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# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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Vol. XXVIII, No. 1

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

January, 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### United States Crops, 1948

With most states having a favorable year for crop production, a new record in farm output was made in this country in 1948. Total production was nearly 9 percent greater than in the previous record year of 1946.

#### Farm Stocks of Hay and Grain

Hay stocks are smaller than they were a year ago, but farm stocks of grain are large as a result of the big production of 1948. Corn stocks on farms are at record levels.

#### Milk Production

With favorable weather, milk production during the past month was high. For the nation it was 3 percent above a year earlier and in Wisconsin it was at a record level 8 percent above the same month of last year.

#### Egg Production

Despite smaller flocks, egg production for the United States in December was 8 percent above the same month a year earlier. In Wisconsin it was 2 percent higher. Mild weather favored high production per bird.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices of Wisconsin farm products during the past month were about 11 percent below the same month a year earlier. Milk prices were down about 15 percent, meat animals 2 percent, and feed grains and hay 35 percent. Prices paid by farmers have changed little from a year ago with the result that the purchasing power of the farm dollar has been reduced about 11 percent.

#### Special Items

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers for Farm Products, 1910 to Date (Published only once each year)  
Feed Purchases

CROP output in the United States during the past year was the greatest ever recorded. A favorable crop season combined with other factors brought about the highest yield for crops that has been attained. Little acreage was lost due to weather so that large production of high-quality crops resulted.

While most of the country had an excellent crop year, a few states—Wisconsin on the north and Texas on the south—were too dry. In these dry areas production was not nearly as good as in the rest of the country. As has been reported earlier, Wisconsin had a large deficit of moisture during 1948 and even though there was a little improvement in the moisture situation during the last months of the year it ended with a shortage of 7.19 inches for the stations listed in the accompanying table.

#### Percentage of Grain and Hay Stocks on Farms

(January 1 estimates)

Crop	Percent of Previous Crop		
	1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
<b>Wisconsin</b>			
Corn <sup>1</sup> .....	70.0	66.0	68.7
Wheat.....	66.0	60.0	72.8
Oats.....	70.0	68.0	68.3
Soybeans.....	61.0	62.0	59.4 <sup>2</sup>
Hay.....	70.0	72.0	71.6
<b>United States</b>			
Corn <sup>1</sup> .....	74.9	70.5	76.7
Wheat.....	29.6	31.4	35.4
Oats.....	62.2	61.1	62.9
Soybeans.....	33.9	28.2	28.0 <sup>2</sup>
Hay.....	67.6	67.9	69.8

<sup>1</sup>Based on corn for grain.

<sup>2</sup>Short-time average.

#### A Record National Corn Crop

Outstanding in the 1948 crop story is the record production of corn—3,651 million bushels—most of it of excellent quality. It is more than 50 percent above the small corn crop of 1947 and about 30 percent over the 10-year average.

In addition to a big crop of corn, the nation also had another big wheat crop as well as good crops of oats and barley so that the supply of grains for feeding is the largest ever grown by the country in any year. Hay production, on the other hand, was a little below 100 million tons which is close to the 10-year average. A detailed summary of the nation's production of the more important crops is shown in the accompanying table.

#### Stocks of Grain and Hay on Farms

As a result of a big crop in 1948, stocks of corn on farms on January 1 were above 2½ billion bushels which

#### Weather Summary, December 1948

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	December 1948	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-16	44	16.8	15.9	1.19	1.15	- 5.54
Spooer.....	-17	46	16.6	16.4	0.98	0.86	- 8.78
Park Falls.....	-12	47	17.3	15.2	0.83	1.36	-12.86
Rhineland.....	-16	50	17.5	16.6	0.53	1.00	- 8.76
Wausau.....	-20	48	17.7	19.1	1.30	1.15	- 3.39
Marinette.....	1	49	23.9	24.0	0.93	1.68	- 8.76
Escanaba.....	1	47	24.6	22.4	0.56	1.75	- 5.83
Minneapolis.....	-11	56	20.0	19.6	0.67	0.98	-10.75
Eau Claire.....	-7	55	20.8	19.2	1.25	1.17	-10.55
La Crosse.....	-3	52	23.6	22.3	1.79	1.33	- 8.61
Hancock.....	-13	51	20.2	20.0	1.31	1.20	-10.40
Oshkosh.....	-9	54	22.8	22.8	1.80	1.22	- 3.22
Green Bay.....	-2	55	23.9	22.3	1.43	1.71	- 8.90
Manitowoc.....	4	47	26.4	25.1	1.48	1.71	- 5.25
Dubuque.....	-2	56	27.0	24.8	1.86	1.44	+ 0.40
Madison.....	2	54	25.4	22.8	1.78	1.63	- 5.23
Beloit.....	2	55	27.9	24.9	1.93	1.54	- 7.47
Milwaukee.....	6	55	28.0	24.7	2.50	1.72	- 5.52
Average for 18 Stations	-6.2	51.2	22.2	21.0	1.34	1.37	- 7.19

is a billion bushels more than a year ago and much above average. Heavy feeding of livestock has been possible because of the large supply of corn available. Wheat stocks totaled 381 million bushels, which is somewhat less than were held a year ago but well above average. Stocks of oats totaled 927 million bushels which is well above a year earlier and above average. Hay stocks were a little below last year and below average.

In Wisconsin farm stocks of corn, oats, and wheat were larger than a year ago and above average. Stocks of hay were well below average, as were farm holdings of soybeans.

#### Milk Production

Mild December weather in Wisconsin and generally favorable weather elsewhere in the United States resulted in a high rate of milk production per cow for the month. The total amount of milk produced on the farms of the country was 8,258 million pounds or 3 percent greater than in December last year despite the fact that the number of milk cows was less than a year earlier. Production was 2 percent above the 1937-46 average but was short of the record December production of 8,529 million pounds.

Wisconsin milk production totaled 1,010 million pounds during December—the highest for the month since the beginning of monthly records in

