wisconsin farmers had about the usual amount of their spring grain in by May 1, and planting was ahead of last year. The pasture season in the state started with a smaller supply of old hay on hand than a year ago.

Milk Production

Milk production so far this year is well above a year ago both in the state and nation. April milk output in the state was up 7 percent from April last year but the increase for the nation was only 4 percent.

Egg Production

Egg production on Wisconsin farms shows a decrease from a year ago but for the nation total egg output is larger than estimated for April last year.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices received for products sold by Wisconsin farmers as a whole dropped 7 percent during the past year compared with a decline of about 2 percent in the index of prices paid by farmers.

Current Trends

Stocks of dried, condensed, and evaporated milk are well below a year ago. Slaughter of cattle and calves is larger but hog and sheep and lamb slaughter is below a year ago.

Special Items (page 2)

Production of Maple Sugar and Sirup
Custom Rates Paid by Farmers

HAY AND PASTURE conditions have improved during the past month but frosts set the fields back in many areas. Many Wisconsin farmers who reported a moisture deficiency in their localities early in April found the ground too wet for field work in the first week of May.

Weather conditions in the latter part of April and the first week in May were cool and wet. In some Wisconsin areas frosts damaged early vegetation and gardens.

Except for a few spots in central and western Wisconsin, the stands of new seedings and the prospects for hay and pasture are above average. In these areas the drought injury to hay and pasture continued to be evident and reports of the conditions of these crops brought the state's average down.

For the state as a whole, the condition of hay and pasture at the beginning of May was slightly higher than a year ago and above the May 10-year average for both crops. Pasture conditions on May 1 averaged 87 percent of normal and the condition of hay was 89 percent of normal. Reports of the condition of winter wheat and rye in the state are also favorable.

With the land free from snow and the ground dry rather early this spring, many farmers in the southern counties got their spring grains in earlier than a year ago. In this area of the state 90 percent or more of the spring sown grain was in by May 1. In the northern third of the state farmers were also ahead of schedule for a while but with the rains grain planting in that area was delayed.

Spring Grain Sown By May 1, 1954 and 1953 Compared with Usual

District	Sown by May 1, 1954	Sown by May 1, 1953	Usually sown by May 1 ¹
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Northwest.....	53	52	69
North.....	57	46	65
Northeast.....	58	49	73
West.....	85	71	89
Central.....	88	68	87
East.....	92	62	87
Southwest.....	92	77	93
South.....	93	83	93
Southeast.....	89	91	93
State.....	83	69	86

¹8-year average.

Nation's Crop Prospects Improve

The 1954 crop season for the nation as a whole is off to an encouraging start because of recent improvement in soil moisture sup-

Weather Summary, April 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	April 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-5	66	37.0	38.3	3.94	2.21	+ 2.06
Spooner.....	1	73	43.6	42.5	5.68	1.91	+ 4.45
Park Falls.....	-3	70	40.6	40.1	7.92	2.61	+ 5.36
Rhineland.....	-1	68	41.3	40.1	4.79	2.24	+ 1.55
Wausau.....	4	75	46.9	42.8	6.73	2.56	+ 3.79
Marinette.....	6	72	45.2	42.5	4.64	2.72	+ 1.15
Escanaba.....	3	61	39.9	38.2	5.23	2.10	+ 2.90
Minneapolis.....	9	85	46.5	46.0	3.53	1.91	+ 1.12
Eau Claire.....	8	82	47.1	45.8	6.11	2.71	+ 1.68
La Crosse.....	10	82	49.7	46.6	6.79	2.31	+ 2.45
Hancock.....	3	80	47.5	44.3	5.67	2.70	+ 1.30
Oshkosh.....	6	76	47.1	44.6	4.29	2.67	- 0.10
Green Bay.....	7	75	45.0	41.8	4.45	2.51	+ 0.05
Manitowoc.....	10	73	54.0	42.2	5.04	2.61	+ 0.14
Dubuque.....	12	80	49.7	46.9	7.23	2.69	+ 2.74
Madison.....	10	82	49.4	45.7	4.09	2.49	- 0.09
Beloit.....	12	84	53.1	47.7	5.68	2.72	+ 0.26
Milwaukee (airport).....	13	81	47.6	44.3	3.27	2.39	- 0.28
Average for 18 Stations	5.8	75.8	46.2	43.4	5.28	2.45	+ 1.7

plies. Progress of spring work is normal to advanced in most areas, although retarded in a strip along the northern border. Pasture conditions for the nation average about the same as May 1 last year and a slightly higher average is shown for hay. Prospects for the winter wheat crop have improved in the past month, and larger crops of winter wheat and rye are expected.

Farm Stocks of Old Hay

Wisconsin farmers have only about four-fifths of the hay on hand they had a year ago when they began to pasture their cattle. Farm stocks of hay on May 1 totaled over 1½ million tons, and they were 27 percent above the average holdings for the date. For the United States, stocks of old hay on May 1 were estimated at more than 15 million tons. These farm holdings were 3 percent larger than a year ago and the largest carry-over in seven years.

Record Milk Output So Far This Year

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during April was estimated to be 1,647 million pounds and was more than 7 percent above the April 1953 all-time high production for the month. The increase over last year is well above the 4 percent shown

for the nation as a whole. Milk production in the nation of 11,345 million pounds was also a record for the month.

Total milk production during the first four months of this year was nearly 9 percent above the production of the corresponding months for the state and up about 5 percent for the nation. The increase in milk output in the state and nation results from a record-high milk production per cow as well as an increase in milk cow numbers. The proportion of the cows in herds in the nation being milked is the highest on record for this time of year, which adds to the increased milk production.

Wisconsin's milk production in April accounted for nearly 15 percent of the nation's total. This state's output was almost double the 861 million pounds of Minnesota, the nation's second-ranking state. The California output in April is estimated at 626 million pounds and ranks third in the nation.

Wisconsin Farm Flocks Smaller—Egg Output Below Year Ago

Layer numbers on Wisconsin farms in April were 6 percent under April a year ago, and 12 percent below the 5-year April average. Since January the number of layers on farms has shown a decline of about 13 percent. This is more than the usual seasonal decline. Lowered egg prices have undoubtedly caused farmers to cull their laying flocks rather heavily. Layer numbers may be substantially increased this fall in this state. This is indicated by chick orderings this spring which are well above last spring.

Total egg output for the state at 199 million eggs was 2 percent under April last year. The production per bird for April was a record for the month. April is a month of usually high output per layer, but the record production this year is partly because of the favorable weather.

For the United States both the number of layers on hand and the rate of lay per bird in April exceeded the same month last year. The production per layer was a record for the month. Total egg output for April exceeded the corresponding month a year ago by over 3 percent and it was the highest for April since 1946.

Milk and Egg Prices Decline Sharply

The index of prices received for products sold by Wisconsin farmers dropped more than 2 percent from March to April. The April index was 248 percent of the 1910-14 average and was 7 percent below the index of April last year. Farm product prices now are about a fourth below the all-time high in the fall of 1951.

The March to April drop in the farm products price index reflects the decrease in prices during the month of nearly 8 percent for milk and almost 9 percent for eggs. These decreases more than offset gains in meat animal and poultry prices.

While farmers are receiving considerably lower prices for the products they sell, the prices paid for things used in farm production and family living have dropped only slightly. Prices paid by farmers showed no change from March to April and dropped less than 2 percent from April last year. Purchasing power of the Wisconsin farm dollar, the ratio of prices received to prices paid, has declined more than 5 percent from a year ago and is at the lowest level since October 1940.

Preliminary estimates of prices received for milk sold by Wisconsin farmers in April show an average of \$3.05 a hundred pounds for milk sold for all uses. This is 25 cents below the March average and 42 cents under the spring 1953 price. Milk prices are now 12 percent below a year ago and egg prices have dropped a fourth.

For the nation, increases from March to April in the prices for hogs, cattle, potatoes, cotton, and soybeans were nearly offset by decreases for milk, eggs, butterfat, and several commercial vegetable crops. Only small changes from a year ago are shown in the indexes of prices received and prices paid by the nation's farmers.

Custom Rates Paid By Wisconsin Farmers

The following are the averages of rates paid by Wisconsin farmers for custom work done during the 1953 crop season. These rates show only small changes from the averages reported the previous year. Labor and maintenance costs were probably higher than paid by machine owners the previous year, but increased competition among those doing custom work tended to keep charges for custom work at the 1952 levels in many cases.

Custom Rates for Seeding and Tilling Operations, Wisconsin, 1953¹

Operation	Average rate reported	
	Per hour	Per acre
Plowing		
2 bottom.....	\$3.00	\$3.10
3 bottom.....	3.80	3.00
Discing.....	3.00	1.45
Cultivating		
2 row.....	2.80	1.30
4 row.....	3.80	1.25
Multi-packing.....	2.90	1.20
Field cultivating and quack digging	3.10	1.70
Grain drilling		
With fertilizer attachment.....	3.20	1.50
Without fertilizer attachment ..	3.00	1.35
Planting corn		
2 row planter.....	2.90	1.50
4 row planter.....	3.90	1.40

¹Rates quoted are for machine, tractor, and one man, and fuel furnished by machine owner.

The rates given in the first two tables are on both a per hour and per acre basis for most seeding, tilling, combining, and other harvesting operations. Silo filling is usually paid for by the foot and hay and straw baling is on a per bale basis. Custom rate charges include the machine, tractor, and one man. Fuel is furnished by the machine owner.

Custom Rates for Combining and Other Harvest Operations, Wisconsin, 1952¹

Operation	Average rate reported	
	Per hour	Per acre
Combining		
Small grains.....	\$5.60	\$5.10
Legumes and grass seeds.....	5.60	5.00
Soybeans.....	5.50	4.90
Buckwheat.....	5.50	5.00
Mowing hay.....	2.90	1.30
Side raking.....	2.80	1.25
Corn shredding.....	4.80	xxxx
Corn picking		
1 row.....	4.90	5.00
2 row.....	6.85	4.75
Corn binder.....	3.35	2.80
Grain binder.....	3.35	2.10
Baling	Per bale	
Hay.....	.11	xxxx
Straw.....	.11	xxxx
Silo filling	Per foot	
12 ft. silo.....	1.10	xxxx
14 ft. silo.....	1.40	xxxx
Per hour.....	3.70	xxxx

¹Rates quoted are for machine, tractor and one man. Fuel furnished by machine owner.

Custom rates charged for field chopping are given on a per hour basis. These rates include two men, two tractors, and fuel furnished by the machine owner.

Custom Rates for Field Chopping Wisconsin, 1953¹

Crop	Average rate reported
	Per hour
Hay.....	\$10.30
Straw.....	10.20
Corn.....	10.40
	Per foot
12 ft. silo.....	\$ 2.70
14 ft. silo.....	3.50

¹Rates quoted include two men, two tractors and fuel furnished by machine owner.

Farmers also reported custom rates paid for spraying and dusting. Rates for weed spraying averaged \$3.50 an hour or \$1.65 an acre. Spraying field crops with ground equipment averaged \$4.00 an hour and \$2.00 an acre. An average rate of \$3.50 an acre was reported for spraying field and truck crops with aerial equipment. Spraying fruit trees averaged 40 cents per tree, and spraying barns and outbuildings averaged \$4.25 an hour or 25 cents a lineal foot. These rates are for equipment and help only and do not include the costs of chemical materials.

Maple Products Output Below Last Year

Wisconsin has a smaller crop of maple products this spring than a year ago but the nation has a larger one. The number of trees tapped in the state and for the nation was well above last year but the sugar content was low this spring.

Wisconsin's maple sugar production this year is estimated at 16,000 pounds compared with 20,000 pounds a year ago and the 1943-52 average of 9,000 pounds. Maple sirup output in the state totaled 64,000 gallons this spring while 80,000 gallons were made a year ago. Sirup output was

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June 1954

Weather Summary, May 1954

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IN THIS ISSUE

June Crop Report

Wisconsin's crop conditions as a whole probably are not as favorable as they were a year ago. For the nation, crop prospects are good but no record out-turn of crops is expected.

Milk Production

Milk production on Wisconsin farms in May was 6 percent above May last year compared with an increase of 4 percent for the nation.

Egg Production

Egg production on Wisconsin farms in May was somewhat below May 1953 while an increase in output is shown for the nation.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices received for products sold by Wisconsin farmers in May averaged the lowest for any month in the past four years. Prices paid by farmers edged up slightly from April to May.

Current Trends

Non-agricultural income is up slightly from a year ago but decreases are reported for agricultural incomes, industrial production, employment, and freight-car loadings.

Special News Items (pages 3 and 4)

1954 Spring Pig Crop and Fall Farrowings

1953 Wisconsin Dairy Products Manufactured

WISCONSIN'S CROP CONDITIONS as a whole probably are not as good as reported for June last year. At the beginning of June conditions of all crops except winter wheat and rye were below June 1 last year and the 10-year average for the date.

Following early June reports from Wisconsin farmers, there were heavy rains over much of the state, and some crop improvement took place. Pasture conditions improved but are still not furnishing the abundance of feed they did in most recent years.

Percent of Corn Planted by June 1

District	1954		Normal
	Percent	Percent	
Northwest.....	71	88	
North.....	70	85	
Northeast.....	71	83	
West.....	88	94	
Central.....	87	89	
East.....	77	79	
Southwest.....	95	95	
South.....	90	89	
Southeast.....	84	80	
State.....	85.2	88.2	

Wisconsin's corn crop was planted early this year in most areas except the northern third of the state and in some of the central counties. Progress of the crop, however, was retarded by the heavy rains and cool weather in early June. Some of the corn acreage had to be replanted, but this occurred in only small areas where water settled on the fields. The hot and humid weather near mid-June was beneficial to crop progress and particularly to the corn crop.

Prospects for the crops of sour cherries and apples in the commercial areas were mixed at the beginning of June. It was believed that

Condition of Crops, June 1, 1954 1953, and 10-year Average (Percent of normal)

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	1954	1953	10-yr. av. 1943-52	1954	1953	10-yr. av. 1943-52
Winter wheat	89	87	87			
Spring wheat	89	92	91	88	90	83
Rye.....	89	88	87			
All hay.....	83	88	86	82	87	85
Clover and timothy hay	80	87	85	81	90	87
Alfalfa hay..	87	88	88	85	87	86
Wild hay.....	85	88	88	79	82	82
Pasture.....	78	86	86	80	85	86

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	May 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	23	77	43.9	49.3	5.71	2.95	+ 4.82
Spooner.....	21	81	49.1	55.1	5.04	3.30	+ 6.19
Park Falls.....				53.2			3.31
Rhineland.....	21	83	46.9	53.2	3.09	3.09	+ 1.55
Wausau.....	25	79	51.5	55.4	3.45	3.61	+ 3.63
Marinette.....	26	77	50.9	55.5	2.46	2.52	+ 1.09
Escanaba.....	23	76	46.6	49.8	2.02	2.60	+ 2.32
Minneapolis.....	26	83	53.1	58.5	2.54	3.12	+ 0.54
Eau Claire.....	28	85	52.4	58.0	3.03	3.96	+ 0.75
La Crosse.....	28	83	53.9	59.0	2.03	3.27	+ 1.21
Hancock.....	23	83	51.0	56.7	3.35	3.96	+ 0.69
Oshkosh.....	27	83	51.3	56.7	1.74	3.33	- 1.69
Green Bay.....	27	80	49.7	54.4	3.22	2.53	+ 0.74
Manitowoc.....	30	77	50.9	52.2	2.56	3.00	- 0.30
Dubuque.....	28	79	53.7	57.9	3.79	3.47	+ 3.06
Madison.....	28	83	53.2	57.5	2.98	3.27	- 0.38
Beloit.....	31	83	56.4	58.9	3.40	3.63	+ 0.03
Milwaukee (airport).....	30	85	51.7	54.3	1.83	2.98	- 1.43
Average for 18 Stations	26.2	81.0	51.0	55.3	3.07	3.22	+ 1.34

*Average for 17 stations.

some frost damage occurred to the fruit. The cherry crop is late this year.

Crop Prospects for the Nation

As a whole, prospects for the nation's crops were good at the beginning of June. Soil moisture supplies were largely replenished during May or early in June. The drought was broken in much but not all of the Southwest. While some improvement took place in the prospects for spring and winter wheat, total production of the crop will be about 11 percent below average.

The condition of all hay in the United States on June 1 was below last year and average for the date. Pasture conditions were below a year ago and average for June 1.

Wisconsin Milk Output 6 Percent Above May 1953

The 1,859 million pounds of milk produced on Wisconsin farms in May was about 6 percent above May last year and 12 percent above average for the month. During the first five months of this year the state's dairy herds produced 7,656 million pounds of milk or 8 percent more than in the same period last year.