Crop Summary of United States 1947 and 1948

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Yield per Acre			Production (000 omitted)			Unit	Value of Production (000 omitted)	
	1948 (Preliminary)	1947	10-year average 1937-46	1948 (Preliminary)	1947	10-year average 1937-46	1948 (Preliminary)	1947	10-year average 1937-46		1948 (Preliminary)	1947
Corn	85,439	83,932	89,616	42.7	28.4	31.4	3,650,548	2,383,970	2,813,529	Bu.	4,980,943	5,145,345
Oats	40,191	38,451	38,056	37.1	31.2	32.3	1,491,752	1,199,422	1,231,814	Bu.	1,148,520	1,257,043
Barley	12,046	11,014	12,615	26.3	25.5	23.7	317,037	281,185	298,811	Bu.	382,326	477,828
Rye	2,097	2,010	3,055	12.6	12.9	12.1	26,388	25,975	37,398	Bu.	40,268	58,731
Spring wheat other than durum	15,858	16,606	14,558	16.0	15.3	15.1	253,566	254,810	219,398	Bu.	516,944	617,900
Durum wheat	3,187	2,948	2,549	14.0	15.0	14.0	44,742	44,328	34,619	Bu.	93,591	112,642
Winter wheat	52,859	54,835	41,724	18.7	19.5	16.6	990,098	1,068,048	688,606	Bu.	2,030,210	2,397,281
Buckwheat	337	518	416	18.8	14.2	16.9	6,324	7,334	7,022	Bu.	7,664	13,908
Dry peas	292	520	412	12.27	12.52	12.42	3,584	6,513	5,278	Cwt.	16,802	32,050
Dry edible beans	1,917	1,759	1,832	10.87	9.79	9.14	20,833	17,218	16,716	Cwt.	156,580	183,400
Soybeans for grain <sup>1</sup>	10,311	11,212	7,162	21.4	16.4	18.8	220,201	183,558	134,642	Bu.	525,784	612,209
Flax	4,737	4,030	2,938	11.1	10.1	9.0	52,533	40,536	26,756	Bu.	301,932	249,331
Red clover seed	1,830.5	1,393.6	1,645.92	.97	.91	1.04	1,773.9	1,261.8	1,578.3	Bu.	46,752	35,421
Sweet clover seed	188.2	216.7	325.08	2.83	2.65	2.65	573.2	574.3	853.18	Bu.	4,603	3,702
Timothy seed	131.7	397.4	425.83	3.22	4.00	3.56	423.8	1,589.4	1,525.76	Bu.	1,908	3,262
Alfalfa seed	614.1	995.7	854.28	1.61	1.71	1.49	989.9	1,700	1,259.92	Bu.	25,023	25,868
Alsike seed	139.8	128.3	139.46	2.78	2.92	2.37	388.4	375.2	324.96	Bu.	6,667	7,202
All tame hay	58,669	60,669	60,052	1.48	1.47	1.43	86,998	89,286	86,126	Ton	1,895,983	1,809,234
Alfalfa	15,014	14,846	14,600	2.27	2.25	2.16	34,083	33,450	31,540	Ton		
All clover and timothy	21,995	23,556	21,062	1.33	1.39	1.35	29,309	32,772	28,617	Ton		
Annual legume	4,487	4,814	7,102	.75	.70	.95	3,358	3,372	6,713	Ton		
Grain cut green	2,213	2,346	3,140	1.30	1.26	1.18	2,867	2,948	3,707	Ton		
Millet, Sudan and other hay	14,960	15,107	14,148	1.16	1.11	1.10	17,381	16,744	15,549	Ton		
Wild hay	14,947	14,820	12,966	.86	.91	.88	12,848	13,479	11,437	Ton		
Potatoes	2,099	2,100.9	2,825.7	212.4	185.2	139.3	445,850	389,048	392,143	Bu.	680,105	628,646
Tobacco	1,537.7	1,845.4	1,644.22	1234	1143	1008	1,897,926	2,109,581	1,664,265	Bu.	929,646	917,181
Cabbage, for market	179.5	162.06	169.81	7.43	7.05	6.94	1,334.1	1,142.3	1,180.5	Ton	38,806	47,869
Cabbage, kraut	19.27	9.81	19.92	10.48	7.37	8.92	201.9	72.3	177.62	Ton	3,048	1,245
Onions, commercial	128.73	119.03	134.67	159	150.5	134.5	20,444.5	17,899.5	18,064	Cwt.	58,897	73,352
Sorgo sirup	110	161	191	69.3	61.1	60.0	7,625	9,845	11,437	Gal.	12,676	17,356
Sugar beets	700	881	784	13.5	14.2	12.4	9,418	12,504	9,771	Ton	96,795	148,518
Cucumbers for pickles	122.42	127.29	97.82	79	80	74	9,642	10,233	7,286	Bu.	15,896	13,824
Peas, processing	372.83	428.14	385.19	1862	2031	1875	694,100	869,620	732,500	Lb.	31,271	37,909
Corn, processing	474.42	492.59	426.41	2.80	2.22	2.42	1,326.2	1,091.6	1,025.92	Ton	31,254	22,722
Snap beans for processing	94.5	102.38	104.48	1.89	1.65	1.69	178.9	169.3	173.84	Ton	21,618	17,612
Beets, processing	12.99	10.27	15	7.50	7.26	7.36	97.4	74.6	115.08	Ton	2,248	1,472
Green, lima beans for processing	86.01	81.57	56.54	1615	1385	1126	138,920	112,980	63,860	Lb.	11,109	8,049
Tomatoes, processing	410.5	511.37	492.7	6.94	6.34	5.23	2,847.6	3,242.8	2,582.7	Ton	80,283	92,857
Apples, commercial <sup>2</sup>							90,288 <sup>3</sup>	113,041 <sup>3</sup>	115,058 <sup>3</sup>	Bu.	191,944	193,044
Cherries <sup>4</sup>							216.98	173.14	169.77	Ton	47,685	38,513
Cranberries <sup>5</sup>							922.5	790.2	673.94	Bbl.	10,106	13,875
Maple sugar <sup>6</sup>	8,059 <sup>7</sup>	8,568 <sup>7</sup>	9,592 <sup>7</sup>				229	305	508	Lb.	190	259
Maple sirup <sup>6</sup>							1,445	2,039	2,273	Gal.	6,910	10,559
Strawberries	120.94	116.36	130.74	82.6	76.4	70.2	9,992	8,895	9,329	Crt. <sup>8</sup>	80,621	67,174
Grapes							2,998.1	3,024.4	2,705.14	Ton	118,118	121,751
<b>Grand Total<sup>9</sup></b>	<b>350,857</b>	<b>348,899</b>	<b>339,663</b>									

<sup>1</sup>Not included in acreage grown for hay. <sup>2</sup>35 states. <sup>3</sup>Includes some quantities not harvested. <sup>4</sup>12 states. <sup>5</sup>5 states. <sup>6</sup>10 states. <sup>7</sup>Trees tapped. <sup>8</sup>24-quarts. <sup>9</sup>Total harvested acres of 52 crops. Includes some crops not listed above, but excludes crops not harvested, minor crops, duplicated seed acreages, strawberries, and other fruits.

the early 1930's. With fewer milk cows on farms the December total was 8 percent above that for the same month last year and was 16 percent higher than the 10-year average, 1937-46.

Egg Production

For the second consecutive year a record egg production was made on Wisconsin farms. Total egg production during 1948 was about 1 percent above the previous record established during 1947. The past year's record has been made in spite of a slight reduction in the number of layers on farms. The rate of production per

layer averaged about 2½ percent higher than during 1947.

Relatively mild weather and a high rate of production per layer gave Wisconsin a record egg output for the month of December. Although the number of layers was 4 percent less than December 1947, the average rate of lay was about 6½ percent higher and egg production was 2 percent higher than December 1947. The number of layers on farms of the nation during December was about 2½ percent below a year ago but the rate of production was 11 percent higher providing for an 8-percent increase in total egg production over December 1947.

The index at 290 percent of the 1910-14 base in mid-December was 11 percent under the same period a year earlier and was the lowest December level since the end of price controls.

Compared with a year ago the declines range from 2 percent for meat animals to 35 percent for feed grains and hay. Milk returns this December appear to be running 15 percent under December 1947. Unusually sharp seasonal declines in poultry and egg prices were also strongly evident as the year 1948 ended.

Prices of commodities purchased by farmers are holding nearly steady. The easy trend of farm markets in contrast with the relatively firm non-agricultural prices has brought about a decided slump in the purchasing power of the Wisconsin farm dollar which fell about 2 percent per month during the last half of 1948.

Percent of Feed Bought by Type of Supplier

	1948	1947
Feed Stores	31.3	32.5
Farm Supply Stores	20.2	21.7
Elevators or Mills	44.6	41.8
Hatcheries	1.1	1.2
Other	2.8	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Stocks of Barley and Rye on Farms

(December 1 estimates)

Crop	Thousand Bushels on Hand			Percent of Previous Crop		
	1948	1947	8-yr. average 1939-46	1948	1947	8-yr. av. 1939-46
Wisconsin						
Barley	5,039	2,504	9,734	65.0	42.0	76.7
Rye	541	420	1,130	49.0	42.0	76.2
United States						
Barley	177,021	135,080	181,767	55.8	48.0	57.4
Rye	10,389	8,490	18,686	39.4	32.7	51.9

Wisconsin Farm Prices

Since October the index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers has dropped below levels of the previous



Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers for Farm Products<sup>1</sup>

Table with columns for Year, Livestock, Poultry, and Wool, Grains, Seeds, Hay (Loose), and Other Crops. Rows list prices for various products from 1910-14 to Dec 1948.

<sup>1</sup>All prices based on reports of Wisconsin price correspondents on the 15th of each month. Annual prices are straight averages of monthly data. For monthly data prior to 1938 see Bulletins 90, 120, 140, 150 and 188, Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service; also issues of the Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporter after 1938. \*3-month average. \*11-month average. \*10-month average. \*Preliminary.

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Vol. XXVIII, No. 2

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

February, 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### 1949 Livestock Numbers

A change in the downward trend of livestock numbers took place during the past year. For the United States cattle and hog numbers are already larger than a year ago. In Wisconsin cattle have not yet shown an upturn, but the state has an increase in hog numbers.

#### Milk Production

January milk production was higher than a year ago in spite of a reduction in the number of milk cows. Production per cow has increased. Wisconsin last year produced 13 percent of the nation's milk and continues as the leading producer, New York ranking second.

#### Egg Production

The January output of eggs in Wisconsin was the highest on record, it being 5 percent more than a year ago in spite of a 1 percent reduction in the size of flocks. For the United States more baby chicks are being reported than last year.

#### Current Trends

In spite of heavier current production, storage stocks of butter and cheese are below a month ago though they are somewhat above a year ago. Evaporated milk stocks, while a little under last month, are much larger than a year ago. As a result more milk has been diverted to the making of butter and cheese. Stocks of frozen poultry and of eggs are below last month and below a year ago. Slaughter of livestock in January was less than in December for all species, and with the exception of hogs it was also less than a year ago.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Because of declining milk prices the Wisconsin farm price index dropped about 4 percent during the month. For the United States there was no change. Prices farmers pay have been reduced only slightly.

#### Special News Items

Monthly Prices of Milk and Dairy Products (Page 2).  
1949 Livestock Inventory (Page 4).

FOR THE country as a whole the past year has brought a change in the trends of animal numbers on farms. A year ago these trends were generally downward because of the short corn crop of the preceding fall and high feed prices. Since then we have had a good crop year of feed production and for the country as a whole the trend in animal numbers is now upward. Already there are more cattle on the nation's farms than was the case a year ago and the number of hogs and turkeys is also higher. Sheep numbers have continued their downward trend, and of course the number of work horses and mules continues to decline.

In Wisconsin the number of cattle on farms is about 1 percent lower than a year ago. Heavy culling of milk cows has taken place and the number of milk cows is down about 2 percent from last year. On the other hand there appears to be an increase in the number of heifer calves saved for the raising of milk cows, and if this increase in the number of calves kept continues an upturn in the number of cattle in Wisconsin may come during the present year. Wisconsin's total cattle population this year is estimated at 3,766,000 head compared with 3,804,000 last year. The number of milk cows is estimated at 2,432,000 which is 50,000 head less than a year ago.

#### Movement of Wisconsin Livestock to Packers and Stockyards Number, 1940-1948

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	343,673
1946	468,870	1,132,178	2,083,997	331,255
1947	654,208	1,294,086	2,151,518	281,300
1948*	563,798	1,223,159	2,239,332	287,203

\*Preliminary.

The number of hogs on the state's farms is about 4 percent higher than it was a year ago and there are about 30,000 more sows being kept for spring farrowing. The sheep population, on the other hand, has declined again this year and Wisconsin now has the smallest sheep population in at least 90 years. The number of horses on Wisconsin farms continues to decline quite rapidly. The decrease this year is 12 percent which is the largest drop that we have yet experienced since horses began their long general downturn about the time of World War I.

The number of chickens on Wisconsin's farms this year is smaller

#### Weather Summary, January 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	January 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-22	42	14.0	7.9	1.62	0.97	+0.65
Spooner.....	-23	42	15.8	10.3	1.13	0.82	+0.31
Park Falls.....	-21	41	16.0	8.7	1.92	1.26	+0.66
Rhinelander.....	-18	42	17.0	10.4	1.35	0.87	+0.48
Wausau.....	-21	41	23.6	14.2	2.75	1.05	+1.70
Marinette.....	-13	43	21.5	19.0	1.93	1.83	+0.10
Escanaba.....	-9	47	21.9	15.4	1.95	1.49	+0.46
Minneapolis.....	-18	45	14.0	12.7	1.65	0.86	+0.79
Eau Claire.....	-17	45	18.0	13.4	1.80	1.14	+0.66
La Crosse.....	-14	48	19.6	16.1	2.32	1.08	+1.24
Hancock.....	-19	44	17.6	14.2	1.27	1.06	+0.21
Oshkosh.....	-14	45	17.6	17.2	1.67	1.22	+0.45
Green Bay.....	-13	45	20.8	15.7	1.85	1.54	+0.31
Manitowoc.....	-9	48	25.0	19.1	2.27	1.43	+0.84
Dubuque.....	-16	52	22.0	19.1	2.93	1.30	+1.63
Madison.....	-14	50	21.2	16.7	2.26	1.38	+0.88
Beloit.....	-11	57	25.0	20.3	2.38	1.43	+0.95
Milwaukee.....	-10	54	25.5	20.6	2.61	1.78	+0.83
Average for 18 Stations	-15.7	46.2	19.8	15.1	1.98	1.25	+0.73

than it was a year ago. The chicken population in the state has been declining for the past three years.

For the United States the cattle population this year is estimated at 78,495,000 head, which is an increase of 369,000 head from a year ago. The number of hogs on farms at the beginning of the year was a little over 57 million, or more than 2 million head above a year ago. The sheep population, on the other hand, is down nearly 3 million head from last year, the total being less than 32 million. The chicken population for the country is down about 13 million head from a year ago, while the turkey population is up about a million head.

Livestock values this year are at a new high level. For the first time in the country's history the cattle population has a value in excess of 10 billion dollars.