Milk production in the United States during May is estimated at 13,178 million pounds. This output

May being up 7 percent this year compared with the usual May to June increase of over 12 percent.

Wisconsin Egg Output Below May Last Year

The number of layers on Wisconsin farms in May was 4 percent under May last year while the number in January was less than 1 percent under January last year. This seasonal decline in layers has resulted from heavy culling of layers because of the sharp drop in egg prices from a year ago. Farm flocks will be increased this fall. This is shown by the increase of about a tenth above a year ago in the number of chicks and young chickens of this year's hatching on farms.

Total egg output for the nation in May was close to 4 percent above May 1953. Both the rate of lay and number of layers for May exceeded the corresponding month last year.

Wisconsin Farm Prices Drop to 4-Year Low

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers for products sold at mid-May was the lowest for any month in the past four years. The index at 245 percent of the 1910-14 base was also the lowest figure for May in eight years. All components of the index were lower in May than in April and the drop in the over-all index was 2 percent between the two months.

Egg prices showed the sharpest decline during the month with the May average for the state 9 percent below April and 31 percent below May a year ago. Poultry prices were 3 percent below April and 12 percent below May last year. Livestock prices declined only slightly in May and were 3 percent above a year ago. Hog prices were mostly responsible for keeping up the May index of meat animal prices. This group index at 308 percent of the 1910-14 base was the highest for any of the farm commodity groupings. Lowest of the commodity prices indexes was feed grains and hay.

Milk prices received by producers in May began to show effects of continued record milk production and lower parity support levels for 1954. Milk for manufacturing averaged \$2.90 per hundred pounds for May—off 40 cents a hundred from May a year ago. The last time this price was as low was in July 1950. Market milk prices to producers averaged \$3.25 a hundred for May compared with \$3.60 for May a year ago. The average for milk in all uses was \$3.00 per hundred pounds this May which was 11 percent less than May 1953.

The index of purchasing power of the Wisconsin farm dollar declined for the fifth consecutive month. It is now 85 percent of the 1910-14 level and is the lowest since September 1940. The index of prices paid by farmers is now above the corresponding month for the previous year. This is the first indication of rising non-farm prices in the past 17 months.

More Pigs For Fall Market

Wisconsin's pig crop this spring was 18 percent larger than the one raised last year. That's the indication from the rural carrier survey made in the state June 1 this year. The increase results from 15 percent more sows farrowing and also litter sizes averaged the highest on record.

That increase is a little greater than for other parts of the country. Spring pigs saved across the country, 56 million, were only 13 percent greater than last year. And the 45 million pigs saved in the Corn Belt were also up only 13 percent over a year ago.

Early Farrowings

Farmers report sows farrowing a little earlier than usual this spring both in Wisconsin and across the country. In this state 22 percent of the sows farrowed from December

Spring Pigs Saved

(000 omitted)

	1953	1954	1954 as a percent of 1953
Indiana.....	3,878	4,494	116
Illinois.....	5,945	6,635	112
Wisconsin.....	1,925	2,277	118
Minnesota.....	3,790	4,317	114
Iowa.....	12,219	13,519	111
Kansas.....	705	885	126
6 states.....	28,462	32,127	113
Corn Belt States.....	39,948	45,097	113
United States.....	49,703	56,066	113

through February as compared with only 15 percent a year ago. For the whole Corn Belt farrowings in those months this year was 23 percent of the spring total compared with only 18 percent of the farrowings so early in 1953.

Not only were numbers of sows farrowing greater this spring, but litter sizes also were larger. The national average shows 6.9 pigs per

Spring Sows Farrowing

(000 omitted)

	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total
Wisconsin							
1953.....	2	9	30	93	96	51	281
1954.....	5	13	52	106	97	50	323
Corn Belt							
1953.....	79	230	747	1,739	1,945	1,079	5,819
1954.....	112	295	1,069	2,042	1,900	1,073	6,491
United States							
1953.....	220	441	1,050	2,108	2,221	1,260	7,300
1954.....	274	515	1,410	2,428	2,213	1,288	8,128

Fall Sows to Farrow¹

(000 omitted)

	June to August			June to November		
	1953	1954	1954 as percent of 1953	1953	1954	1954 as percent of 1953
Indiana.....	328	416	127	512	599	117
Illinois.....	276	368	133	580	667	115
Wisconsin.....	104	117	112	175	196	112
Minnesota.....	164	180	110	273	278	102
Iowa.....	537	598	111	911	1,002	110
Kansas.....	30	43	143	76	90	118
6 states.....	1,439	1,722	120	2,527	2,832	112
Corn Belt.....				3,514	3,879	110
United States.....				4,762	5,260	110

¹ 1954 fall farrowings are indicated from breeding intentions reports.

Spring and Fall Pig Crops

(000 omitted)

	Spring		Fall		Total number pigs saved spring and fall
	Sows farrowed	Pigs saved	Sows farrowed	Pigs saved	
Wisconsin					
10-yr. av. 1943-52.....	332	2,207	175	1,172	3,379
1953.....	281	1,925	175	1,178	3,103
1954.....	323	2,277	196*		
Corn Belt States**					
10-yr. av. 1943-52.....	6,810	43,476	3,657	24,054	67,530
1953.....	5,819	39,948	3,514	23,600	63,548
1954.....	6,491	45,097	3,879*		
United States					
10-yr. av. 1943-52.....	9,025	57,023	5,530	35,850	92,873
1953.....	7,300	49,703	4,762	31,882	81,585
1954.....	8,128	56,066	5,260*		

*Estimates based on intentions of farmers as reported in the June Pig Survey and subject to revision.

**Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

litter—the spring crop this year compared with 6.8 a year ago. Wisconsin showed an even larger increase with an average of 7.05 pigs per litter this year compared with only 6.85 a year ago.

Fall Intentions

More sow farrowings are also planned for the fall both in Wisconsin and across the nation. That's also shown by the rural carrier survey. On June 1, Wisconsin farmers reported they planned to have an eighth more fall sows than last year. That's somewhat more than the 10 percent increase reported for both the Corn Belt States and for the nation as a whole.

Wisconsin's 1953 Dairy Manufactures Told

The summary of 1953 Wisconsin dairy manufactures is now available. This enumeration of all Wisconsin dairy plants is made annually by the Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service.

Wisconsin dairy manufactures were generally greater in 1953 than in the previous year. Butter production last year was 27 percent greater than in 1952. The 206 million pounds of butter manufactured in 1953 were 44 million pounds above 1952 and 62 million pounds above 1951.

Total cheese production for 1953 was almost 585 million pounds. This was about 7 percent above the output in 1952. American cheese output was almost 44 million pounds or more than 10 percent higher than in 1952. Other types of cheese which were also produced in greater quantities last year than in 1952 were Italian, brick, Munster, and cream cheese. Swiss cheese was an exception with the 37 million pounds of cheese manufactured in 1953, about 16 percent below 1952. Limburger production was also below the previous year with only slightly over 3 million pounds manufactured in 1953.

Total condensery output in 1953 was less than in 1952. The production of evaporated whole milk in 1953 was down about 23 percent or 147 million pounds from the previous year. Output of condensed whole milk, both sweetened and unsweetened, was down about 15 percent in 1953. There was a 16 percent increase from 1952 in the

Wisconsin Dairy Manufactures, 1953, 1952, and 1951

Product	1953 ¹ (000 omitted)	1952 (000 omitted)	1951 (000 omitted)	1953
				1952 percent change
Creamery butter (includes whey butter).....lb.	205,716	161,561	143,730	+27.3
Cheese				
American (cheddar and Colby) ²lb.	460,137	416,328	432,066	+10.5
Swiss (drum and block).....lb.	37,081	43,865	40,848	-15.5
Munster.....lb.	9,782	9,337	8,843	+4.8
Brick.....lb.	16,413	16,212	16,131	+1.2
Brick and Munster, total.....lb.	26,195	25,549	24,974	+2.5
Limburger.....lb.	3,116	3,406	3,206	-8.5
Italian.....lb.	28,101	24,817	24,973	+13.2
Cream.....lb.	17,681	17,339	17,076	+2.0
All other cheese (not cottage cheese).....lb.	12,575	15,733	8,409	-20.1
Total cheese (excluding cottage cheese).....lb.	584,886	547,037	551,552	+6.9
Condensed and powdered products				
Sweetened condensed whole milk (bulk goods).....lb.	9,037	10,615	6,596	-14.9
Unsweetened condensed whole milk (bulk goods).....lb.	14,361	16,975	18,977	-15.4
Evaporated whole milk unsweetened (case goods).....lb.	487,915	635,074	733,946	-23.2
Total evaporated and condensed whole milk.....lb.	511,313	662,664	759,519	-22.8
Condensed skim milk (bulk)				
Sweetened.....lb.	25,306	30,815	39,230	-17.9
Unsweetened.....lb.	83,581	83,030	56,082	+32.6
Total.....lb.	108,887	93,845	95,312	+16.0
Condensed whey.....lb.	38,884	53,076	56,912	-26.7
Powdered skim milk for human use				
Spray process.....lb.	306,703	232,396	192,793	+32.0
Roller process.....lb.	29,259	33,918	27,287	-13.7
Total.....lb.	335,962	266,314	220,080	+26.2
Powdered skim for animal feed.....lb.	4,012	11,599	4,723	-65.4
Powdered whole milk.....lb.	40,054	37,761	47,071	+6.1
Powdered buttermilk.....lb.	8,271	7,677	3,820	+7.7
Powdered whey.....lb.	75,930	81,601	51,678	-6.9
Malted milk powder.....lb.	27,930	25,085	28,802	+11.3
Other products				
Dried casein.....lb.	548	662	4,870	-17.2
Ice cream.....gal.	18,731	17,696	16,464	+5.8
Ice cream mix shipped out of state.....gal.	1,656	1,990	1,241	-16.8
Cottage cheese, curd.....lb.	27,340	23,161	25,508	+18.0
Cottage cheese, creamed.....lb.	34,630	23,426	24,225	+47.8
Whole milk shipped out of state.....lb.	994,311	1,154,621	1,092,187	-13.9
Butterfat in cream shipped out of state ³lb.	31,060	34,355	34,891	-9.6

¹Preliminary.

²Includes part-skim American.

³Includes butterfat in whey cream shipped out of state.

manufacture of condensed skim milk. This increase was due to the greater amount of unsweetened skim milk prepared in 1953. There were almost 84 million pounds of it prepared last year compared with 63 million pounds in 1952. An 18 percent decline in sweetened condensed skim milk manufacture occurred between 1952 and 1953.

Powdered skim milk for animal feed was down almost two-thirds from 1952 with only 4 million pounds made last year. Powdered whole milk output increased over 2 million pounds in 1953. The amount of buttermilk dried in 1953 increased 8 percent from

1952, and it was over twice the amount dried in 1951. There were about 6 million pounds less dried whey manufactured in 1953 than in 1952, but the output of 76 million pounds was still considerably more than the 52 million pounds in 1951. Dried casein production has been declining for a number of years with only 548,000 pounds manufactured in 1953.

The accompanying table contains more detailed information on the 1953 dairy manufactures. County detail on some of these items will be published in the July issue of "Wisconsin Dairying".

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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IN THIS ISSUE

July Crop Report

Acreage changes from a year ago include an all-time high in corn acreage for Wisconsin. Crop estimates indicate a record corn crop and the third largest crops of oats and hay for the state. Total crop production is expected to be good this year in both the state and nation.

Milk Production

Milk production in June in both the state and nation was above June last year but the increase was not as great as in other months of the year.

Egg Production

Laying flocks are smaller than a year ago in the state and egg production showed a decrease from June last year. For the nation, June egg output was higher than a year ago.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Wisconsin farm product prices declined from May to June and were well below June last year. Prices farmers pay have declined only slightly from a year ago and purchasing power of farm products is now the lowest for any time in the past 14 years.

Current Trends

Industrial production and freight-car loadings continue below a year ago. Stocks of condensery products are less than a year ago but butter and cheese holdings are the highest on record.

Special News Items (page 4)

More Cattle on Feed
for Market

Poultry and Egg

Situation Reviewed

A RECORD CORN ACREAGE may be harvested in Wisconsin this year. July acreage estimates show the state has larger acreages of corn, tobacco, barley, sugar beets, snap beans for canning, and onions. The hay acreage is almost equal to the one harvested last year. Other crops grown in the state will be harvested on smaller acreages this year.

The over-all picture of crop production at the beginning of July was good. A record corn crop was forecast, and the hay and oat crops were expected to be the third largest on record. But following the monthly estimates, wind, hail, and heavy rains damaged crops in many areas of the state. Hay has often been harvested under unfavorable conditions. Rains have been beneficial to pastures. For the state as a whole pasture conditions average better than in July last year.

Mid-year crop estimates show Wisconsin may have 153 million bushels of corn, 133 million bushels of oats, nearly 8 million tons of hay, more than 1 million bushels of wheat, and about one-half million bushels of rye.

The tobacco crop is estimated at over 22 million pounds, and nearly 11 millions bushels of potatoes are expected. The potato crop may be about three-fourths of the crop harvested last year because of the smaller acreage and some decrease expected in yields. Except for snap beans, the production of most canning and truck crops will be smaller than last year.

Apple, cherry, and strawberry production in the state is also smaller this year.

Wisconsin farmers have good supplies of old corn and small grain on hand. Stocks of corn are about 9 percent below last year but double the average July 1 holdings. Stocks of oats are a little below last year and average. Barley and rye stocks are below average, but these holdings are not particularly important when compared with the large holdings of corn and oats.

United States Crop Prospects

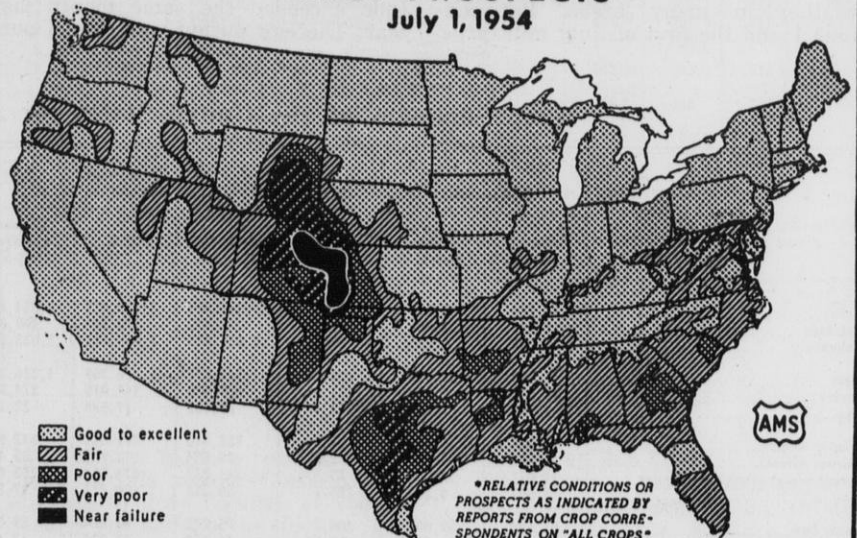
Crop production in the nation may be about as large as in 1952 and 1953 and only 3 percent below the record outturn of 1948. While acreages of wheat and cotton were reduced sharply under government production control programs, acreages of most other crops were increased over last year. More corn, oats, barley, and rye, but less wheat will be produced in the nation this year if present estimates materialize. The hay crop probably will be a little larger. Potato and tobacco production in the nation is expected to be smaller than last year.