#### Milk Production

Wisconsin produced 13 percent of all the milk produced in the United States in 1948. The state production totaled 14,914 million pounds while the total for the nation was 115,511 million pounds. Production in Wisconsin and the country as a whole was 3 percent lower than in 1947.

Milk production in January was well above average in Wisconsin and over the nation. For the country as a whole the amount of milk produced during the month was 4 percent greater than in January 1948. In Wisconsin milk production was 7 percent greater than a year earlier.



Farm and Market Prices for Milk and Dairy Products<sup>1</sup>

Table with columns for Year, Milk prices by uses, Milk prices by percent of average, Butter and Farm butter prices, and Wholesale prices of dairy products (Cheese, Evaporated milk, Cheese and butter prices compared).

1 Monthly quotations prior to 1940 have been published in earlier issues of this Crop and Livestock Reporter as well as in Bulletins 90, 120, 150, 188, and 200, Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

2 Quotations are the average for the month as reported by Wisconsin crop correspondents. Milk prices are averages reported by farmers without reference to test. The weighted annual average test of Wisconsin milk as reported for the various outlets is as follows: Milk for cheese 3.52 percent fat; butter, 3.69 percent fat; condenseries, 3.64 percent fat; market milk, 3.71 percent fat; and average for all uses, 3.60 percent fat.

3 Quotations refer to the 15th of the month as reported by Wisconsin and United States price reporters. Annual prices, except the Wisconsin farm butter price, are weighted averages of monthly data. For the U. S., milk for fluid use is the chief outlet for whole milk sold, hence the U. S. farm price exceeds Wisconsin where the bulk of the output is manufactured.

4 All annual quotations except Swiss cheese are straight averages of monthly prices. Wholesale price of 92-score butter at Chicago through December 1942. Since then OPA ceiling price (Grade A) plus 5 cents processors' roll-back subsidy has been quoted. Processors' roll-back discontinued November 1945 and current prices were again reported.

5 Wholesale prices on the Wisconsin Cheese Exchange. Prior to April 1926, prices were quoted on daisies, thereafter on twins. Where prices of twins were not quoted, Cheddar prices were used as a basis for prices of twins.

Subsidy of 3.75 cents included from December 1942 to January 1946.

6 Quotations from Green County Herald until January 1941. Averages of weekly quotations from Monroe, Wisconsin Evening Times used from January 1941 to February 1943. Price ceiling from February 1943 to October 1945. Since then various sources adjusted to Monroe basis.

7 Averages of weekly quotations. Prior to September 1940, quotations are from the Green County Herald, September 1940 through September 1942 quotations are from various sources adjusted to a Monroe basis.

8 Quotations from Green County Herald until September 1940. From Monroe Evening Times October 1942 to May 1944. Various sources adjusted to Monroe basis used at present and between September 1940 through September 1942.

9 Wholesale prices of advertised brands per case of 48 tall cans. Prices from 1910 to 1920 inclusive are manufacturers' prices as published in Federal Trade Commission Report on Milk and Milk Products. Quotations from 1921 to date are wholesale prices per case in carload lots at New York City as published by the Evaporated Milk Association.

10 Cheese prices used are averages for American (twins) at Wisconsin Cheese Exchange including subsidy. The butter price is 92-score at Chicago.

\* Preliminary.

Egg Production

Egg production by Wisconsin laying flocks during the month of January was the highest output on record for the month. Wisconsin layers produced 223 million eggs in January—

about 5 percent more than a year ago and more than 9 percent above the 5-year (1943-47) average.

This record output was reached with 1 percent fewer layers than a year ago. Layers averaged nearly 14

eggs during the month of January—6 percent above a year ago and 13 percent higher than the 5-year average number of eggs per layer.

Farm flocks of the nation laid 6 percent more eggs during January



### Number and Value of Livestock, January 1 Wisconsin

Class of Livestock	Number (000 omitted)								Farm Price per Head <sup>1</sup>			Farm Value (000 omitted)		
	1949 (Prelim- inary)	1948 (Re- vised)	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1949 (Prelim- inary) Dollars	1948 Dollars	Average 1938-47 Dollars	1949 (Prelim- inary) Dollars	1948 Dollars	Average 1938-47 Dollars
Cows and heifers 2 years old and over kept for milk	2,432	2,482	2,559	2,585	2,585	2,552	2,480	2,380	235.00	201.00	110.00	571,520 <sup>2</sup>	498,882 <sup>2</sup>	269,998 <sup>2</sup>
Heifers, 1 to 2 years old kept for milk cows	499	504	505	507	548	552	513	512						
Heifers calves being saved for milk cows	529	505	526	527	512	580	532	546						
All other calves	77	74	84	87	88	110	96	95						
Cows and heifers 2 years old and over not kept for milk	20	20	22	24	28	28	27	27						
Heifers 1 to 2 years old not for milk	26	27	28	28	25	29	23	26						
Steers 1 year old and over	95	97	101	103	104	86	81	91						
Bulls 1 year old and over	88	95	97	101	112	118	108	113						
<b>All Cattle</b>	<b>3,766</b>	<b>3,804</b>	<b>3,922</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>4,002</b>	<b>4,055</b>	<b>3,860</b>	<b>3,790</b>	<b>187.00</b>	<b>162.00</b>	<b>87.90</b>	<b>704,242</b>	<b>616,248</b>	<b>334,106</b>
Horses	264	300	337	379	412	451	470	485	67.00	69.00	97.00	17,688	20,700	45,331
Mules	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	63.00	72.00	102.00	63	144	415
Sows and gilts	355	355	355	350	370	405	472	416						
Other hogs over 6 months	361	387	431	506	486	611	446	383						
Pigs under 6 months	873	815	819	1,010	810	1,590	1,270	1,155						
<b>All Swine</b>	<b>1,619</b>	<b>1,557</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>1,866</b>	<b>1,666</b>	<b>2,516</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>1,954</b>	<b>42.50</b>	<b>47.60</b>	<b>18.70</b>	<b>68,808</b>	<b>74,113</b>	<b>34,160</b>
Ewes 1 year and over	151	180	191	212	243	297	323	311						
Ewe lambs	36	44	53	53	52	64	70	70						
Wether and ram lambs	1	2	3	4	3	4	5	5						
Rams and wethers 1 year and over	8	10	10	10	12	15	15	15						
Stock sheep and lambs	196	236	257	279	310	380	413	401	17.80	17.10	9.02	3,489 <sup>3</sup>	4,036 <sup>3</sup>	3,112 <sup>3</sup>
Sheep and lambs on feed	59	66	90	100	95	93	84	83						
<b>All Sheep and Lambs</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>18.08</b>	<b>17.52</b>	<b>13.29</b>	<b>4,610</b>	<b>5,290</b>	<b>3,980</b>
Chickens over 3 months old	17,349	17,705	17,970	19,018	18,096	19,766	18,471	16,919	1.70	1.43	1.00	29,493	25,318	17,431
Turkeys	54	83	119	125	105	116	92	82	9.40	7.90	4.23	508	656	441
<b>Total Value</b>												<b>825,412</b>	<b>742,469</b>	<b>435,864</b>

### United States

Cows and heifers 2 years old and over kept for milk	24,450	25,039	26,098	26,695	27,770	27,704	27,138	26,313	193.00	164.00	86.40	4,723,110	4,102,968	2,280,597
Heifers 1 to 2 years kept for milk cows	5,512	5,649	5,602	5,803	6,307	6,352	6,067	5,889						
All other cattle	48,533	47,438	49,507	49,936	51,496	51,278	47,999	43,823						
<b>All Cattle</b>	<b>78,495</b>	<b>78,126</b>	<b>81,207</b>	<b>82,434</b>	<b>85,573</b>	<b>85,334</b>	<b>81,204</b>	<b>76,025</b>	<b>135.00</b>	<b>116.00</b>	<b>59.20</b>	<b>10,587,060</b>	<b>9,094,334</b>	<b>4,634,842</b>
Horses	5,921	6,589	7,249	8,053	8,715	9,192	9,605	9,873	52.30	55.50	72.50	309,764	365,802	698,240
Mules	2,353	2,541	2,772	3,010	3,235	3,421	3,626	3,782	117.00	133.00	125.00	274,332	337,409	448,668
Swine including pigs	57,139	55,028	56,921	61,301	59,331	83,741	73,881	60,607	38.20	42.80	17.50	2,183,697	2,356,160	1,080,446
Sheep and lambs	31,963	34,827	37,818	42,436	46,520	50,782	55,150	56,213				548,915	534,679	404,439
Chickens over 3 months old	448,838	461,550	474,441	530,203	516,497	582,197	542,047	476,935	1.66	1.44	.969	745,976	665,227	475,614
Turkeys	5,493	4,450	6,650	8,493	7,203	7,429	6,600	7,485	8.68	6.87	4.03	47,671	30,590	29,195
<b>Total Value</b>												<b>14,697,425</b>	<b>13,384,201</b>	<b>7,771,444</b>

<sup>1</sup>Farm price per head of all cattle, horses, mules, swine, and sheep derived by dividing total value by total number. Total value represents sum of value by age groups. <sup>2</sup>Included in value of all cattle. <sup>3</sup>Included in value of all sheep and lambs.

consin was the drop of 15 cents per hundred in the average price received for milk. Average prices for a number of other basic farm products also declined from mid-December to mid-January. Hogs dropped \$1 per hundred, beef cattle \$1.40 per hundred, and lambs \$1.70 per hundred pounds.

Farm costs have shown some declines but in the aggregate are only about 1 percent below 1948 levels. The index of prices paid by Wisconsin farmers for family living and farm production expenses was 262 percent of the 1910-14 average in mid-January. This represents a decline of 3 percent from the all-time peaks of

last summer and compares with a decline of 20 percent in the level of farm product prices. These unequal price changes have resulted in about a 17 percent shrinkage in the purchasing power of the farmer's dollar since August 1948 and this trend has continued so far in 1949.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

Walter H. Ebling,

C. D. Caparoon,

Agricultural Statisticians

Emery C. Wilcox,

Cecil W. Estes

Vol. XXVIII, No. 3

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

March, 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### Crop Plantings This Spring

For the country as a whole a smaller acreage of crops will be planted this year. In Wisconsin there is little change in the important crops from a year ago.

#### Milk Production

In spite of fewer cows on farms, milk production both in Wisconsin and the country as a whole averaged 2 percent higher in February than in the same month last year.

#### Egg Production

While flocks are smaller, production of eggs has been larger for both Wisconsin and the United States than was the case a year ago.

#### Current Trends

Livestock slaughter in February was lower than in January for all species. March 1 stocks of butter and cheese were larger than a year ago. The wholesale price level of the nation is declining.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

The indexes of prices received by farmers and of prices paid by farmers for Wisconsin stood at 259 percent last month. Thus the purchasing power is at 100, which is the lowest it has been at any time since we entered World War II.

#### Special Items (page 4)

Methods of Harvesting Hay  
Methods of Feeding Oats

THE ACREAGE of spring-planted crops in prospect for 1949 appears to be the smallest of any year since before the war. Total spring-planted acreage of the principal crops in the country will be nearly 5 million acres under last year, but this is largely made up by increased plantings of winter wheat last fall. The total acreage of crops for 1948 will probably be 1.6 million acres smaller than last year.

#### Wisconsin Acreage Changes Little

So far as is known, intentions to plant spring crops as reported by Wisconsin farmers show rather little change from last year for the important items. Reports indicate that Wisconsin farmers expect to have about the same acreage of land in hay as a year ago, and as a result changes in the other important feed crops will be small. An increase in the oat acreage of about 2 percent, or 59,000 acres, is the largest change indicated.

The acreage of spring wheat which has been rising in recent years due to the introduction of new varieties is being reduced this year. Likewise, a small decrease is indicated in the acreage of barley. Decreases are also shown for tobacco and flax. In addition to the increase in oats, Wisconsin reporters also indicate a small increase in the acreage of canning peas and in onions.

#### Important National Changes

For the nation the greatest declines in spring plantings are shown for feed grains with smaller declines in the oilseeds such as soybeans, flax, and peanuts. The chief increases in spring plantings over last year for the country as a whole are in spring wheat, dry peas, and tobacco. These acreage plans, of course, depend upon how winter grains and hay

### Weather Summary, February 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	February 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-22	33	11.0	11.4	0.59	1.05	+0.19
Spooner.....	-30	42	12.8	13.2	0.20	0.91	-0.40
Park Falls.....	-23	40	13.2	12.9	0.54	1.24	-0.04
Rhineland.....	-20	40	13.9	13.3	0.11	0.93	-0.34
Wausau.....	-19	40	13.4	15.1	1.03	1.09	+1.64
Marinette.....	-11	49	21.5	22.2	0.61	1.82	-1.11
Escanaba.....	-5	48	19.3	15.4	0.92	1.49	-0.11
Minneapolis.....	-18	47	13.4	15.9	0.14	0.95	-0.02
Eau Claire.....	-16	44	15.8	16.4	0.21	1.17	-0.30
La Crosse.....	-18	46	19.0	19.2	0.47	1.07	+0.64
Hancock.....	-25	47	17.2	16.9	0.39	1.19	-0.59
Oshkosh.....	-13	48	20.3	19.1	0.78	1.13	+0.10
Green Bay.....	-11	44	18.4	17.4	1.08	1.56	-0.17
Manitowoc.....	-7	45	23.6	20.9	0.47	1.59	-0.28
Dubuque.....	-12	49	22.2	22.3	1.50	1.38	+1.75
Madison.....	-10	45	20.4	19.1	1.58	1.50	+0.96
Beloit.....	-9	46	24.8	22.5	1.34	1.35	-0.94
Milwaukee.....	-7	44	23.5	21.2	1.74	1.83	-0.72
Average for 18 Stations	-15.3	44.3	18.0	17.5	0.76	1.29	+0.20

crops finally emerge from the winter. If losses of these are larger than expected, greater changes in the acreages of some of the other crops will follow. The data for prospective plantings of the major crops in both Wisconsin and the United States are given in the accompanying table.