Milk Production Is Tapering Off

Milk production in the state and nation is leveling off to a point not much above last summer. While in the first five months of this year Wis-

CROP PROSPECTS*

July 1, 1954



*RELATIVE CONDITIONS OR PROSPECTS AS INDICATED BY REPORTS FROM CROP CORRESPONDENTS ON "ALL CROPS"

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for July 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production					Unit	Yield per acre		
	1954 (Preliminary)	1953	1953 as a percent of 1953	July 1, 1954 forecast	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 as a percent of			Indi- cated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52
							1953	10-year average				
Corn.....	2,686,000	2,558,000	105.0	153,102,000	149,643,000	116,546,000	102.3	131.4	Bu.	57.0	58.5	45.6
Potatoes.....	52,000	61,000	85.2	10,920,000	14,335,000	12,562,000	76.2	86.9	Bu.	210	235	146
Tobacco.....	15,300	14,100	108.5	22,295,000	19,803,000	30,874,000	112.6	72.2	Lb.	1457	1404	1470
Oats.....	2,894,000	2,953,000	98.0	133,124,000	122,550,000	127,907,000	108.6	104.1	Bu.	46.0	41.5	44.7
Barley.....	86,000	80,000	107.5	3,010,000	2,800,000	6,119,000	107.5	49.2	Bu.	35.0	35.0	34.7
Rye.....	42,000	46,000	91.3	504,000	1,009,000	1,009,000	95.3	50.0	Bu.	12.0	11.5	11.3
Winter wheat.....	28,000	30,000	93.3	686,000	720,000	705,000	95.3	97.3	Bu.	24.5	24.0	22.7
Spring wheat.....	33,000	40,000	82.5	792,000	900,000	1,368,000	88.0	57.9	Bu.	24.0	22.5	23.7
All tame hay.....	3,852,000	3,872,000	99.5	7,877,000	7,683,000	6,942,000	102.5	113.5	Ton	2.04	1.98	1.75
Alfalfa hay.....	1,966,000	1,872,000	105.0	4,620,000	4,212,000	2,766,000	109.7	167.0	Ton	2.35	2.25	2.14
Clover and timothy hay.....	1,723,000	1,853,000	93.0	3,015,000	3,243,000	3,884,000	93.0	77.6	Ton	1.75	1.75	1.57
Other tame hay.....	163,000	147,000	110.9	242,000	228,000	292,000	106.1	82.9	Ton	1.48	1.55	1.36
Wild hay.....	50,000	55,000	90.9	68,000	69,000	118,000	98.6	57.6	Ton	1.35	1.25	1.21
Flax.....	5,000	7,000	71.4	62,000	88,000	149,000	70.5	41.6	Bu.	12.5	12.5	12.6
Sugar beets.....	13,000	8,900	146.1	130,000	84,000	109,000	154.8	119.3	Ton	10.0	9.4	9.7
Peas for canning.....	127,100	130,600	97.3	254,200,000	263,800,000	265,200,000	96.4	95.9	Lb.	2000	2020	1990
Snap beans for canning.....	16,800	13,700	122.6	30,200	23,300	16,500	129.6	183.0	Ton	1.8	1.7	1.4
Onions.....	2,800	2,700	103.7	607,500	568,450	568,450			Cwt.		225	204
Green Lima beans for canning.....	8,600 ²	9,000 ²	95.6									
Beets for canning.....	6,700 ²	7,500 ²	89.3									
Tomatoes for canning.....	900 ²	1,000 ²	90.0									
Apples, commercial.....				1,000,000	1,008,000	1,026,000	99.2	97.5	Bu.			
Cherries.....				14,000	18,500	12,900	75.7	108.5	Ton	60	80	89
Strawberries.....	1,200	1,400	85.7	72,000	112,000	152,000	64.3	47.4	Crt. ³	92 ⁴	87 ⁴	88 ⁴

¹1949-52 average. ²Planted acreage. ³24-qt. crates. ⁴July 1 condition.

consin milk output was 7 percent above the same period last year, milk production in June was less than 2 percent more than June 1953. Milk production for the nation was a little over 2 percent more in June than a year ago compared with the increase of 4 percent for the previous five months.

Wisconsin's milk production in June is estimated at 1,789 million pounds, and production for the nation was 12,740 million pounds. The June milk output for the state was 6 percent above average for the month compared with an increase of only a little over 3 percent for the nation.

Nationally, milk production passed its seasonal peak in early June and turned downward more rapidly than usual under influence of hot, dry weather in many areas. Between June 1 and the first of July milk pro-

duction per cow declined 7 percent, which equaled the third sharpest drop for the month in the three decades.

Laying Flocks Smaller On Wisconsin Farms

Egg production on Wisconsin farms during June is estimated at 174 million eggs. This was over 3 percent below the output of the same month a year ago, and it was the second lowest production for the month since June 1940. Layers numbered about 4 percent less than a year ago but production per bird was a little higher than June last year. The flush egg production period has now passed. Output per layer as well as the number of layers show seasonal declines.

Egg output for the nation during June exceeded the same month last year. The egg output was over 4 per-

cent above June 1953 and over 6 percent above the 5-year average for the month. More layers on hand as well as a higher rate of lay this June compared with a year ago were responsible for the higher egg production.

Farm Product Prices Continue Downward

Prices of farm products in Wisconsin declined further in June as measured by the index of farm prices. The index at mid-June was 232 percent of the 1910-14 base or 5 percent below May and the lowest June figure since 1946.

Downward trends in prices received by farmers were general but the decline in milk prices was the most significant for the season. Returns to milk producers for June deliveries are expected to average \$2.90 per hundred

Crop Summary of the United States for July 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)		1954 acreage as a percent of 1953	Production (000 omitted)			1954 Production as a percent of		Unit	Yield per acre		
	1954 (Preliminary)	1953		July 1, 1954 forecast	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1953	10-year average		Indi- cated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52
Corn.....	80,164	80,279	99.9	3,311,493	3,176,615	3,054,464	104.2	108.3	Bu.	41.3	39.6	35.7
Potatoes.....	1,381	1,508	91.6	345,622	373,711	409,027	92.5	84.5	Bu.	250.3	247.8	202.3
Tobacco.....	1,632	1,634	99.9	2,021,923	2,057,221	2,033,432	98.3	99.4	Lb.	1239	1259	1183
Oats.....	41,980	39,358	106.7	1,544,674	1,216,359	1,316,359	127.0	117.3	Bu.	36.8	30.9	33.3
Barley.....	12,885	8,534	151.0	372,519	241,015	274,955	154.6	135.5	Bu.	28.9	28.2	25.3
Rye.....	1,706	1,382	123.4	23,102	17,998	22,149	128.4	104.3	Bu.	13.5	13.0	11.9
Winter wheat.....	38,090	46,681	81.6	758,440	877,511	832,977	86.4	91.1	Bu.	19.9	18.8	17.7
Durum wheat.....	1,564	1,865	83.9	18,654	12,967	35,486	143.9	52.6	Bu.	11.9	7.0	13.9
Spring wheat other than durum.....	14,072	19,062	73.8	211,227	278,058	253,044	76.0	83.5	Bu.	15.0	14.6	15.2
Flax.....	5,507	4,380	125.7	50,359	36,813	37,232	136.8	135.3	Bu.	9.1	8.4	9.3
Tame hay.....	61,604	59,099	104.2	95,742	93,084	89,536	102.9	106.9	Ton	1.55	1.58	1.49
Wild hay.....	14,380	14,819	97.0	11,752	12,216	12,423	96.2	94.6	Ton	.82	.82	.85
Pasture.....										78 ¹	76 ¹	86 ¹

¹July 1 condition.

United States Farm Prices

The sharp decline in hog prices during the past June together with lower prices for cattle, commercial vegetables, and wheat resulted in a 4 percent decline in the index of prices received by farmers. The index of 248 percent of the 1910-14 average on June 15 compared with 258 in May and with 257 in June a year earlier. Prices for potatoes, several important fruit crops, corn, and cotton increased some during the past month. Such increases partially offset the downward movement registered by most commodities.

The parity index, prices paid including interest, taxes, and wage rates, at 282 on June 15 was nearly 1 percent below a month earlier.

Poultry and Egg Situation Reviewed

A review of the current trends in production and prices of poultry and eggs may help in forecasting the market for poultry products in the last half of the year.

Around mid-year Wisconsin had about 4 percent fewer layers in farm flocks than a year ago, and the number was better than a tenth smaller than average. At the beginning of this year layer numbers were less than 1 percent under January 1953. But low egg prices in recent months have forced owners to cull their flocks heavily. This has resulted in a higher than average seasonal decline in layers on farms this summer.

Looking ahead to flock replacements this fall, it appears that there may be enough pullets to offset the recent decrease in the number of layers on Wisconsin farms. This prediction is based on preliminary estimates of commercial hatchery output of chicks and of farm chickens raised. More chicks are also being raised for farm flock replacement for the nation as a whole. However, most of the increased demand this year for chicks comes from broiler producers. Broiler production probably will be above last year's record output.

More Wisconsin turkeys are also being raised this year. The sharp in-

crease in the number of heavy breed turkeys raised will likely more than offset the reduction in light breed output, and turkey production may well be over last year's record output.

Another factor that will affect total egg supplies in the months ahead is the rate of lay. The present rate in the state is at a near-record level for this time of year. Egg production per layer has been on the increase for a number of years, and this trend is expected to continue through the year.

Egg prices have not been favorable to producers for several months. Ample egg supplies expected in the near future are likely to keep egg prices below last year's level. However, there probably will be the usual seasonal increase in egg prices. Egg prices in the coming months may be affected by an early placement of pullets in laying flocks this fall. Hatchings started early this spring in Wisconsin and more pullets than usual will be ready for production earlier this year.

The low price of eggs relative to prices of many other food items is helping to raise the per capita consumption of eggs. Egg consumption per capita this year may be a record. Consumer buying power, which is at a high level, is also helping to move eggs to the family table. Our rapidly increasing population plus the high per capita consumption is furnishing a ready market for eggs.

The amount of poultry ration that 10 dozen eggs would buy indicates to some extent the trend in profits for poultrymen. For some time this relationship has been less favorable than last year. The decline in egg prices has been mainly responsible for the lowered amount of poultry ration that could be purchased with 10 dozen eggs. Poultry ration costs are a little above a year ago. Present crop prospects are favorable to an adequate feed supply, and this should help hold feed prices steady. The egg-feed price relationship is expected to show a seasonal rise during the next few months.

Farm chicken prices are lower than a year ago in this state. The prospect of more chickens raised probably will

not help the price situation. There is also competition on the market from commercial broiler sales. Present cold storage holdings of chickens are considerably above a year ago. If holdings continue heavy this summer, demand for chickens for storage could be weakened in the last half of the year. A decreased storage demand could further weaken chicken prices which are now less favorable in relation to feed costs than they were a year ago.

More Cattle Being Fed For Market This Summer

The number of cattle on feed for market is larger in Wisconsin and for the Corn Belt as a whole than the number on feed a year ago. July 1 estimates increased cattle feeding in all but Missouri and Kansas. Missouri feeders report a decrease of 2 percent in the number of cattle on feed and no change from a year ago is indicated for Kansas.

Wisconsin farmers had 15 percent more cattle on feed for market on July 1 than a year earlier and an increase of 5 percent is shown for the Corn Belt. At the beginning of the year the number of cattle on feed for market was 9 percent smaller than a year earlier, and in April a decrease from 2 to 3 percent from April last year was indicated.

All of the increase in number of cattle on feed for market was in cattle that were on feed less than 6 months. Feeders in the Corn Belt report a smaller percentage of the total cattle on feed over 6 months than last year. Nearly three-fourths of the July inventory is expected to be marketed before October 1. Strictly short term feeding is at a higher level than last season.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the Corn Belt during April through June were greater than a year ago. Shipments since January 1 were about a fourth above the corresponding period last year. Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle include more steers than reported in the first half of last year, but the number of calves was smaller.

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

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Agricultural Marketing Service

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

Walter H. Ebling,

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State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

August 1954

IN THIS ISSUE

August Crop Report

While still favorable, crop prospects as a whole are not quite as good as they were for Wisconsin a month ago. July was a hot and dry month, and pastures deteriorated rather rapidly but still averaged about the same as a year ago. Corn prospects remained the same as Wisconsin's July estimate, but for the nation August reports showed a 15 percent decline.

Milk Production

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during July was only 1 percent above July a year ago and for the nation milk production showed no change.

Egg Production

Wisconsin farm laying flocks are smaller than a year ago but an increase is reported for the nation. Egg output in the state in July was 1 percent below a year ago for Wisconsin and up 3 percent for the nation.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

A slight increase in prices received by Wisconsin farmers and some decline in prices paid increased the purchasing power of the farm dollar from June to July.

Current Trends

It takes more eggs and more milk to buy poultry and dairy ration than it did a year ago. Some feed prices have risen while milk and egg prices have declined. Hog slaughter continues below a year ago while marketings of cattle, calves, and sheep and lambs are larger.

Special News Item (page 4)

Rental Rates Paid to
Pasture Cattle

CROP PROSPECTS as a whole for 1954 are not as good for Wisconsin as they were a month ago. Weather conditions characterized by heavy rains, hail, and high winds cut yield prospects in some areas. For the state as a whole, July was a hot and dry month. Oats ripened too fast, and pasture conditions fell during July and on August 1 averaged 80 percent of normal or about equal to a year ago.

If present estimates materialize, Wisconsin will have about 153 million bushels of corn, 127 million bushels of oats, and over 7½ million tons of hay from this year's harvest. Most notable of the changes from a month ago is the decline of about 6 million bushels in the prospective oat crop.

Wisconsin will rank first among the states in hay production, fourth in oat output, and seventh in the quantity of corn harvested if present prospects materialize. While hay output is about equal to last year and 11 percent above average, the quality of the first cutting was not particularly good in some areas. Progress of the corn crop has not been uniform throughout the state, but yield prospects are now about the same as they were a month ago. Again this year, the state has not been hit as hard by drought as states south of us. For the nation as a whole, corn prospects declined nearly 15 percent during the past month as a result of weather conditions.

According to Wisconsin crop reporters, about the same percentage of the spring sown grain acreage was harvested by August 1 as was harvested a year ago. That is for the state as a whole but not true for all areas. Harvesting in the northern third of the state was considerably delayed and offset gains over a year ago in the harvesting in other areas.

Spring Grain Harvested¹

Wisconsin—August 1, 1954

District	Harvested by August 1, 1954	Usually harvested by August 1
	Percent	Percent
Northwest.....	28	50
North.....	27	35
Northeast.....	32	41
West.....	87	85
Central.....	76	75
East.....	60	57
Southwest.....	90	89
South.....	82	81
Southeast.....	59	64
State.....	66	68

¹As reported by Wisconsin Crop Reporters on August 1, 1954.

Weather Summary, July 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	July 1954	Normal	Accumulative ex- cess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	46	88	64.4	65.8	2.86	3.31	+ 5.37
Spooner.....	49	90	69.1	69.7	5.77	3.75	+10.66
Park Falls.....	49	86	66.9	68.0	2.74	4.33
Rhinelander.....	45	89	67.0	67.9	2.79	4.20	- 0.35
Wausau.....	52	91	71.8	69.6	2.39	3.70	+ 3.92
Marinette.....	47	92	70.6	71.7	2.12	2.57	+ 4.32
Escanaba.....	45	91	66.1	66.9	2.29	3.22	+ 2.67
Minneapolis.....	55	95	74.3	74.1	1.33	2.67	- 0.35
Eau Claire.....	54	95	73.2	72.2	4.24	3.37	+ 3.03
La Crosse.....	58	95	73.4	74.0	2.76	3.21	+ 1.65
Hancock.....	51	92	71.0	71.8	4.16	3.36	+ 1.21
Oshkosh.....	48	92	71.2	72.0	2.83	3.29	- 2.32
Green Bay.....	47	91	68.7	69.9	2.94	2.59	+ 1.90
Manitowoc.....	53	90	70.2	68.6	2.59	3.26	+ 0.71
Dubuque.....	53	94	73.0	73.3	2.66	3.41	+ 5.36
Madison.....	55	96	73.1	73.0	5.73	3.30	+ 5.39
Beloit.....	51	96	74.5	73.3	4.04	3.73	+ 1.80
Milwaukee (airport).....	52	95	71.0	71.3	5.13	2.43	+ 6.33
Average for 18 Stations	50.6	92.1	70.5	70.7	3.30	3.32	+3.02 ¹

¹Average for 17 stations.

About two-thirds of the spring sown grain was harvested by August 1 this year.

Of the 18 Wisconsin crops for which production estimates are given in the table on page 2, only 7 show production increases, hay shows no change, and output for 10 crops is expected to be below last year. Production of 7 crops may be above average, but output for the other crops will be below average.

Nation's Crop Prospects Decline

Production prospects declined during July for many of the nation's late growing crops. Searing temperatures and short rainfall were rather general over much of the country. Rust also took further toll of spring wheat in important sections. Now corn output is expected to be about 11 percent below the 1953 harvest. Increased production is shown for oats, barley, rye, flax, rice, sorghum grain, hay, dry edible beans, dry field peas, soybeans, tobacco and sugar beets.