#### Milk Production

The milk produced on the farms of the United States in February totaled 8,276 million pounds. This was 2 percent greater than in February 1948 and 3 percent higher than the 1938-47 average for the month. In Wisconsin milk production on farms was estimated at 1,097 million pounds. While

### Wisconsin and United States Planted Acreage

Crop	Wisconsin					United States				
	Acreage planted (000 omitted)			1949 as a percent of		Acreage planted (000 omitted)			1949 as a percent of	
	Intended 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1948	10-year average 1938-47	Intended 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1948	10-year average 1938-47
Corn.....	2,570	2,570	2,463	100	104	84,809	86,196	90,590	98.4	93.6
Oats.....	3,001	2,942	2,638	102	114	44,506	44,529	42,378	99.9	105.0
Barley.....	199	205	423	97	47	11,885	13,295	14,607	89.4	81.4
Spring wheat.....	74	93	48	80	154	20,300	19,588	18,319	103.6	110.8
Flax.....	15	22	10	69	150	4,713	4,889	3,472	96.4	135.7
Potatoes.....	88	88	156	100	56	1,980	2,127.3	2,798.7	93.1	70.7
Tobacco <sup>1</sup> .....	17.7	19.9	22.98	89	77	1,596.3	1,537.7	1,653.48	103.8	96.5
Soybeans <sup>2</sup> .....	40	40	126	100	32	11,278	11,733	11,607	96.1	97.2
All hay.....	4,048	4,048	4,068	100	100	73,718	73,616	73,966	100.1	99.7
Canning peas.....	130	128.7	133.33	101	98	452.93	415	423.28	109.1	107.0
Onions.....	2.2	1.9	1.69	116	130	146.42	128.73	132.9	113.7	110.2

<sup>1</sup>Acreage harvested.

<sup>2</sup>Grown alone for all purposes. Partly duplicated in hay acreage.

Dairy and Poultry Feed Costs, Milk Cow Prices, and Indexes of Prices of Things Farmers Buy

Table with columns for Year, Dairy Ration Cost, Poultry Ration Cost, Index Number of Feed Prices, Milk Cow Prices, and Index Number of Prices Paid by Wis. Farmers. Rows include years from 1910 to 1949, with sub-rows for months in 1947-1949.

1Value of 1000 pounds of grains and concentrates in Wisconsin dairy ration. For more details see Bulletin 146, pages 23-24. 2In comparing the value of milk and a Wisconsin dairy ration average monthly milk and feed prices for Wisconsin are used. 3Based on values of ingredients in a typical Wisconsin poultry ration. For further details and data consult Bulletin 140, page 25. 4In comparing the value of eggs and a poultry ration, the mid-month average price of eggs and average monthly prices of feed are used. 5Based on weighted average of index numbers in columns 10, 11, 12, and 13. The group relatives are combined with respect to their importance in Wisconsin volume of sales as reported by Wisconsin feed dealers. 6Based on f. o. b. Madison prices of standard bran, standard middlings, and flour middlings weighted by volume of sales. 7Based on f. o. b. Madison prices of linseed oil meal, cottonseed meal, gluten feed, gluten meal, and digester tankage weighted by volume of sales until 1939. Thereafter cottonseed meal was dropped and soybean and dried brewer grains added. 8Based on Wisconsin farm prices of corn, oats, and barley plus a grinding fee for that portion customarily purchased ground and weighted by volume of sales.

91910-14 average price of milk cows for Wisconsin \$53.07, for the United States \$49.18. 1020-year average requirements to buy a milk cow, Wisconsin 4,180 pounds of milk, 176.8 pounds of butterfat; United States 179.7 pounds of butterfat. 11Sources of prices. (A) Agricultural Marketing Service retail prices reported by merchants annually 1910-1921 and quarterly from 1922 to date. Wisconsin, East North Central, and United States averages were used. (B) U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Retail prices of food and fuel as well as wholesale prices of other commodities were used. (C) Sears, Roebuck & Co. through Don E. Mowry cooperated in furnishing a series of catalogs from which a series of Sears, Roebuck & Co. retail prices of various commodities were compiled. (D) Ford Motor Co. and Chevrolet Motor Co. furnished prices on automobiles. Calculations are preliminary, and all made by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service. 12Automobiles added to index in 1917 as a separate group. Indexes of this group not shown but included in index of All Family Maintenance and in final index of prices paid. 13Automobiles and trucks were added to index in 1917 as a separate group. Tractors were added in the same manner in 1925. Indexes of groups included in index of All Farm Production and final index of prices paid. 141912-14=100. \*Preliminary.



fewer layers on hand during the month.

The number of layers on Wisconsin farms was only slightly lower than a year ago but they averaged 13.61 eggs which was about 4 percent above February 1948 and 8 percent above the 5-year (1943-47) average. The total egg output was 3½ percent higher than last February and about 4 percent higher than the 5-year average.

Both chicken and egg prices declined during the period January 15 to February 15 for Wisconsin and the United States. Wisconsin farmers received an average of 37½ cents per dozen for eggs on February 15 while the United States average was 41.8 cents. Chicken prices averaged 29 cents per pound in Wisconsin in mid-February and 29½ cents per pound for the country as a whole.

#### Wisconsin Farm Prices

February levels of farm prices in Wisconsin weakened an additional 4.4 per cent during the month and brought the accumulative decline so far in 1949 to about 10 percent. The index on February 15 of average prices received by farmers was 259 percent of the 1910-14 base and compares with 271 percent for January 1949 and 311 percent for February a year ago. Declines were general and pronounced throughout the list of farm commodities. The fall in farm prices was contrary to the usual influences at this season of the year when farm prices tend to rise.

During the last week of the month farm markets steadied and the usual upward seasonal trends were resumed for grains and livestock. Milk prices, however, were the major farm commodity to decline against the expected seasonal pattern. The available evidence indicates that farm returns from milk will be about one-fourth lower this February than in February a year ago. The average price of milk received by farmers according to preliminary reports in February this year is about \$3.14 per hundredweight—\$1.12 below the final average for February in 1948.

Another significant February development in the farm price front both in Wisconsin and the nation as a whole is shown by the index of pur-

chasing power of the farm dollar. In both the state and nation this index for February stood at 100, which means that the purchasing power of the farm dollar is the same now as it was in the years 1910-14. The last time this index was as low as 100 percent was in 1941. Further declines in farm prices if not accompanied by similar declines in prices of non-agricultural commodities would cause further lowering of the purchasing power of the farm dollar which has declined 19 percent since last fall.

#### Methods of Feeding Oats

A survey made to crop correspondents in the 1948-49 feeding season revealed that 78 percent of the oats fed were fed crushed or ground. The greatest proportion of oats fed ground was in the northeastern counties and the lowest proportion in the west-central counties. Elsewhere throughout the state the relationship held rather uniform.

#### Methods of Feeding Oats<sup>1</sup>

District	Whole grain	Crushed or ground
	Percent	Percent
Northwest.....	15	85
North.....	15	85
Northeast.....	13	87
West.....	35	65
Central.....	20	80
East.....	20	80
Southwest.....	22	78
South.....	20	80
Southeast.....	22	78
State.....	22	78

<sup>1</sup>As reported by crop correspondents for 1948 production.