Feed grain production was sharply reduced by July weather, but the supply which includes the new crop and carryover remains high. The corn crop may be the smallest since 1947 but oat production probably will be a record and barley output the second highest on record. Hay production may be less than the usual supply per

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for August 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production					Unit	Yield per Acre		
	1954 (Preliminary)	1953	1954 as a percent of 1953	August 1, 1954 forecast	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 as a percent of			Indi- cated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52
							1953	10-year average				
Corn.....	2,686,000	2,558,000	105.0	153,102,000	149,643,000	116,546,000	102.3	131.4	Bu.	57.0	58.5	45.6
Potatoes.....	52,000	61,000	85.2	11,960,000	14,335,000	12,562,000	83.4	95.2	Bu.	230	235	146
Tobacco.....	15,300	14,100	108.5	22,154,000	19,803,000	30,874,000	111.9	71.8	Lb.	1448.	1404.	1470.
Oats.....	2,894,000	2,953,000	98.0	127,336,000	122,550,000	127,907,000	103.9	99.6	Bu.	44.0	41.5	44.7
Barley.....	86,000	80,000	107.5	3,010,000	2,800,000	6,119,000	107.5	49.2	Bu.	35.0	35.0	34.7
Rye.....	42,000	46,000	91.3	504,000	529,000	1,009,000	95.3	50.0	Bu.	12.0	11.5	11.3
Winter wheat.....	28,000	30,000	93.3	644,000	720,000	705,000	89.4	91.3	Bu.	23.0	24.0	22.7
Spring wheat.....	33,000	40,000	82.5	792,000	900,000	1,368,000	88.0	57.9	Bu.	24.0	22.5	23.7
All tame hay.....	3,852,000	3,872,000	99.5	7,694,000	7,683,000	6,942,000	100.1	110.8	Ton	2.00	1.98	1.75
Alfalfa hay.....	1,966,000	1,872,000	105.0	4,522,000	4,212,000	2,766,000	107.4	163.5	Ton	2.30	2.25	2.14
Clover and timothy hay.....	1,723,000	1,853,000	93.0	2,929,000	3,243,000	3,884,000	90.3	75.4	Ton	1.70	1.75	1.57
Wild hay.....	50,000	55,000	90.9	68,000	69,000	118,000	98.6	57.6	Ton	1.35	1.25	1.21
Flax.....	5,000	7,000	71.4	62,000	88,000	149,000	70.5	41.6	Bu.	12.5	12.5	12.6
Canning peas.....	127,100	130,600	97.3	254,200,000	263,800,000	265,200,000	96.4	95.9	Lb.	2000.	2020.	1990.
Corn for canning.....	108,000	113,200	95.4	302,400	328,300	230,600	92.1	131.1	Ton	2.8	2.9	2.5
Snap beans for canning.....	16,800	13,700	122.6	30,200	23,300	16,500	129.6	183.0	Ton	1.8	1.7	1.4
Tomatoes.....	800	900	88.9	7,600	10,400	8,500	73.1	89.4	Ton	9.5	11.5	6.3
Cabbage.....	8,500	9,500	89.5	81,600	100,000	106,480	81.6	76.6	Ton	9.6	10.5	9.5
Onions.....	2,800	2,700	103.7	574,000	607,500	568,450	94.5	101.0	Cwt.	205.	225.	206.
Sugar beets.....	13,000	8,900	146.1	130,000	84,000	109,000	154.8	119.3	Ton	10.0	9.4	9.7
Apples, commercial.....				921,000	1,008,000	1,026,000	91.4	89.8	Bu.			
Cherries.....				11,000	18,500	12,900	59.5	85.3	Ton			
Pasture.....										80 ¹	78 ¹	82 ¹

¹Condition August 1.

animal unit, and pasture conditions on August 1 averaged only 59 percent of normal for the nation compared with 72 percent last year and the average for the date of 82 percent.

More Than Seasonal Drop in Milk Output

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during July was only 1 percent above the 1953 July output and 5 percent above the 10-year average for the month. Total milk production in the first seven months of this year is estimated at 6 percent above the corresponding period in 1953.

Wisconsin's milk production is still running a little higher than the increase over a year ago for the nation as a whole. High temperatures in July and rapidly deteriorating pastures in some areas lowered milk production in the nation more than the seasonal decrease.

During July milk production in the

United States was practically the same as a year earlier and was about equal to the 10-year average output for the month. Milk production in the nation in the first seven months of this year was about 3½ percent over the same period last year.

Milk production per cow in both the state and nation dropped off sharply from the early June peak for the year. This more than seasonal decline offset any increase over a year ago because of a larger number of milk cows. The decline in milk production per cow in the nation dropped 8 percent during July, which was the sharpest decline since 1936.

Nation's Egg Output Above July Last Year

Wisconsin farmers started out with fewer layers beginning the second half of this year than one year earlier. Layers in July numbered 2 percent under July last year and 9 percent

under the 5-year July average. The number of layers was the second lowest for July since 1939. Egg prices in recent months have not favored increased output and have caused owners to cull their flocks more than usual.

The July rate of lay for the state was a record for the month, but the decline in layer numbers from a year ago offset the rise in egg output per layer. Total egg output in July was 1 percent below July last year and 5 percent under the average for the month.

The nation's number of layers and total egg output in July exceeded this same month last year. Layers numbered 4 percent higher and total egg production showed a rise of 3 percent. Egg production was a record for the month. The rate of lay was a little lower than July a year ago. Undoubtedly the prolonged hot weather that prevailed during July in parts of the country lowered the laying rate.

Crop Summary of the United States for August 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)			1954 Production as a percent of		Unit	Yield per Acre		
	1954 (Preliminary)	1953	1954 as a percent of 1953	August 1, 1954 forecast	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1953	10-year average		Indi- cated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52
Corn.....	80,164	80,279	99.9	2,824,078	3,176,615	3,057,464	88.9	92.4	Bu.	35.2	39.6	35.7
Potatoes.....	1,381	1,508	91.6	344,581	373,711	409,027	92.2	84.2	Bu.	249.5	247.8	202.3
Tobacco.....	1,632	1,634	99.9	2,105,021	2,057,221	2,033,432	102.3	103.5	Lb.	1290.	1259.	1183.
Oats.....	41,980	39,358	106.7	1,529,283	1,216,416	1,316,359	125.7	116.2	Bu.	36.4	30.9	33.3
Barley.....	12,885	8,534	151.0	372,648	241,015	274,955	154.6	135.5	Bu.	28.9	28.2	25.3
Rye.....	1,706	1,382	123.4	23,293	17,998	22,149	129.4	105.2	Bu.	13.7	13.0	11.9
Winter wheat.....	38,090	46,681	81.6	775,900	877,511	832,977	88.4	93.1	Bu.	20.4	18.8	17.7
Durum wheat.....	1,564	1,865	83.9	12,436	12,967	35,486	95.9	35.0	Bu.	8.0	7.0	13.9
Spring wheat other than durum.....	14,072	19,062	73.8	189,201	278,058	253,044	68.0	74.8	Bu.	13.4	14.6	15.2
Flax.....	5,507	4,380	125.7	46,244	36,813	37,232	125.6	124.2	Bu.	8.4	8.4	9.3
Tame hay.....	61,604	59,099	104.2	90,404	93,084	89,536	97.1	101.0	Ton	1.47	1.58	1.49
Wild hay.....	14,380	14,819	97.0	10,812	12,216	12,423	88.5	87.0	Ton	.75	.82	.85
Pasture.....										59 ¹	72 ¹	82 ¹

¹Condition August 1.

Prices for meat animals declined generally with beef cattle, veal calves, and sheep and lambs all bringing less in July than they were in June. The price index for the meat animal group declined about 3 percent from June. Lower farm production costs were reflected in the prices paid index. A 1 percent decline in prices paid left the index at 282 for July.

The index of prices received by farmers in the United States dropped less than one percent during the month ending July 15. At 247 percent of the 1910-14 average the index was 5 percent below July of last year and 21 percent below the record high of February 1951.

Prices received by the nation's farmers for milk sold at wholesale rose more than usual for the month. As a result the dairy products price index increased 3 percent. The seasonal peak in milk production was reached early in June and in those areas that had unusually hot weather the milk production dropped off more rapidly. Prices received for all milk sold to plants and dealers in July averaged about \$3.69 per hundred pounds, which was 37 cents less than a year ago but 20 cents above a month earlier.

Nationally items entering into farm production costs continued to decline while those items used in farm family living rose to a new high. At 280 percent of its 1910-14 average the prices paid index was almost one percent lower than June 15.

A drop in feeder livestock prices and feed prices were mainly responsible for the decline that occurred in the prices paid index. Such items as automobiles and trucks also could be purchased at a lower price since heavy auto stocks made trading more favorable for the farmer. Items used in farm family living such as food and clothing were 2 percent higher than a year ago with the July 15 index at 277 percent.

Wisconsin Farmers Report Pasture Rental Rates

Wisconsin farmers are paying an average price of \$8.80 per cow for the pasture rental season and an average of \$2.00 per month this year. That's the average of reports from Wisconsin dairy and crop correspondents in a survey made during July this year.

According to reports from dairy and crop correspondents, the most common method of paying for pasture rentals in Wisconsin is on a per head basis. Nearly nine-tenths of the reports were for this method of payment.

Wisconsin Average Pasture Rental Rates by Method of Payment

	Per season	Per month
Per head.....	\$8.80	\$2.00
Per acre.....	9.45	2.05

For those reporting pasture rental per acre, rates averaged \$9.45 for the entire season and \$2.05 per month. It is interesting to note that the average rates reported on a per acre basis are about the same as those reported on a per head basis. Only slightly more than one-tenth of the total reports was for rentals on a per acre basis.

The reported pasture rental rates this year were somewhat higher in the southern and eastern parts of the state. The average amount paid per head for pasture rented by the season in those regions was generally more than \$2.00 above the state average of \$8.80. The amounts paid for the entire rental season were considerably lower

Pasture Rental Rates Per Head

District	Per season	Per month
Northwest.....	\$6.35	\$1.55
North.....	6.40	1.90
Northeast.....	8.00	1.90
West.....	8.15	1.70
Central.....	8.00	1.80
East.....	10.85	2.50
Southwest.....	10.55	2.00
South.....	10.70	2.20
Southeast.....	10.50	2.20
State.....	\$8.80	\$2.00

than the state average in the other parts of the state. Monthly rates paid by farmers in the East, South, and Southeast Districts were higher than the state average. The average rate paid by farmers in the southwest District was the same as the state average of about \$2.00 a head per month.

The survey indicated that the expected length of the pasture rental season this year ranges from about 4 to 6 months and averages about 5 months. The actual length of the pasture season, of course, depends a lot on the fall weather conditions.

Many Subjects Covered In New Bulletins

The following bulletins may be obtained free upon request from the Crop Reporting Service of the Wisconsin and United States Departments of Agriculture.

(1) "Breeds of Livestock Marketed from Wisconsin", Special Bulletin No. 26, is a brief study on the breeds of dairy cattle, hogs, sheep, and chickens marketed from Wisconsin farms.

(2) "Wisconsin Eggs, Supplies and Markets", Special Bulletin No. 33, includes information on seasonal or monthly changes in egg production and marketing, chicken and egg production, and egg prices.

(3) "Wisconsin Feeder Pigs, Production and Market Movement", Special Bulletin No. 34, gives in some detail the location of the feeder pig industry in the state, production of feeder pigs, and the increasing importance of feeder pig production to the state's livestock industry.

(4) "Wisconsin Marketing Whey from Cheese Factories", Special Bulletin No. 44, describes the problems and methods of marketing whey.

(5) "Wisconsin Broilers", Special Bulletin No. 45, includes a discussion on the fast growing branch of our poultry industry. Subjects treated include supplies of broilers, prices, markets, and hatchery output.

(6) "Wisconsin Beef Cattle, Production and Marketing", Special Bulletin No. 47, supplies some of the needed information on our livestock industry. Beef cattle production is rather closely related to the dairy industry as well as a separate enterprise of Wisconsin farmers.

(7) "Wisconsin Skim Milk, Marketings, Supplies, Products", Bulletin No. 324, is designed to aid in developing and expanding markets for milk solids such as are found in whey.

You may have any of these bulletins free by writing to the Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service, Post Office Box 351, Madison 1, Wisconsin.

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Agricultural Statisticians

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September 1954

IN THIS ISSUE

September Crop Report

Interest in Wisconsin's crop production this year is now centered on the corn crop. The crop is rather late in maturing and an early frost could cause more than the usual loss of the crop. Second cuttings of hay were rather light and the crop was harvested under poor conditions. The nation will have a good crop year although some areas are hard hit by drought.

Milk Production

Milk production on farms in the state and nation in August was below the output in August last year. During the first eight months of this year Wisconsin's milk production was 5 percent above the same period last year and the nation's output gained 3 percent.

Egg Production

Egg production on farms in Wisconsin and the nation was larger during August this year than a year ago.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

The increase from July to August of nearly 3 percent in the general level of prices received by Wisconsin farmers was accompanied by a slight rise in the prices paid for goods and services in farm family living and farm production.

Current Trends

Meat supplies are increasing with slaughter of cattle, calves, hogs, and sheep and lambs all larger than a year ago.

Special News Items (page 4)

- Treatment of Seed Oats in Wisconsin
- Cranberry Crops Smaller in State and Nation

IF THE FROST HOLDS OFF until the corn crop matures, this will be another year of good crop production in Wisconsin. Weather conditions in August were generally favorable to the corn crop but not particularly good for harvesting second crop hay and oats. Pasture conditions in the state as a whole averaged fair at the beginning of September or about the same as the condition a year earlier.

Wisconsin may have a record corn crop of over 150 million bushels. Except for the central and east part of the state, corn has made good progress this year. Up to the beginning of September, corn was very green and still quite moist, and there was much fear of frost before maturity. While August rains hindered oat and hay harvest, new seedings have gotten a good start.

Estimate of the oat crop harvested in Wisconsin remained at the August figure of over 127 million bushels. Yields averaged higher than last year even though there was some loss of grain because of wind, rain, and hail. Yields of barley, rye, and spring and winter wheat are near the yields reported last year and in some cases a little above average for the state.

Hay production this year is a little below earlier estimates as a result of the rather light second crop. Yields of alfalfa average about the same as last year but clover and timothy yields are down a bit. The yield for all hay harvested in the state is a little under 2 tons per acre.

The condition of the potato crop is practically the same as reported on August 1. Yields for the state as a whole are expected to average 230 bushels per acre compared with 235 bushels last year and the average of 146 bushels. Both types of tobacco produced in Wisconsin are being harvested. Yields are averaging a little under 1,500 pounds per acre, according to September 1 estimates.

Production of sweet corn for canning is estimated at nearly 346,000 tons. The crop is turning out better than expected and yields are averaging over 3 tons per acre. While there will be larger crops of sweet corn and snap beans than a year ago, estimates show decreases in the production of lima beans, beets, tomatoes, cabbage, and the commercial crop of onions.

United States Crop Outlook

Outlook for the nation's crop production continues good. While drought conditions have been severe in part of the country, the over-all crop production for the United States is expected to be the sixth largest on record. Since August 1 production esti-

Weather Summary, August 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	August 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth....	40	87	63.6	64.8	2.03	3.19	+ 4.21
Spooner....	39	87	65.4	66.5	4.23	3.40	+11.49
Park Falls..	39	84	62.7	64.4	3.19	4.12
Rhineland..	40	84	63.0	64.5	1.56	3.87	- 2.66
Wausau....	44	87	68.2	66.7	2.79	3.69	+ 3.02
Marinette..	45	89	67.8	68.8	0.85	2.84	+ 2.33
Escanaba... 45	86	64.0	64.9	2.17	2.89	+ 1.95	
Minneapolis 52	90	70.4	71.5	3.08	2.79	- 0.06	
Eau Claire.. 46	89	69.4	69.6	3.31	3.52	+ 2.82	
La Crosse... 49	90	70.1	71.4	3.56	3.29	+ 1.92	
Hancock.... 41	91	67.7	68.7	2.99	3.37	+ 0.83	
Oshkosh.... 44	90	68.9	69.2	1.85	3.09	- 3.56	
Green Bay.. 42	88	65.4	67.8	1.61	3.03	+ 0.48	
Manitowoc.. 50	90	68.9	67.0	1.52	3.10	- 0.87	
Dubuque.... 49	88	69.0	70.7	4.28	3.60	+ 6.04	
Madison.... 45	92	69.2	70.7	2.78	2.89	+ 5.28	
Milwaukee (airport).. 52	91	69.7	69.9	3.86	2.62	+ 7.57	
Average for 17 Stations	44.8	88.4	67.3	68.1	2.69	3.25	+2.55 ¹

¹ Average for 16 stations.

mates have been raised by improved yield prospects for corn, soybeans, rice, all hay, sorghum grain, tobacco, sugar beets, potatoes, sugarcane, apples, pears, and grapes. Declines in production prospects are seen for spring wheat, cotton, flaxseed, peanuts, sweetpotatoes, and pecans. Also failing to measure up to earlier estimates are oats, barley, dry beans, dry peas, broomcorn, hops, and peaches.

Milk Production Below August Last Year

Milk production in the state and nation appears to be leveling off. But total output so far this year is well above the first eight months of last year and August production is up substantially from the average for the month.