#### Methods of Harvesting Hay

Improvements in hay harvesting methods have been hastened by shortages of farm labor, high wage rates, and the greater availability of new farm equipment. Not many years ago almost all the hay in Wisconsin was harvested by the traditional field methods of mowing, raking or windrowing, and either stacking on the fields or putting it into barns. A recent survey of crop correspondents indicated that last year only about half of the hay made was put up loose by standard methods and that new hay-

ing procedures were becoming rather widely adopted.

Somewhat more than a third of the hay produced for the state as a whole in 1948 was baled, according to the survey. The proportion of hay baled varied considerably in the different parts of the state and ranged from a low of 9 percent of the crop in the northern district to a high of 60 percent of the crop in the southeastern counties. The survey further indicated that the use of twine for tying bales was fully as popular as tying bales with wire. Twine bales were reported about twice as common in Districts 7, 8, and 9 as wired bales. Wire-tied bales were more often reported in some of the western counties while for most of the remainder of the state reports on wire and twine bales were about equally divided.

Crop correspondents reported that about 18 percent of the hay made by them last year was field chopped. The practice of making chopped hay was most common in the counties around Lake Winnebago and the Fox and Wolf River areas. This part of the state also has a large acreage of alfalfa. Field chopping of hay was reported least frequently in the northern and central sections of the state.

These were also the areas in which loose hay production was highest in proportion to total hay output. The type of farming in these areas differs somewhat from other parts of the state. Advances in new haying machinery are not as well adapted to some northern conditions as they are in some other areas. The accompanying table summarizes the reports by districts.

#### Percent of Hay Cured by Different Methods<sup>1</sup>

District	Baled	Chopped	Loose
1. Northwest.....	14	8	78
2. North.....	9	6	85
3. Northeast.....	17	17	66
4. West.....	30	10	60
5. Central.....	17	5	78
6. East.....	35	32	33
7. Southwest.....	32	18	50
8. South.....	47	19	34
9. Southeast.....	60	20	20
State.....	35	18	47

<sup>1</sup>As reported by Wisconsin crop correspondents for 1948 hay production.

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April 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### April Crop Report

The crop season for both Wisconsin and the United States had a fairly normal start this year. Nationally, progress of farm work is somewhat ahead of normal in the eastern and southeastern parts of the country and somewhat behind normal in the western and southwestern areas. A billion-bushel winter wheat crop is in prospect.

#### Stocks of Grain on Farms

Somewhat larger stocks of grain are on farms this year than last year. Corn stocks are especially large because of the big crop of 1948.

#### Milk Production

Despite the reduction in cow numbers, milk production during the past month averaged about 4 percent above a year ago. Mild weather and heavy feeding have helped.

#### Egg Production

With fewer layers on farms, egg production has been maintained a little above a year ago for both Wisconsin and the United States. Markets have strengthened recently.

#### Current Trends

The all commodity price level has declined a little. Food prices have declined most. Stocks of most dairy products are a little higher than a year ago and supplies of dried skim milk are up greatly.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Milk prices have declined more than farm prices in general with the result that the Wisconsin farm purchasing power is now only 97 percent of the 1910-14 average. Prices of poultry, eggs, and most livestock have been firm recently.

#### Special News Items (Pages 3 and 4)

1949 Livestock Numbers by Counties, and 1948 Milk and Egg Production by Counties

#### Farm Wages

Use of Chemical Weed Killers on Wisconsin Farms

THE PAST month was a little warmer than normal. During the middle of March there was some rather cold weather, but the last week of the month averaged considerably above normal in temperature. Wisconsin rainfall in recent months has been a little above normal. The big moisture deficit accumulated last year has been partly made up since last October. It must be remembered, however, that for the first ten months of 1948 the average deficit of moisture in Wisconsin was over 8 inches and even though some of it has been made up during the winter the subsoil probably is still somewhat dry.

Field work in Wisconsin began during the first week in April in a number of counties and progress has been satisfactory. The season is apparently about a normal one so far as getting underway is concerned.

#### Rye and Pasture Condition, April 1

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
Rye.....	89	91	88	89	89	83
Pasture....	83	91	88	85	83	81

Reports on winter grain in Wisconsin indicate that it is in fairly good condition, though there are differences between counties. No large loss of acreage is expected. For hay crops the outlook is varied. Alfalfa seedings on most farms are reported to be quite good, but some of the other seedings suffered from the dry weather in 1948 and the condition of these varies considerably.

#### Winter Wheat Production

	Thousands of bushels			1949 as a percent of	
	Indicated 1949	1948	10-yr. average 1938-47	1948	10-yr. average 1938-47
Wisconsin....	615	698	728	88.1	84.5
United States.	1,019,686	990,098	726,553	103.0	140.3

#### Another Billion Bushel Winter Wheat Crop

Reports for the United States indicate that progress of work this spring is about normal and that generally crop prospects appear to be good. Farm work is well advanced in the east and southeast, but some of the western areas have been too wet. Generally, pasture conditions and prospects are reported to be good. The outlook for the wheat crop was improved as the fields emerged from the winter. A total of 1,020 million

#### Weather Summary, March 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	March 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	-3	50	24.1	23.7	1.92	1.54	+0.57
Spooner.....	-4	51	26.8	26.5	1.63	1.44	-0.21
Park Falls....	-8	52	24.3	23.8	1.30	1.87	-0.61
Rhinelanders	-2	51	25.4	24.9	1.35	1.28	-0.27
Wausau.....	-1	54	25.7	28.0	1.71	1.73	+1.62
Marinette....	4	54	29.8	31.0	0.29	2.14	-2.96
Escanaba.....	8	49	27.6	24.2	1.86	1.89	-0.14
Minneapolis..	1	56	29.5	29.6	3.37	1.42	+1.93
Eau Claire....	2	55	30.1	30.0	4.82	1.92	+2.60
La Crosse....	5	62	33.0	31.5	3.39	1.61	+2.42
Hancock.....	-2	61	29.8	29.5	2.00	1.66	-0.25
Oshkosh.....	4	59	30.9	30.8	2.29	1.77	+0.62
Green Bay....	8	58	30.5	28.6	3.75	2.04	+1.54
Manitowoc....	9	49	31.3	30.6	2.45	2.23	-0.1
Dubuque.....	8	66	35.2	34.0	2.25	2.03	+1.97
Madison.....	7	62	32.4	30.6	2.48	2.07	+1.37
Beloit.....	10	66	36.6	34.4	1.66	2.26	-0.34
Milwaukee....	10	65	33.4	30.1	2.57	2.42	+0.87
Average for 18 Stations	3.1	56.7	29.8	29.0	2.28	1.85	+0.63

bushels of winter wheat is now estimated, which would be the country's second largest crop and it is considerably larger than was estimated last fall. In Wisconsin the winter wheat acreage is small and the prospects are a little above average.