Wisconsin dairy herds produced 1,321 million pounds of milk in August. The August production was about 1 percent below a year earlier and nearly 5 percent above the August average. So far this year, milk production on Wisconsin farms is 5 percent above the first eight months of 1953.

Milk production on farms in the nation during August is estimated at 10,494 million pounds, and it was also about 1 percent below the corresponding month of last year. The August milk output in the nation was slightly below average for the month, but pro-

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for September 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per Acre			
	1954 (Preliminary)	1953	1954 as a percent of 1953	September 1, 1954 forecast	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 as a percent of		Indi- cated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	
							1953					10-year average
Corn	2,686,000	2,558,000	105.0	150,416,000	149,643,000	116,546,000	100.5	129.1	Bu.	56.0	58.5	45.6
Potatoes	52,000	61,000	85.2	11,960,000	14,335,000	12,562,000	83.4	95.2	Bu.	230.	235.	146.
Tobacco	15,300	14,100	108.5	22,460,000	19,803,000	30,874,000	113.4	72.7	Lb.	1468.	1404.	1470.
Oats	2,894,000	2,953,000	98.0	127,336,000	122,550,000	127,907,000	103.9	99.6	Bu.	44.0	41.5	44.7
Barley	86,000	80,000	107.5	3,010,000	2,800,000	6,119,000	107.5	49.2	Bu.	35.0	35.0	34.7
Rye	42,000	46,000	91.3	504,000	529,000	1,009,000	95.3	50.0	Bu.	12.0	11.5	11.3
Winter wheat	28,000	30,000	93.3	644,000	720,000	705,000	89.4	91.3	Bu.	23.0	24.0	22.7
Spring wheat	33,000	40,000	82.5	805,000	900,000	1,368,000	89.8	59.1	Bu.	24.5	22.5	23.7
Flax	5,000	7,000	71.4	70,000	88,000	149,000	79.5	47.0	Bu.	14.0	12.5	12.6
Soybeans for beans	71,000	56,000	126.8	1,030,000	812,000	526,000	126.8	195.8	Bu.	14.5	14.5	13.8
Sugar beets	13,000	8,900	146.1	124,000	84,000	109,000	147.6	113.8	Ton	9.5	9.4	9.7
All tame hay	3,852,000	3,872,000	99.5	7,596,000	7,683,000	6,942,000	98.9	109.4	Ton	1.97	1.98	1.75
Alfalfa hay	1,966,000	1,872,000	105.0	4,424,000	4,212,000	2,766,000	105.0	159.9	Ton	2.25	2.25	2.14
Clover and timothy hay	1,723,000	1,853,000	93.0	2,929,000	3,243,000	3,884,000	90.3	75.4	Ton	1.70	1.75	1.57
Other tame hay	163,000	147,000	110.9	243,000	228,000	228,000	106.6	83.2	Ton	1.49	1.55	1.36
Wild hay	50,900	55,000	90.9	68,000	69,000	118,000	98.6	57.6	Ton	1.35	1.25	1.21
Peas for canning	127,100	130,600	97.3	254,200,000	263,800,000	265,200,000	96.4	95.9	Lb.	2000.	2020.	1990.
Corn for canning	105,000	113,200	95.4	345,600	328,300	230,600	105.3	149.9	Ton	3.2	2.9	2.5
Snap beans for canning	16,800	13,700	122.6	31,900	23,300	16,500	136.9	193.3	Ton	1.9	1.7	1.4
Lima beans for canning	7,700	8,100	95.1	12,320,000	13,200,000	6,480,000	93.3	190.1	Lb.	1600.	1630.	1300.
Beets for canning	6,300	7,300	86.3	47,200	64,200	53,400	73.5	88.4	Ton	7.5	8.8	8.6
Tomatoes for canning	800	900	88.9	7,600	10,400	8,500	73.1	89.4	Ton	9.5	11.5	6.3
Cabbage	8,400	9,500	88.4	84,000	100,000	106,480	84.0	78.9	Ton	10.0	10.5	9.5
Onions, commercial	2,800	2,700	103.7	518,000	607,500	568,450	85.3	91.1	Cwt.	185.	225.	206.
Carrots	2,900	3,000	96.7	1,624,000	1,560,000	1,560,000	104.2	-----	Bu.	560.	520.	-----
Mint for oil	2,600	2,600	130.0	78,000	74,000	-----	105.4	-----	Lb.	30.0	37.0	-----
Apples, commercial	-----	-----	-----	921,000	1,008,000	1,026,000	91.4	89.8	Bu.	-----	-----	-----
Cherries	-----	-----	-----	11,000	18,500	12,900	59.5	85.3	Ton	-----	-----	-----
Cranberries	-----	-----	-----	225,000	295,000	166,400	76.3	135.2	Bbl.	-----	-----	-----
Pasture	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	78 ¹	78 ¹	74 ¹

¹September 1 conditions.

duction so far this year was only 3 percent above the first eight months of last year.

The decline in Wisconsin's milk production from August last year results from a drop in the percentage of the cows in herds being milked. An increase in fall freshenings in 1953 resulted in a greater milk output last year than during the previous winter.

Some of the decreased milk production for the nation came from the severe drought conditions in parts of the country. Hot, dry weather in the South Central part of the nation held down milk production in that area. While milk output per cow in the South Central part of the United States was below average for September 1, it was above average in the rest of the country.

Egg Production Up From August Last Year

Egg production on Wisconsin farms during August was a little over 1 percent above August last year, and an increase of 5 percent from a year ago is shown for the nation.

Wisconsin farm flocks produced 155 million eggs in August. The number of layers was slightly larger than a year ago and production per layer showed an increase of almost 1 percent over August last year. Total egg production during August was a little over 1 percent above the 5-year average output for the month.

Egg production on farms in the nation was the highest on record for August. Egg output was 5 percent more than in August last year and 15 percent above the 10-year average

for the month. The increase of more than 6 percent in the number of layers more than offset some decline in egg production per bird compared with August last year. Total egg production in the nation last month was estimated at 4,545 million eggs.

The number of layers in the nation's farm flocks increased sharply from August 1 to the beginning of September. The seasonal increase in the number of layers since the beginning of August was nearly 7 percent compared with about 4 percent last year and the average of between 1 and 2 percent. The sharp increase is mainly due to the heavy movement of pullets into the laying flocks, reflecting the very early hatch this year.

Crop Summary of the United States for September 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)			1954 Production as a percent of		Unit	Yield per Acre		
	1954 (Preliminary)	1953	1954 as a percent of 1953	September 1, 1954 forecast	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 as a percent of			Indi- cated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52
							1953	10-year average				
Corn	80,164	80,279	99.9	2,972,641	3,176,615	3,057,464	93.6	97.2	Bu.	37.1	39.6	35.7
Potatoes	1,381	1,508	91.6	345,515	373,711	409,027	92.5	84.5	Bu.	250.2	247.8	202.3
Tobacco	1,632	1,634	99.9	2,164,459	2,057,221	2,033,432	105.2	106.4	Lb.	1326.	1259.	1183.
Oats	41,980	39,358	106.7	1,509,386	1,216,416	1,316,359	124.1	114.7	Bu.	36.0	30.9	33.3
Barley	12,885	8,534	151.0	369,050	241,015	274,955	153.1	134.2	Bu.	28.6	28.2	25.3
Rye	1,706	1,382	123.4	23,293	17,998	22,149	129.4	105.2	Bu.	13.7	13.0	11.9
Winter wheat	38,090	46,681	81.6	775,900	877,511	832,977	88.4	93.1	Bu.	20.4	18.8	17.7
Durum wheat	1,564	1,865	83.9	8,698	12,967	35,486	67.1	24.5	Bu.	5.6	7.0	13.9
Spring wheat other than durum	14,072	19,062	73.8	177,537	278,058	253,044	63.8	70.2	Bu.	12.6	14.6	15.2
Flax	5,507	4,380	125.7	42,158	36,813	37,232	114.5	113.2	Bu.	7.7	8.4	9.3
Tame hay	61,604	59,099	104.2	92,813	93,084	89,536	99.7	103.7	Ton	1.51	1.58	1.49
Wild hay	14,380	14,819	97.0	10,874	12,216	12,423	89.0	87.5	Ton	.76	.82	.85
Pasture	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	64 ¹	63 ¹	77 ¹

¹September 1 condition.

August for livestock, milk, eggs, and crops. Prices for meat animals averaged lower than July while there was no change in fruits and truck crops. Almost all of these groups of farm commodities were returning less to farmers than one year ago. The two exceptions were crops and fruits.

United States Farm Prices

The index of prices received by farmers for the nation was 251 percent of the 1910-14 average. This was about a 2 percent increase over the previous month. Most farm commodities were higher than for July. However, truck crops and tobacco prices averaged lower. Poultry and egg prices showed the greatest percentage increase from July to August.

The United States index of prices paid by farmers excluding interest, taxes and wage rates was 264 percent in August and 263 in July. The ratio of prices paid to prices received was 95 in August and was 1 percent above the previous month.

Wisconsin Will Have Smaller Cranberry Crop

Cranberry production this year will be smaller than the crop harvested in 1953 but still well above the average output.

Reports from Wisconsin producers indicate that the state will have 225,000 barrels of cranberries for harvest this year. If this estimate materializes, the state's crop will be about a fourth smaller than the one produced last year but more than a third larger than the 10-year average production.

Cranberry production in the northern counties may be better than in the southern counties where the set was reduced by rain and hail during the blooming period. Harvest in Wisconsin is expected to begin the third week in September.

All of the five states for which cranberry estimates are made reported smaller crops than were produced last year. But with the exception of New Jersey, production in all states will be above average. Wisconsin will rank second in cranberry out-

put. August estimates show the nation's cranberry production probably will be about a fifth smaller than in 1953 but a fourth above the 10-year average. Production this year for the nation is expected to be 978,000 barrels of cranberries.

Cranberry Production (Thousand barrels)

State	Sept. 1, 1954 forecast	1953	1952	10-year average 1943-52
Massachusetts.....	590	690	445	490.9
Wisconsin.....	225	295	203	166.4
New Jersey.....	75	112	104	77.2
Washington.....	58	74	30	38.3
Oregon.....	30	32.3	21.5	14.5
5 States.....	978	1,203.3	803.5	787.3

Wisconsin Farmers Report Seed Oats Treatment

Over 2,000 Wisconsin farmers received schedules this spring asking if they had treated their seed oats with fungicides this year. More than half of them returned the schedules. According to these farmers about 60 percent of their seed oats were treated with some form of fungicides. This is probably a somewhat higher percentage than was generally treated throughout the state.

The table shows the percentage of the seed oats treated with various types of fungicides. Two general types of fungicides are considered. These are organic mercurials and non-mercurials. Additional breakdowns are presented under these two general headings. Organic mercurials which are recommended by the Experiment Station and the Extension Service were used on 90 percent of the treated seed oats this year. Most of the organic mercurials were applied in the form of a dust. The slurry method of application was next in importance while the liquid organic mercurials were used on only 5 percent of the seed oats treated.

Only 10 percent of the seed oats were treated with non-mercurial fungicides. Two percent were treated with formaldehyde while several dif-

ferent kinds of non-mercurials were used on the remaining 8 percent of the seed oats.

There is considerable variation throughout the state as to type of fungicide used and the form in which it is applied. Organic mercurials applied in the dust form were the most important fungicides in all nine crop reporting districts. But in the Southeast, Northwest, and Central Districts farmers reported that a greater percentage of the seed oats was treated with organic mercurials in the slurry form than was true for the other districts. Liquid organic mercurials were not used in the North and Northeast while in the South and Southwest almost 10 percent of the seed oats were treated with fungicides of this type.

In the Northwest District 24 percent of the seed oats were treated with non-mercurials. Farmers in that district along with those in the North District reported 4 percent of the seed oats treated with formaldehyde. This was higher than in other parts of the state where 2 percent or less of the oats were treated with formaldehyde. This was higher than in other parts of the state where 2 percent or less of the oats were treated with formaldehyde. The table contains more detail on materials used in treating seed oats in Wisconsin.

Materials Used in Treating Seed Oats Wisconsin—1954

District	Percent of Oats Treated with				
	Organic Mercurials			Non-mercurials	
	Slurry	Dust	Liquid	Formaldehyde	All Others ¹
Northwest.....	27	48	1	4	20
North.....	10	76	-----	4	10
Northeast.....	17	71	-----	1	11
West.....	16	75	7	2	-----
Central.....	22	72	3	2	1
East.....	11	79	7	-----	3
Southwest.....	13	77	8	2	-----
South.....	16	58	9	-----	17
Southeast.....	29	54	4	2	11
State.....	18	67	5	2	8

¹Includes a number of different non-mercurials such as thiam and captan.

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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October Crop Report

Abundant rainfall in September and early October was beneficial to pastures and new seedings but retarded field work in Wisconsin. Corn and other crops are maturing well with frosts holding off longer than usual this fall. Crop production this year was large for both the state and nation as a whole.

Milk Production

Milk production on Wisconsin farms in September was nearly 2 percent below September last year but an increase over a year ago of 1 percent is shown for the nation.

Egg Production

More eggs were produced in the state and nation in September than were produced a year ago. This increase over last year's output came from more layers and a higher rate of production per bird than a year ago.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices received and paid by Wisconsin farmers averaged the same in September as in August. Prices received as a whole are about 8 percent below a year ago.

Current Trends

Stocks of butter and cheese continue to show gains over a year ago but at a slower pace than earlier this year. Cold storage stocks of some condensery products are smaller than a year ago.

Special News Items (page 4)

- Fewer Pheasants This Year
- Larger Stocks of Grain on Farms
- Smaller Supply of Some Hay Seeds

PASTURES ARE GREEN THIS FALL. According to October 1 crop reports from Wisconsin farmers, the state's pasture condition is 84 percent of normal compared with only 66 percent a year ago. Rainfall in September this year was above normal in most of the state, and heavy rains occurred in the first half of October. With little frost up to mid-October, pastures are furnishing feed late this fall.

Wisconsin's corn crop got another boost during the past month because of almost no frost damage. The crop is now estimated at over 153 million bushels with yields averaging 57 bushels per acre. This will be a record crop for the state. The increase in acreage over last year offset a drop in yield to bring about a crop 2 percent above the record corn production of 1953.

Farmers' reports show that field work generally has been slow this fall. Partly because the corn matured slowly and partly because of rainy weather, silo filling is later than usual this year.

Potato yields are averaging about 230 bushels per acre, which is the same average as forecast earlier but a little lower than the yield last year. With the smaller acreage as well as lower yield than last year, the crop of nearly 12 million bushels will be about 16 percent under the state's potato crop last year.

Wisconsin's tobacco crop did well this year. Yields are a little higher than last year and near average. Production is estimated at nearly 22½ million pounds of tobacco which is 13 percent more than the 1953 crop. Some of the increased tobacco production resulted from a larger acreage.

Larger canning crops than harvested last year are reported for corn, snap beans, and lima beans. Smaller pea and beet crops for canning were harvested this year. Tomato, cabbage, and onion crops are also smaller than produced in Wisconsin last year. The apple crop is nearly as large as last year but the cranberry crop is about three-fourths the 1953 production.

United States Crops

A slight improvement in all-crop prospects during September raised the total volume to a tie with 1951 for fifth-largest crop production in the nation. This is true despite drought in a large area and acreage restrictions on several crops. Changes in estimates from last month for most individual crops were relatively small.

Corn prospects at the beginning of

Weather Summary, September 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	September 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	33	83	54.1	56.1	3.77	3.05	+ 4.93
Spooner.....	31	83	56.9	58.7	5.20	3.27	+13.42
Park Falls....	32	78	54.3	56.5	4.90	3.96	-----
Rhinelanders	31	79	54.2	57.1	6.02	3.62	- 0.26
Wausau.....	34	85	59.5	59.2	5.93	3.61	+5.88
Marinette....	36	83	59.4	62.2	5.35	3.05	+ 4.87
Esanaba.....	36	80	56.4	57.4	7.33	3.12	+ 6.16
Minneapolis..	36	88	60.5	62.2	3.65	2.85	+ 0.74
Eau Claire....	36	86	60.5	61.6	6.24	3.83	+ 5.23
La Crosse....	39	92	62.1	62.3	4.85	3.82	+ 2.95
Hancock.....	34	91	59.8	61.1	8.06	3.69	+ 5.20
Oshkosh.....	35	94	61.4	62.2	6.44	3.35	- 0.47
Green Bay...	32	91	58.7	60.2	5.78	2.87	+ 3.39
Manitowoc...	42	87	63.0	60.3	4.30	3.33	+ 0.10
Dubuque....	37	92	64.1	62.3	2.25	4.18	+ 4.11
Madison.....	35	95	62.9	62.1	3.82	3.99	+ 5.11
Beloit.....	40	95	67.3	64.0	2.74	3.59	-----
Milwaukee (airport)...	41	93	64.3	62.6	2.78	3.33	+ 7.02
Average for 18 Stations	35.6	87.5	60.0	60.4	4.97	3.47	+4.27 ¹

¹Average for 16 stations.

October declined 1 percent from September and the crop probably will be 7 percent below last year. Feed grains as a whole of 120 million tons will be 2 percent above last year. Food grains as a whole will be down 15 percent from 1953.

Wisconsin Milk Output Below September 1953

Milk production on Wisconsin farms in September was below the corresponding month for last year. But the total milk production so far this year was well above the first nine months of 1953.

The 1,105 million pounds of milk produced by the state's dairy cows in September was 2 percent below one year ago and it was 4 percent above the 1943-52 average for the month. The amount of milk produced during the first nine months of 1954 totaled 13,425 million pounds. This was a 4½ percent increase over the output of the same period last year.

The estimated milk production on farms for the whole nation was 9,391 million pounds in September which was about 1 million pounds below the August level but 1 percent more than in September 1953. In September 1953 United States milk cows produced 9,306 million pounds of milk. The 10-year average output for the month was only 9,156 million

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Crop Summary of Wisconsin for October 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per acre			
	1954 Preliminary	1953	1954 as a percent of 1953	1954 Preliminary	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 as a percent of		Indicated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	
							1953					10-year average
Corn	2,686,000	2,558,000	105.0	153,102,000	149,643,000	116,546,000	102.3	131.4	Bu.	57.0	58.5	45.6
Potatoes	52,000	61,000	85.2	11,960,000	14,335,000	12,562,000	83.4	95.2	Bu.	230.	235.	146.
Tobacco	15,300	14,100	108.5	22,460,000	19,803,000	30,874,000	113.4	72.7	Lb.	1468.	1404.	1470.
Oats	2,894,000	2,953,000	98.0	127,336,000	122,550,000	127,907,000	103.9	99.6	Bu.	44.0	41.5	44.7
Barley	86,000	80,000	107.5	3,010,000	2,800,000	6,119,000	107.5	49.2	Bu.	35.0	35.0	34.7
Rye	42,000	46,000	91.3	504,000	529,000	1,009,000	95.3	50.0	Bu.	12.0	11.5	11.3
Winter wheat	28,000	30,000	93.3	644,000	720,000	705,000	89.4	91.3	Bu.	23.0	24.0	22.7
Spring wheat	33,000	40,000	82.5	808,000	900,000	1,368,000	89.8	59.1	Bu.	24.5	22.5	23.7
Flax	5,000	7,000	71.4	68,000	88,000	149,000	77.3	45.6	Bu.	13.5	12.5	12.6
Soybeans for beans	71,000	56,000	126.8	1,030,000	812,000	526,000	126.8	195.8	Bu.	14.5	14.5	13.8
Sugar beets	13,000	8,900	146.1	130,000	84,000	109,000	154.8	119.3	Ton	10.0	9.4	9.7
All tame hay	3,852,000	3,872,000	99.5	7,810,000	7,683,000	6,942,000	101.7	112.5	Ton	2.03	1.98	1.75
Alfalfa hay	1,966,000	1,872,000	105.0	4,620,000	4,212,000	2,766,000	109.7	167.0	Ton	2.35	2.25	2.14
Clover and timothy hay	1,723,000	1,853,000	93.0	2,929,000	3,243,000	3,884,000	90.3	75.4	Ton	1.70	1.75	1.57
Other tame hay	163,000	147,000	110.9	261,000	228,000	292,000	114.5	89.4	Ton	1.60	1.55	1.36
Wild hay	50,000	55,000	90.9	68,000	69,000	118,000	98.6	57.6	Ton	1.35	1.25	1.21
Peas for canning	124,100	132,300	93.8	234,540,000	272,540,000	265,200,000	86.1	88.4	Lb.	1890.	2060.	1990.
Corn for canning	108,000	113,200	95.4	345,600	328,300	230,600	105.3	149.9	Ton	3.2	2.9	2.5
Snap beans for canning	16,800	13,700	122.6	31,900	23,300	16,500	136.9	193.3	Ton	1.9	1.7	1.4
Lima beans for canning	7,700	8,100	95.1	14,620,000	13,200,000	6,480,000	110.8	225.6	Lb.	1900.	1630.	1300.
Beets for canning	6,300	7,300	86.3	50,400	64,200	53,400	78.5	94.4	Ton	8.0	8.8	8.6
Tomatoes	800	900	88.9	6,400	10,400	8,500	61.5	75.3	Ton	8.0	11.5	6.3
Cabbage	8,400	9,500	88.4	84,000	100,000	106,480	84.0	78.9	Ton	10.0	10.5	9.5
Onions, commercial	2,800	2,700	103.7	532,000	607,500	568,450	87.6	93.6	Cwt.	190.	225.	206.
Carrots	2,900	3,000	96.7	1,566,000	1,560,000	---	100.4	---	Bu.	540.	520.	---
Apples, commercial	---	---	---	1,000,000	1,008,000	1,026,000	99.2	97.5	Bu.	---	---	---
Cherries	---	---	---	11,000	18,500	12,900	59.5	85.3	Ton	---	---	---
Cranberries	---	---	---	220,000	295,000	166,400	74.6	132.2	Bbl.	---	---	---
Pasture	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	84 ¹	66 ¹	78 ¹

¹October 1 condition.

pounds. The milk production in the nation for the first nine months of 1954 was 97,561 million pounds. This was almost 3 percent above the 95,075 million pounds for that period in 1953.

Wisconsin Egg Production Up from a Year Ago

The number of layers on Wisconsin farms during September was slightly higher than the same month last year but lower than the 5-year average. However, the number of layers on hand in September this year was the highest for the month since 1950.

The September rate of lay for the state was 4 percent above the laying rate last year and almost 7 percent above the 5-year average for the same month. This egg production per bird is a record for September.

As a result of the slight increase in layer numbers and a considerable increase in the laying rate, the total egg output for September of 145 million eggs was 5 percent above a year earlier. This was Wisconsin's second highest egg production for September. The production of 147 million eggs in September 1944 was the record for the month.

The nation's total egg production in September was the highest on record for the month. It exceeded by nearly 10 percent the output in September 1953 and the 5-year average for the month by more than 20 percent. This high egg total for the month compared with a year earlier was due to a record number of layers and the highest rate of lay for the month on record.

The number of layers on hand in September for the nation was the largest on record for the month. The

previous record was in 1944—8 percent more than the number a year ago and an increase of 11 percent above the September 5-year average.

Farm Product Prices Show Little Change

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers for September continued at the August level of 245 percent of the 1910-14 average. Increases during September in milk, feed grains, and hay prices offset declines in livestock, poultry and egg prices to hold the index at the same level as the previous month. Farm prices in Wisconsin were about 9 percent below a year ago in mid-September.

Livestock prices were lower in mid-September for hogs and lambs and held steady for beef cattle, calves,

Crop Summary of the United States for October 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per acre			
	1954 Preliminary (000)	1953 (000)	1954 as a percent of 1953	1954 Preliminary (000)	1953 (000)	10-year average 1943-52 (000)	1954 as a percent of		Indicated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	
							1953					10-year average
Corn	80,164	80,279	99.9	2,949,643	3,176,615	3,057,464	92.9	96.5	Bu.	36.8	39.6	35.7
Potatoes	1,381	1,508	91.6	345,939	373,711	409,027	92.6	84.6	Bu.	250.5	247.8	202.3
Tobacco	1,632	1,634	99.9	2,153,023	2,057,221	2,033,432	104.7	105.9	Lb.	1319.	1259.	1183.
Oats	41,980	39,358	106.7	1,506,213	1,216,416	1,316,359	123.8	114.4	Bu.	35.9	30.9	33.3
Barley	12,885	8,534	151.0	367,092	241,015	274,955	152.3	133.5	Bu.	28.5	28.2	25.3
Rye	1,706	1,382	123.4	23,293	17,998	22,149	129.4	105.2	Bu.	13.7	13.0	11.9
Winter wheat	38,090	46,681	81.6	775,900	877,511	832,977	88.4	93.1	Bu.	20.4	18.8	17.7
Durum wheat	1,564	1,865	83.9	7,963	12,967	35,486	61.4	22.4	Bu.	5.1	7.0	13.9
Spring wheat other than durum	14,072	19,062	73.8	175,395	278,058	253,044	63.1	69.3	Bu.	12.5	14.6	15.2
Flax	5,507	4,380	125.7	39,989	36,813	37,232	108.6	107.4	Bu.	7.3	8.4	9.3
Tame hay	61,604	59,099	104.2	94,913	93,084	89,536	102.0	106.0	Ton	1.54	1.58	1.49
Wild hay	14,380	14,819	97.0	10,874	12,216	12,423	89.0	87.5	Ton	.76	.82	.85
Pasture	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	63 ¹	56 ¹	77 ¹

¹October 1 condition.

September was 87 percent of the 1910-14 base compared with 94 percent a year ago and 1948-52 average for September of 110 percent. Farm incomes in the state are not down as much as the decline in farm prices because of the large volume of farm products going to market.

Farmers Report Fewer Pheasants This Year

There were fewer pheasants on Wisconsin farms this fall than there were one year ago. Each fall about 3,500 farmers are sent questionnaires concerning the number of pheasants on their farm. This year's survey shows that there were about 8 percent fewer pheasants than in 1953.

The Southern District of the state was the only area where farmers indicate an increase in the pheasant population. In this district farmers reported a 6 percent increase. The greatest percentage decline from last year in the pheasant population occurred in the Northwestern, Northern, and Western Districts.

More than half of the farmers said that pheasants do more good than harm. Only 10 percent felt that they did more harm than good while other farmers didn't know. There was a slight decrease from last year in the estimated cost of damage done by pheasants. This would be expected with a smaller pheasant population.

Foxes on Wisconsin Farms

Several questions about foxes were included in the pheasant questionnaires sent to Wisconsin farmers. A smaller percentage of these farmers reported seeing foxes on their farms since May 1 of this year than was true one year ago. There was only a slight change which would indicate little if any decline in the fox population from last year. There was also some decline in the percentage of the farmers who observed fox litters on their farm this year. However, comments made by farmers indicate that the fox population, especially in some areas, is still high.

Only 10 percent of the farmers reported any poultry losses due to foxes. Losses were the heaviest in the west and southwest. This was also the area of the greatest loss in 1953. There was an increase in the average number of chickens lost per farm in 1954 as compared with 1953.

Smaller Supply of Most Hay and Grass Seeds

Both harvested acreage and production of grass and legume seeds in Wisconsin were smaller than last year and less than the average for the 10-years 1943-52. Except for alfalfa, these crops harvested in the nation are also small this year.

TIMOTHY: Wisconsin's timothy seed production for 1954 is forecast at 862,000 pounds of clean seed as compared with 1,380,000 pounds harvested last year and the 1943-52 average of 1,610,000 pounds.

For the nation, the timothy seed crop is indicated at 23,464,000 pounds which is the third smallest on record. Last year's national production was 26,525,000 pounds and the average for the 10-years 1943-52 was 50,108,000 pounds. Production this year plus carryover of old seed places the total current supply at 32,557,000 pounds of timothy seed for the United States. The total supply of timothy seed is down 14 percent from a year ago and is less than half of the 10-year average.

ALSIKE CLOVER: Wisconsin's harvest of alsike seed in 1954 is forecast at 400,000 pounds of clean seed which is less than half of the 875,000 pounds produced last year. Average alsike seed production was 1,500,000 pounds for the years 1943-52.

For the nation, alsike clover seed this year is forecast at 8,220,000 pounds which is the smallest crop on record. Output in 1953 was 12,177,000 pounds and the average was 14,497,000 pounds. Current production plus carryover brings the total United States supply of alsike seed to 15,985,000 pounds which is 18 percent less than a year ago but only 5 percent below average.

RED CLOVER: Wisconsin's red clover seed output in 1954 is forecast at 3,666,000 pounds of clean seed compared with 5,618,000 pounds last year and the average of 7,354,000 pounds.

The nation's red clover seed harvest this year is forecast at 58,458,000 pounds compared with 83,743,000 pounds in 1953 and the average of 96,422,000 pounds. This year's production plus carryover of old seed provides a total current supply of

92,884,000 pounds of red clover seed in the United States as compared with 123,452,000 pounds a year ago and the average of 115,309,300 pounds.

ALFALFA: Wisconsin's alfalfa seed crop is expected to be about half of the small crop of 1953 and a fourth of an average crop. The acreage harvested for seed as well as the yield per acre was small this year. With a yield of 49 pounds of clean seed per acre, the state's alfalfa seed crop totaled 343,000 pounds from the 7,000 acres harvested.

The nation's alfalfa seed crop is forecast at nearly 151,000,000 pounds of clean seed, which is the second-largest crop on record. The crop this year may be 10 percent larger than the one harvested last year and 59 percent above average. Current supply of alfalfa seed including this year's production and carryover is estimated at nearly 211,000,000 pounds of clean seed. This is 1 percent less than the supply last year and nearly twice the 10-year average.

Farm Stocks of Corn Larger This Year

Wisconsin farmers had over 14 million bushels of old corn on hand at the beginning of October. These holdings were almost 1 million bushels less than the record holding of 1950 but 7 million bushels above the 10-year average for October.

Stocks of small grains in Wisconsin are larger than a year ago except for barley and soybean holdings. Oat stocks of 117 million bushels are 8 million bushels above last year. Holdings of wheat and rye by Wisconsin farmers are larger than in October a year ago but are below the 10-year average for the month.

For the nation, farm stocks of old corn on October 1 amounted to 358 million bushels. These stocks were 28 million bushels above the 330 million bushels a year earlier and 56 million bushels more than the 10-year average. Wheat stocks of 437 million bushels dropped over 126 million bushels since October last year. These holdings were 84 million bushels below the 10-year average for October. The nation's farmers had more oats, barley, and rye on hand but less soybeans than in October a year ago.

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

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Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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IN THIS ISSUE

November Crop Report

Wisconsin farmers are harvesting a record corn crop. October weather was good for pastures and new seedings but slowed up harvesting and field work because of rain. The nation as a whole has had a good crop year.

Milk Production

Milk production showed less than the seasonal drop from October 1 to the beginning of November. October milk output in the state and nation was above October last year.

Egg Production

Egg production in the nation as well as on Wisconsin farms in October was the highest on record for the month.

Prices Farmer Receives and Pay

Prices received for products sold by Wisconsin farmers in October remained at the August and September level but showed a decline from a year earlier. Prices paid by farmers dropped only slightly during October and purchasing power of the farm dollar continues at the 1940 level.

Current Trends

Employment, industrial production, and freight car loadings are all below a year ago. Stocks of poultry, eggs, butter, and cheese are larger than last fall.

Special News Items (page 4)

The 1955 Outlook for Farming

The Feed Situation

THE RECORD CORN CROP now being harvested highlights the end of Wisconsin's 1954 crop season. Feed supplies with this year's grain and hay production plus the carryover will be adequate for the winter season.

October was a rather wet month and temperatures averaged below normal. But the corn crop is being harvested under favorable conditions with little damage from frost. Weather conditions last month slowed corn harvesting and fall plowing but were favorable to pastures and new seedings.

Pasture conditions at the beginning of November averaged 83 percent of normal compared with 50 percent last year and 72 percent reported as the 10-year average for the date. The prolonged pasture season this year compared with the short one a year ago has added to the hay supply for the coming winter season. Last year farmers began feeding hay at an early date, and some supplies were low by the time the pasture season opened this last spring.

Corn production on Wisconsin farms this year is estimated at over 155 million bushels, which is a crop 4 percent larger than last year and a third above the 10-year average production. Yields per acre average 58 bushels of corn. Yields are slightly below last year but the increased acreage harvest more than offset the lower yields to produce a record corn crop.

Potato yields at the beginning of November were estimated at 230 bushels per acre or the same as on October 1. Tobacco yields were advanced a bit from the October estimates and now stand at over 1,500 pounds per acre. Potato production this year is estimated at nearly 12 million bushels and tobacco at over 23 million pounds. The corn, snap bean, and lima bean crops harvested for canning were larger than last year, but other canning, truck, and fruit crops were smaller than in 1953.

United States Crop Outlook

The all-crop production prospects for the nation edged up a bit from the October estimate. Crop production at the beginning of November was estimated at 3 percent below last year. Extreme drought in some areas and extensive shifts in land use held crop output this year below the two previous years. Corn production prospects improved somewhat in October, but the nation's crop this year will be nearly 8 percent under 1953. The nation's soybean crop is 29 percent above last year's harvest and the largest one on record. Record crops

Weather Summary, October 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	October 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	18	65	42.2	45.2	1.49	1.96	+ 4.46
Spooner.....	18	70	44.7	46.3	3.89	2.37	+ 14.94
Park Falls...	18	70	43.6	44.2	4.33	2.41	-----
Rhineland...	20	70	44.5	44.7	3.42	2.46	+ .70
Wausau.....	22	70	47.9	47.0	3.21	2.68	+ 6.41
Marquette...	20	74	50.1	50.3	3.07	2.36	+ 5.58
Escanaba...	21	72	46.8	47.1	2.91	2.04	+ 7.03
Minneapolis	21	72	47.7	50.4	1.23	1.65	+ .32
Eau Claire...	19	72	47.6	49.0	2.41	2.69	+ 4.95
La Crosse...	23	72	48.9	50.8	4.47	1.93	+ 5.49
Hancock...	16	73	48.0	48.4	4.80	2.35	+ 7.65
Oshkosh...	22	72	48.9	49.6	3.85	2.22	+ 1.16
Green Bay...	21	72	47.4	48.4	5.00	1.80	+ 6.59
Manitowoc...	24	72	51.2	49.1	4.78	2.59	+ 2.29
Dubuque...	19	84	50.0	50.9	4.87	2.20	+ 6.78
Madison...	22	82	50.5	50.4	3.72	2.08	+ 6.75
Beloit.....	26	87	53.3	51.6	6.99	2.47	-----
Milwaukee (airport)...	23	78	52.2	51.4	3.18	1.97	+ 8.23
Average for 18 Stations	20.7	73.8	48.1	48.6	3.76	2.24	+ 5.58!

xAverage for 16 stations.

of sugarbeets and rice are also estimated for the nation. Above average crops are reported for oats, barley, rye, flaxseed sorghum grain, cotton, hay, dry beans, sugarcane, and cranberries.

The near-average corn crop serves to minimize the effects of slightly below average crops of winter wheat, potatoes, and certain fruits, and relatively small crops of spring wheat, peanuts, dry peas, pecans, and broom-corn.

Milk Production Shows Less Than Seasonal Drop

The record October milk production in the state and nation was about 1½ percent above October last year. Last month Wisconsin dairy herds produced over 1 billion pounds of milk or 11 percent of the 9 billion pounds estimated for the nation.

Milk production per cow in herds of Wisconsin crop reporters averaged almost 17 pounds on November 1, or 2 pounds above the 10-year average for the date. With a larger percentage of the cows freshening in October this year than freshened a year ago, and pasture conditions furnishing more feed, milk production from September to October dropped off less than seasonally.

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for November 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per acre			
	1954 Preliminary	1953	1954 as a percent of 1953	1954 Preliminary	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 as a percent of		Indicated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	
							1953					10-year average
Corn.....	2,686,000	2,558,000	105.0	155,788,000	149,643,000	116,546,000	104.1	133.7	Bu.	58.0	58.5	45.6
Potatoes.....	52,000	61,000	85.2	11,960,000	14,335,000	12,562,000	83.4	95.2	Bu.	230.	235.	146.
Tobacco.....	15,300	14,100	108.5	23,127,000	19,803,000	30,874,000	116.8	74.9	Lb.	1512.	1404.	1470.
Oats.....	2,894,000	2,953,000	98.0	127,336,000	122,550,000	127,907,000	103.9	99.6	Bu.	44.0	41.5	44.7
Barley.....	86,000	80,000	107.5	3,010,000	2,800,000	6,119,000	107.5	49.2	Bu.	35.0	35.0	34.7
Rye.....	42,000	46,000	91.3	504,000	529,000	1,009,000	95.3	50.0	Bu.	12.0	11.5	11.3
Winter wheat.....	28,000	30,000	93.3	644,000	720,000	705,000	89.4	91.3	Bu.	23.0	24.0	22.7
Spring wheat.....	33,000	40,000	82.5	808,000	900,000	1,368,000	89.8	59.1	Bu.	24.5	22.5	23.7
Flax.....	5,000	7,000	71.4	68,000	88,000	149,000	77.3	45.6	Bu.	13.5	12.5	12.6
Sugar beets.....	13,000	8,900	146.1	143,000	84,000	109,000	170.2	131.2	Ton	11.0	9.4	9.7
Soybeans for beans.....	71,000	56,000	126.8	1,100,000	812,000	526,000	135.5	209.1	Bu.	15.5	14.5	13.8
All tame hay.....	3,852,000	3,872,000	99.5	7,810,000	7,683,000	6,942,000	101.7	112.5	Ton	2.03	1.98	1.75
Alfalfa hay.....	1,966,000	1,872,000	105.0	4,620,000	4,212,000	2,766,000	109.7	167.0	Ton	2.35	2.25	2.14
Clover and timothy hay.....	1,723,000	1,853,000	93.0	2,929,000	3,243,000	3,884,000	90.3	75.4	Ton	1.70	1.75	1.57
Other tame hay.....	163,000	147,000	110.9	261,000	228,000	292,000	114.5	89.4	Ton	1.60	1.55	1.36
Wild hay.....	50,000	55,000	90.9	68,000	69,000	118,000	98.6	57.6	Ton	1.35	1.25	1.21
Peas for canning.....	124,100	132,300	93.8	234,540,000	272,540,000	265,200,000	86.1	88.4	Lb.	1890.	2060.	1990.
Corn for canning.....	108,000	113,200	95.4	345,600	328,300	230,600	105.3	149.9	Ton	3.2	2.9	2.5
Lima beans for canning.....	7,600	8,100	93.8	14,900,000	13,200,000	6,480,000	112.9	229.9	Lb.	1960.	1630.	1300.
Snap beans for canning.....	16,800	13,700	122.6	31,900	23,300	16,500	136.9	193.3	Ton	1.9	1.7	1.4
Beets for canning.....	6,300	7,300	86.3	50,400	64,200	53,400	78.5	94.4	Ton	8.0	8.8	8.6
Cucumbers for pickles.....	23,400	24,000	97.5	1,685,000	1,968,000	1,522,000	85.6	110.7	Bu.	72.	82.	77.
Cabbage.....	8,400	9,500	88.4	88,200	100,000	106,480	88.2	82.8	Ton	10.5	10.5	9.5
Onions, commercial.....	2,800	2,700	103.7	532,000	607,500	568,450	87.6	93.6	Cwt.	190.	225.	206.
Tomatoes.....	800	900	88.9	6,400	10,400	8,500	61.5	75.3	Ton	8.0	11.5	6.3
Carrots.....	2,900	3,000	96.7	1,566,000	1,560,000	1,000,000	100.4	---	Bu.	540.	520.	---
Apples, commercial.....	---	---	---	1,000,000	1,008,000	1,026,000	99.2	97.5	Bu.	---	---	---
Cherries.....	---	---	---	11,000	18,500	12,900	59.5	85.3	Ton	---	---	---
Cranberries.....	---	---	---	220,000	295,000	166,400	74.6	132.2	Bbl.	---	---	---
Pasture.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	83 ¹	50 ¹	72 ¹

¹ November 1 condition.

The mild, open October and improved pasture feed in many areas favored a high level of milk production in the nation. Nationally, milk production also declined less than seasonally, and output in October was a record for the month. Milk production per cow in the nation at the beginning of November was a record at 15.67 pounds. This was more than a pound below the Wisconsin average for November 1 of this year.

Record Egg Output In State and Nation

Egg production on farms in the nation as well as Wisconsin during October was the highest on record for the month. Production per layer was at an all-time high for the month in

both the state and nation.

Wisconsin farm flocks produced about 158 million eggs in October or 4 percent more than a year ago and 9 percent more than average for the month. The number of layers on hand during the month as well as the greater production per layer accounted for the increased production over October last year for both Wisconsin and the United States. Egg output on farms in the nation was more than 8 percent above October last year and a fourth above average for the month.

For the nation, the seasonal increase in layers from October 1 to the beginning of November was 4 percent compared with 8 percent last year and the average of 9 percent. Pullets were moved into the laying flocks

earlier this year than last. The number of potential layers on farms on November 1 was 3 percent above a year ago but 7 percent below average. Pullets not of laying age on farms in the nation were 6 percent below November 1 last year and 39 percent below average.

Farm Product Prices Below October 1953

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers in October was 245 percent of the 1910-14 average. This was the same as it had been for the previous two months. Milk prices were up about 4 percent from the September prices but were 8 percent below one year ago. Feed grains and hay were also slightly higher in Octo-

Crop Summary of the United States for November 1, 1954

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per Acre			
	1954 Preliminary (000 omitted)	1953 (000 omitted)	1954 as a percent of 1953	1954 Preliminary (000 omitted)	1953 (000 omitted)	10-year average 1943-52 (000 omitted)	1954 as a percent of		Indicated 1954	1953	10-year average 1943-52	
							1953					10-year average
Corn.....	80,164	80,279	99.9	2,938,713	3,176,615	3,057,464	92.5	96.1	Bu.	36.7	39.6	35.7
Potatoes.....	1,381	1,508	91.6	346,943	373,711	409,027	92.8	84.8	Bu.	251.2	247.8	202.3
Tobacco.....	1,632	1,634	99.9	2,156,034	2,057,221	2,033,432	104.8	106.0	Lb.	1321.	1259.	1183.
Oats.....	41,980	39,358	106.7	1,506,213	1,216,416	1,316,359	123.8	114.4	Bu.	35.9	30.9	33.3
Barley.....	12,885	8,534	151.0	367,092	241,015	274,955	152.3	133.5	Bu.	28.5	28.2	25.3
Rye.....	1,706	1,382	123.4	23,293	17,998	22,149	129.4	105.2	Bu.	13.7	13.0	11.9
Winter wheat.....	38,090	46,681	81.6	775,900	877,511	832,977	88.4	93.1	Bu.	20.4	18.8	17.7
Durum wheat.....	1,564	1,865	83.9	7,963	12,967	35,486	61.4	22.4	Bu.	5.1	7.0	13.9
Spring wheat other than durum.....	14,072	19,062	73.8	175,395	278,058	253,044	63.1	69.3	Bu.	12.5	14.6	15.2
Flax.....	5,507	4,380	125.7	39,989	36,813	37,232	105.9	107.4	Bu.	7.3	8.4	9.3
Tame hay.....	61,604	59,099	104.2	94,913	93,084	89,536	102.0	106.0	Ton	1.54	1.58	1.49
Wild hay.....	13,380	14,819	97.0	10,874	12,216	12,423	89.0	87.5	Ton	.76	.82	.85
Pasture.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	69 ¹	52 ¹	75 ¹

¹ November 1 condition.

September to October. The October 1954 index was 242 percent of the 1910-14 base period compared with 246 percent for September. The only commodities for which prices averaged higher in October were dairy products and commercial vegetables for fresh markets.

The index of prices paid by farmers was 262 percent of the 1910-14 average in October and 263 percent in September. This was a decline of less than one-half of one percent. As a result of prices paid dropping less than prices received there was a decline of 2 percent in the purchasing power of the nation's farm dollar.

Feed Supplies Adequate But Distribution Uneven

Feed supplies in Wisconsin and for the nation as a whole are adequate for the winter feeding season. But because of the decreased feed production in the drought areas this summer, the distribution of feed is very uneven by states. Generally speaking, the northern half of the nation has more than the required amount of feed while in the southern half supplies are below requirements.

The carryover of hay, corn, and small grains on Wisconsin farms together with this year's production of these feed crops insures an adequate supply for the coming feeding season. This is true even though there will be more grain-consuming animals on the state's farms this winter than there were a year ago. Hog numbers have increased, and there are more chickens, turkeys, and probably a very moderate increase in cattle numbers.

Wisconsin's hay production this year was a little larger than last year and well above average. While the carryover was not as great as last year, total supplies this year have been conserved by the prolonged pasture season this fall. Last year hay supplies were used early since pasture conditions by November 1 averaged only 50 percent of normal compared with 83 percent this year.

While feed supplies appear to be adequate for the livestock population in Wisconsin as well as in the nation, prices are expected to show little change from a year ago. Feed prices

along with the prices of many other items used in farm production will show little decline while farm product prices including livestock prices may be lower than last winter and spring. Most feed ratios are less favorable than they were last year. This is true for the hog-corn, milk-feed, and egg-feed ratios particularly.

The outlook for feed prices is based to some extent on the fact that some increase in livestock numbers this winter compared with a year ago will increase the demand for feed to the extent that prices are expected to stay firm or go up a bit as the feeding season continues.

Few Changes Expected In 1955 Farm Picture

According to the Agricultural Outlook Report made this fall, there will be no major changes in the farm picture next year. Production of most agricultural products is expected to be high if weather conditions are normal, and there will be a continued high demand for the things farmers sell. Prices received by farmers will be at around this year's level, and prices paid by farmers may drop only slightly from the 1954 average.

These and the following predictions are made for the nation's agriculture but for the most part apply to our Wisconsin situation. A large part of the state's annual agricultural production reaches national and international markets, and the market for the products is determined more by outside influences than by local and state conditions.

Dairy: It is expected that the nation's milk output in 1955 will be about equal to the record production this year of 124 billion pounds. In some cases high feed costs compared with milk prices may discourage increased milk production. But in areas where feed supplies are ample and additional income is needed, farmers may increase the size of their herds and market a larger quantity of milk. These two trends probably will about offset each other to hold milk output at this year's level.

Wholesale and retail prices of dairy products will continue near the equivalent support levels during much of

the year. With retail prices and consumer incomes expected to be about the same as this year, consumption of dairy products probably will change little.

Meat Animals: Production of meat animals will continue large in 1955. Hog production will increase a little but cattle production may show a down-swing. The demand for meat is expected to be about the same as this year and meat animal prices are likely to average much the same as this year. Hog prices will be below the high level of the spring of 1954, but cattle prices are likely to stay close to the level which has prevailed since mid-1953. Slaughter of sheep and lambs will be smaller next year and prices may be better for producers.

Low Egg Prices Expected

Poultry and Eggs: The larger number of potential layers, broilers, and turkeys now on farms assures record or near-record supplies of eggs and poultry meat for some time ahead. Consumer demand is expected to be about the same as this year. Egg prices to farmers are likely to remain low through March or April.

Wool: The output of domestic shorn and pulled wool next year probably will be a little lower than this year. The slaughter of sheep and lambs this year suggests fewer sheep in the nation at the beginning of next year. Wool prices, both shorn and pulled, will be higher than this year.

Demand and Price: The demand for farm products including both domestic and foreign, will be at least as good next year as it was this year. If the combined flow of spending by government, businessmen, and consumers is maintained in 1955 as expected, consumer incomes after taxes are likely to be as high as this year and perhaps higher. The outlay by consumers for food is likely to be equal to this year's outlay or even a little higher.

Prices received by farmers may be expected to average close to levels prevailing this fall. Cost rates or prices paid by farmers are also likely to continue close to recent levels.

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Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

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Division of Agricultural Statistics

Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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IN THIS ISSUE

The 1954 Crop Report

Crops harvested in Wisconsin this year were valued at about 559 million dollars or 2½ percent more than last year. The record corn crop accounted for 41 percent of the total value. Crops were harvested from 10¼ million acres. All-crop production in the nation is the fifth largest on record.

Milk Production

Wisconsin dairy herds produced a record quantity of milk this year. November milk output in the state was nearly 5 percent above November last year but for the nation production showed little change.

Egg Production

Farmers in the state and nation report more layers in their flocks than a year ago. Wisconsin egg production in November was a record for the month.

Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers changed little throughout the fall months but averaged below the fall of 1953. Cash income from Wisconsin farm products in the first 10 months of this year was 6 percent below the same period last year.

Current Trends

Hog slaughter is up but fewer cattle, calves, and sheep and lambs are going to market than a year ago. Cold storage stocks of eggs and frozen poultry are above a year ago.

Special News Items (page 4)

- 1954 Pig Crop and Number of Spring Sows to Farrow
- Index of 1954 Special Items

DECEMBER ESTIMATES SHOW that Wisconsin's record corn crop accounted for about 41 percent of the total value of all crops produced in 1954. The value of the hay crop accounted for nearly 28 percent and the oat production 17 percent of the 559 million dollar value of all crops raised in the state this year.

Total value of all crops raised in Wisconsin this year was 2½ percent larger than in 1953. But the increased value was largely the result of higher values placed on the corn, hay, and oat crops. A lower farm price or a smaller production or both resulted in smaller values placed on many crops than were reported for 1953.

Wisconsin farmers harvested crops from a little over 10¼ million acres this year. The acreage harvested was slightly larger than in 1953 and a little below the 10-year average. Crop yields varied considerably from a year ago and average. With only two crops on the list showing no change, about half of the crops had lower yields than last year and about half had higher yields.

The farm price of the various crops also varied with about half of the crops selling for higher prices than in 1953 and only three crops listed on page 2 showing no change in price from last year.

Wisconsin's crop season ended with vegetation going into the winter under excellent conditions. Compared with a year ago, moisture conditions are good this year. December 1 reports from Wisconsin crop correspondents indicate a winter wheat crop of 624,000 bushels may be expected next spring, or a crop nearly as large as in 1954. The condition of rye is reported at 93 percent of normal which is much above a year ago and a little above average.

United States Crop Summary

All-crop production in the United States this year is the fifth largest on record even though there was a severe drought in part of the nation this summer. Only a few crops, soybeans, rice, sugar beets, and oranges, set production records this year.

Harvested acreages of the principal crops totaled 337 million acres this year, which is over 4 million acres less than the acreage harvested in 1953.

Wisconsin Will Have Record Milk Production

Milk production in Wisconsin farms will reach an all-time high this year. Up to the first of December milk pro-

Weather Summary, November 1954

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Normal	November 1954	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	13	61	32.7	28.6	0.74	1.67	+ 3.53
Spooner....	10	60	34.7	30.7	1.41
Park Falls..	18	60	33.5	28.8	1.42	1.89
Rhineland..	19	60	34.1	29.7	0.90	1.86	- 0.26
Wausau....	20	65	37.7	32.3	1.05	1.79	+ 5.67
Marinette..	21	63	39.7	36.0	1.55	2.40	+ 4.73
Escanaba... 26	58	38.4	33.9	0.90	2.20	+ 5.73	
Minneapolis 20	66	38.3	33.0	0.61	1.44	- 0.51	
Eau Claire . 23	65	37.1	33.0	0.91	1.79	+ 4.07	
La Crosse... 19	68	37.9	34.3	0.89	1.81	+ 4.57	
Hancock.... 14	67	36.8	33.3	1.00	1.69	+ 6.96	
Oshkosh.... 19	65	36.9	34.9	0.74	1.90	0	
Green Bay . 22	64	36.6	33.5	0.89	1.94	+ 5.54	
Manitowoc 25	62	40.2	36.3	0.88	2.21	+ 0.96	
Dubuque... 17	67	38.2	35.6	0.47	2.13	+ 5.12	
Madison... 19	66	37.9	35.3	0.81	2.29	+ 5.27	
Beloit..... 19	68	40.8	37.5	0.98	2.07	
Milwaukee (airport) 22	68	40.2	37.3	1.06	2.11	+ 7.18	
Average for 18 Stations	19.2	64.1	37.3	33.6	0.93 ¹	1.95 ²	+ 3.90 ²

¹Average for 17 stations.
²Average for 15 stations.

duction was more than 4 percent above the state's output for the first 11 months of last year. And milk output for December is expected to be at least equal to the December 1953 production.

The November milk production of over 1 billion pounds was nearly 5 percent above November output last year. So far this year milk production on Wisconsin farms has been nearly 15½ billion pounds.

Milk production for the nation in November was only slightly above November last year and output in the first 11 months totaled nearly 2½ percent more than up to December of last year. Wisconsin's dairy herds produced about 13 percent of the nation's January to November production of nearly 115 billion pounds of milk.

Record November Egg Output

Farmers in the nation as well as in Wisconsin report more layers in their farm flocks than a year ago, and egg production per layer has also increased. Egg production in the state and nation was a record for November.

During November, Wisconsin farm flocks were more than 2 percent larger than a year ago, and egg production per layer showed an increase

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Summary Wisconsin Crop Acreage, Production, Prices and Values, 1953 and 1954

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Yield per Acre			Production (000 omitted)			Unit	Farm Price		Value of Production (000 omitted)	
	1954 (Prelim- inary)	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 (Prelim- inary)	1953	10-year average 1943-52	1954 (Prelim- inary)	1953	10-year average 1943-52		1954 (Prelim- inary)	1953	1954 (Prelim- inary)	1953
	CEREALS													
Corn (All)	2,686	2,558	2,562	57.5	58.5	45.6	154,445	149,643	116,546	Bu.	1.50	1.46	231,668	218,479
Grain	1,606	1,558	1,377	60.0	60.0	48.5	96,360	93,480	66,823	Bu.				
Silage	1,053	974	1,125	9.5	9.7	8.5	10,004	9,448	9,566	Ton				
Oats	2,894	2,953	2,857	44.0	41.5	44.7	127,336	122,550	127,907	Bu.	.75	.75	95,502	91,912
Barley	79	80	182	36.0	35.0	34.7	2,844	2,800	6,119	Bu.	1.15	1.26	3,271	3,528
Rye	42	46	90	12.0	11.5	11.3	504	529	1,009	Bu.	1.10	1.10	554	582
Spring wheat	31	40	57	25.0	22.5	23.7	775	900	1,368	Bu.	1.95	1.91	1,511	1,719
Winter wheat	28	30	31	23.5	24.0	22.7	658	720	705	Bu.	1.95	1.89	1,283	1,361
Buckwheat	18	21	23	15.5	16.0	15.3	279	336	348	Bu.	.90	.86	251	289
OTHER GRAINS AND SEEDS														
Soybeans for grain ¹	69	56	38	15.0	14.5	13.8	1,035	812	526	Bu.	2.55	2.66	2,639	2,160
Flax	5	7	12	12.5	12.5	12.6	62	88	149	Bu.	3.05	3.36	189	296
Red clover seed	69 ²	106 ²	162.2 ²	55	53	48	3,795	5,618	7,354	Lb.	.45	.26	1,708	1,461
White clover seed	1.1	1.4	2.6	140	160	174	154	224	478	Lb.	.63	.41	97	92
Timothy seed	11	12	12.4	120	115	122	1,320	1,380	1,610	Lb.	.165	.115	218	159
Alfalfa seed	6 ²	12 ²	22.4 ²	45	60	63	270	720	1,459	Lb.	.42	.28	113	204
Alsike seed	4	7	12.55	90	125	119	360	875	1,500	Lb.	.235	.209	85	183
HAY AND FORAGE														
All tame	3,846	3,865	3,965	2.05	1.99	1.75	7,867	7,700	6,942	Ton	19.50	19.80	154,986	153,826
Alfalfa	2,064	1,929	1,271	2.35	2.25	2.14	4,850	4,340	2,766	Ton				
All clover and timothy	1,650	1,794	2,479	1.70	1.75	1.57	2,805	3,140	3,884	Ton				
Annual legume	12	10	33	1.60	1.65	1.67	19	16	54	Ton				
Grain cut green	15	20	34	1.35	1.25	1.22	20	25	39	Ton				
Millet, Sudan and other hay	105	112	148	1.65	1.60	1.37	173	179	200	Ton				
Wild hay	60 ²	55 ²	99 ²	1.35	1.25	1.21	81	69	118	Ton				
Grass silage	155 ³	140 ³	148 ^{3,4}	5.00	5.50	5.80 ⁴	775	770	858.4 ⁴	Ton	5.60	6.20	4,340	4,774
OTHER FIELD CROPS														
Potatoes	54	61	98	215	235	146	11,610	14,335	12,562	Bu.	1.45	1.08	16,834	15,482
Tobacco	14.8	14.1	21.0	1,501	1,404	1,470	22,210	19,803	30,874	Lb.		.292	6,517 ⁵	5,791
Sugar beets	11.7	8.9	11.3	12.5	9.4	9.7	146	84	109	Ton		9.90		832
Cabbage for market	3.5	4.1	4.6 ⁴	10.5	10.0	10.8 ⁴	36.8	41.	49.8 ⁴	Ton	20.00	25.00	736	1,025
Cabbage, kraut	4.	5.5	4.57	13.9	12.2	9.5	55.6	67.1	44.2	Ton	10.50	12.50	584	839
Onions, com- mercial	2.7	2.7	3.1 ⁴	205	225	205 ⁴	553.5	607.5	635.5 ⁴	Cwt.	2.20	1.30	1,218	790
Carrots	2.8	3.	2.65 ⁴	570	520	458 ⁴	1,596	1,560	1,201 ⁴	Bu.	.55	.50	878	780
Cucumbers for pickles	23.4	24	19.85	84	82	77	1,966	1,968	1,522	Bu.	1.55	1.65	3,047	3,247
Peas, canning	123.1	132.3	133.07	1,870	2,060	1,990	230,200	272,540	265,200	Lb.	.04395	.044	10,117	11,992
Corn, canning	100.4	113.2	92.2	3.1	2.9	2.5	311.2	328.3	230.6	Ton	19.20	20.80	5,975	6,829
Snap beans for canning	16	13.7	11.24	1.6	1.7	1.4	25.6	23.3	16.5	Ton	113.80	114.20	2,913	2,661
Beets, canning	6.3	7.3	6.24	7.8	8.8	8.6	49.1	64.2	53.4	Ton	19.20	17.60	943	1,130
Green lima beans, canning	7.6	8.1	4.77	2,120	1,630	1,300	16,120	13,200	6,480	Lb.	.0663	.06825	1,069	901
Tomatoes, can- ning	1	.9	1.4	6.	11.5	6.3	6	10.4	8.5	Ton	30.00	31.00	180	322
FRUITS														
Apples, com- mercial							1,000	1,008	1,026	Bu.	2.75	2.90	2,750	2,923
Cherries							11	18.5	12.9	Ton	220.00	180.00	2,420	3,330
Cranberries	3.9	3.8	3.0	62.8	77.6	55.2	245	295	166.4	Bbl.	13.00	14.50	3,185	4,278
Maple sugar	310 ⁶	287 ⁶	300 ⁶				16	20	9	Lb.	.85	1.05	14	21
Maple sirup							64	80	65	Gal.	4.55	4.70	291	376
Strawberries	1.2	1.4	1.7 ⁴	60	80	89 ⁴	72	112	152 ⁴	Crt. ⁶	8.00	7.60	576	851
Mint (for oil)	2.5	2.	1.4 ⁴	28.0	37.0	34.8 ⁴	70	74	48 ⁴	Lb.	6.00	6.00	420	444
Grand Total	10,248	10,222.4	10,412.64										559,082⁷	545,869

¹Not included in acreage grown for hay. ²Not included in total acreage. ³A small portion of the acreage is duplicated. ⁴Short-time average. ⁵1953 season average prices were used in evaluating production. ⁶Trees tapped. ⁷Excluding sugar beets.

of 5 percent. At 185 million eggs, egg production on Wisconsin farms in November was 7½ percent above November last year and up more than 11 percent from the 5-year average.

Farm flocks in the nation were more than 3 percent larger than in November last year and egg production per layer increased over 2 percent. Total egg production in the nation during November is estimated at 5.057 million eggs, or nearly 6 percent more than a year ago and nearly a fourth more than the November average.

Potential layers on farms in the nation, hens and pullets of laying age plus pullets not of laying age, on

December 1 showed no increase in number over a year earlier but were 6 percent below average. But there was the smallest number of pullets not of laying age on December 1 in the 18 years of record.

Farm Product Prices Show Little Change

The Wisconsin index of prices received by farmers continued at the August level through November. The index at 244 percent of the 1910-14 base compared with the 245 average for August, September, and October and 263 for November in 1953.

Returns for milk have increased seasonally and the expected average price per hundredweight for November for all milk is \$3.50 for average test. This would be the highest average price since the beginning of 1954 but still 7 percent under the average for November a year earlier.

Both egg and poultry prices continued to decline but indications in early December pointed to a leveling out in egg prices. Feed grain prices in mid-November were even with the same date in 1953.

Livestock prices in total were 5 percent under mid-November last year.

Current Trends

Main table with columns for 'WISCONSIN' and 'UNITED STATES', each containing 'Latest Report' and 'Previous Reports' data. Includes sub-sections for Farm Price Indexes, Dairy Products, Poultry, and various agricultural commodities.

Wisconsin Pig Crops Largest Since 1951

Spring and fall pig crops in Wisconsin this year total 17 percent larger than in 1953 and the largest since 1951. This increased production is to be followed by 5 percent more

sows to be bred to farrow next spring.

Wisconsin's 1954 pig crop is estimated at 3,532,000 head. The spring pig crop was 18 percent larger than the crop of 1953, and the fall crop this year was more than 14 percent above the fall of last year. In addition

to increases in the number of sows which farrowed, the number of pigs saved per litter was larger than last year. Litters of the spring crop averaged 7.05 pigs saved and fall litters averaged 6.86 pigs.

The number of sows to be bred for spring farrowing in Wisconsin accord-

1 Preliminary. 2 Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service, based on reporters' data. 3 10-year average. 4 Computed on the basis of the average reported quantity fed at the beginning and end of the month in herds of Wisconsin dairy correspondents times number of days in month. 5 Agricultural Marketing Service U. S. D. A. 6 Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A. 7 U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1935-1939=100. 8 Federal Reserve Board.

Spring and Fall Pig Crops

(000 omitted)

	Spring		Fall		Total no. pigs saved spring and fall
	Sows farrowed	Pigs saved	Sows farrowed	Pigs saved	
Wisconsin					
10-yr. av. 1943-52.....	332	2,207	175	1,172	3,379
1953.....	281	1,925	163	1,097	3,022
1954.....	323	2,277	183	1,255	3,532
1955.....	339*				
Corn Belt**					
10-yr. av. 1943-52.....	6,810	43,476	3,657	24,054	67,530
1953.....	5,819	39,948	3,502	23,519	63,467
1954.....	6,444	44,767	3,971	27,089	71,856
1955.....	6,772*				
United States					
10-yr. av. 1943-52.....	9,025	57,023	5,530	35,850	92,873
1953.....	7,300	49,703	4,751	31,809	81,512
1954.....	8,080	55,728	5,424	36,766	92,494
1955.....	8,469*				

*Estimates based on intentions of farmers as reported in the December Pig Survey and subject to revision.
 **Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

Wisconsin Pig Crops 1924-54
(000 omitted)

Year	Sows farrowed		Pigs saved		
	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Total
1924	316	134	1,735	778	2,513
1925	284	120	1,818	706	2,524
1926	340	150	2,006	913	2,919
1927	340	128	2,140	807	2,947
1928	280	110	1,764	693	2,457
1929	260	119	1,638	762	2,400
1930	269	118	1,746	773	2,519
1931	285	141	1,872	916	2,788
1932	271	127	1,691	833	2,524
1933	261	133	1,676	859	2,535
1934	245	87	1,556	559	2,115
1935	233	130	1,480	855	2,335
1936	281	133	1,779	874	2,653
1937	247	121	1,667	817	2,484
1938	267	141	1,829	953	2,782
1939	321	160	2,086	1,101	3,187
1940	326	153	2,155	1,057	3,212
1941	320	196	2,182	1,337	3,519
1942	362	214	2,451	1,440	3,891
1943	431	255	2,806	1,673	4,479
1944	332	150	2,148	984	3,132
1945	315	175	2,104	1,155	3,259
1946	290	144	1,958	985	2,943
1947	296	147	1,906	979	2,885
1948	296	153	1,989	1,043	3,032
1949	326	165	2,197	1,097	3,294
1950	352	190	2,306	1,290	3,596
1951	352	198	2,387	1,319	3,706
1952	327	172	2,273	1,195	3,468
1953	281	163	1,925	1,097	3,022
1954	323	183	2,277	1,255	3,532

ing to present intentions, will be 5 percent larger than in the spring of

this year and the largest number since 1951. The increase in farrowings is in line with the 5 percent increase for the Corn Belt as a whole and for the nation.

Wisconsin's spring pig crop of 2,277,000 head was 3 percent above the 1943-52 average, and an increase of 7 percent is shown for the fall crop. The number of sows to be bred for farrowing next spring is expected to be 2 percent above the 10-year average.

United States Pig Crop

The total number of pigs saved from the spring and fall farrowings in the United States this year is estimated at 92,494,000 head. This is 10,982,000 head or 13 percent larger than the 1953 pig crop and only slightly below average. The 1954 pig crop is the largest for the nation since 1951. While the number of sows to farrow next spring in the nation will be larger than in the spring of this year, it will still be below average.

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From 1954 Reporters

Agricultural outlook for 1955 -----
----- November

- Cattle on feed ----- January, July
- Chicken numbers by county, January 1954 ----- April
- Corn planted by June 1 ----- June
- Corn, stocks on hand, April, October
- Cranberry production, 1954, 1953, 1952 ----- September
- Crop conditions, Wisconsin and United States, June 1 ----- June
- Crop summary on first of month, Wisconsin and United States ----- July-November
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