#### Stocks of Grain on Farms

As is shown in the accompanying table, stocks of grain on Wisconsin farms are generally larger than a year ago, and for the important items of corn and oats they are considerably above average. Barley stocks also are higher this year. For the United

#### Stocks of Grain on Farms

(April 1 estimates)

Crop	Thousands of bushels on hand			Percent of previous year's crop		
	1949	1948	10-yr. average 1938-47	1949	1948	10 yr. av. 1938-47
Wisconsin						
Corn.....	27,407	19,442	19,226	45.0	34.0	37.3
Wheat.....	1,191	1,173	726	41.0	42.0	44.9
Oats.....	46,675	44,723	38,167	37.0	37.0	38.5
Barley....	2,248	1,192	.....	29.0	20.0	.....
Rye.....	364	260	.....	33.0	26.0	.....
Soybeans..	78	108	263 <sup>2</sup>	40.0	32.0	41.1 <sup>2</sup>
United States						
Corn.....	1,776,220	842,608	1,206,247	52.8	39.4	47.8
Wheat.....	239,315	256,986	202,904	18.6	18.8	21.8
Oats.....	577,945	405,082	454,022	38.7	33.8	36.9
Barley....	111,511	69,349	94,711 <sup>2</sup>	35.2	24.7	29.8 <sup>2</sup>
Rye.....	5,454	4,436	11,298 <sup>2</sup>	20.7	17.1	30.0 <sup>2</sup>
Soybeans..	51,644	33,110	35,320 <sup>2</sup>	23.5	18.0	18.5 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Data based on corn for grain. <sup>2</sup>Short-time average.







**Egg Production**

Although the number of layers on Wisconsin farms was slightly lower than a year ago, egg production in March was about 2½ percent higher, but only slightly above the 5-year (1943-47) average. Wisconsin farm flocks produced 248 million eggs during March compared with 242 million last year and an average of 247 million for the month. Layers averaged 16.37 eggs each during March this year compared with 15.93 last year.

Egg production for the United States was 1 percent higher last month than a year ago but 7 percent below the 5-year (1943-47) average output for the month. The number of layers on farms during the month was 2 percent lower than a year ago and 12 percent under the 5-year average. Layers averaged 17.18 eggs during the month compared with 16.65 during March 1948 and the 5-year average at 16.27.

Egg markets strengthened some during the month of March. Prices advanced moderately in all points except Boston and some of the Pacific coast cities. Strength in the egg market was largely attributed to the support program. Live poultry prices tended moderately upward also. Wisconsin farmers received an average of 39.5 cents per dozen on March 15 compared with 37.5 on February 15 and 41.7 cents a year ago. Farmers of the nation received 41.2 cents per dozen for eggs on March 15 compared with 42.6 cents a year ago and 41.8 cents a month ago. Chicken prices averaged 30.4 cents per pound live weight in Wisconsin on March 15 compared with 29 cents a month ago and 24.7 cents a year ago.

**Wisconsin Farm Prices**

Strong seasonal influences have prevailed to stabilize Wisconsin farm markets during March following the sharp declines of the previous two months. The tone of farm markets is still uncertain and it is too early to know whether the downward adjustment in farm prices has been completed or whether March was only a temporary interruption of the lower trend. Despite somewhat firmer demand, the index of Wisconsin farm prices declined 1 percent on March 15 and stood at 252 percent of the 1910-

14 base compared with 303 percent on the same date a year earlier.

Milk prices continue to show the most change relative to other farm products. The promise of government support to the butter and other dairy products has undoubtedly had some steadying effects on price levels. Poultry and eggs have registered a full seasonal advance during March and prices on March 15 were 1 percent above levels for that time last year. Livestock prices on the whole declined slightly, but the changes are relatively small compared with the other monthly averages so far in 1949. Feed and grain prices held pretty stable at the lowered levels reached in February.

**Wisconsin Farm Wage Rates**

	Per Month		Per Day		Per Hour
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board and room	Without board and room
1948					
Jan.....	\$128.00	\$ 97.00	\$ 4.70	\$ 5.80	\$.77
Apr.....	136.00	104.00	4.90	6.00	.80
July.....	141.00	112.00	5.40	6.40	.85
Oct.....	146.00	111.00	5.60	6.60	.87
1949					
Jan.....	136.00	102.00	4.95	6.30	.81
Apr.....	135.00	106.00	4.80	6.10	.79

**Farm Wages**

The index of wage rates paid to Wisconsin farm workers was 393 percent of the 1910-14 average on April 1 this year. There was almost no change in the index between January 1 and April 1. Farm wage rates usually advance during the first quarter of the year as farm activities increase with the advance of the planting season. Failure of wage rates to gain about the usual 5 to 10 percent this year on April 1 indicates that the farm wage rate pattern is leveling off after nearly 10 years of practically steady growth. In fact, this is the first time in the 25 years of records that the April 1 index of farm wage rates did not exceed January 1 levels by at least 5 percent.

The flattening out of farm wage rates is not limited to Wisconsin. Nationally, figures show that this trend is widespread. The index for the United States as a whole was lower on April 1 this year than on

the same date a year ago. This is the first time such a decline has occurred since the summer of 1939—about 10 years.

Average farm wage rates paid in Wisconsin continue somewhat above the averages for the country as a whole. The average wage rate paid to a steady farm hand furnished a house was \$135 a month in Wisconsin compared with \$115 a month for the United States. Average daily wages without board and room furnished show a similar margin, and on April 1 were \$6.10 in Wisconsin compared with the national average of \$4.25.

The labor force employed on farms about the beginning of April was also smaller when compared with a similar period a year ago. For the nation the decline this year was 7 percent, most of which occurred in the totals for family workers, although the decline in hired workers was 2 percent. Some of these differences, however, are caused by differences in spring seasons. Wisconsin farm wage rates as reported by crop correspondents are shown in the accompanying table.

**The Use of Chemical Weed Killers on Wisconsin Farms**

Wisconsin crop reporters have been asked for the past two years to give information on the extent to which chemical weed killers such as 2-4-D and others are used on the farms in their locality. The reports indicate that in 1948, 26 percent of the farmers used such material compared with 20 percent in 1947. The extent of use varied considerably in different parts of the state, it being highest in the southern and southwestern areas, as is indicated in the accompanying table.

**Percent of Farms Using Chemical Weed Killers\***

District	1948	1947
Northwest.....	12	9
North.....	7	5
Northeast.....	7	11
West.....	25	16
Central.....	14	9
East.....	15	8
Southwest.....	45	36
South.....	46	43
Southeast.....	33	21
State.....	26	20

\*As reported by Wisconsin crop reporters.

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# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

Walter H. Ebling,

C. D. Caparoon,

Agricultural Statisticians

Emery C. Wilcox,

Cecil W. Estes

Vol. XXVIII, No. 5

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

May 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### May Crop Report

In Wisconsin the season has begun warmer and drier than normal with field work up to May 1 about as far advanced as usual. For the nation, conditions and prospects during the past month have been a little above average.

#### Maple Products

With more favorable weather this year, a considerably larger output of maple sugar and sirup has been made than was the case last year.

#### Milk Production

Production per cow continues at new high levels and the output of milk for the United States during the past month was 4 percent above a year earlier. In Wisconsin production was up 3 percent from last year.

#### Egg Production

Output of eggs during April was lower than a year ago. Flocks were smaller and for the nation the output was down 3 percent.

#### Current Trends

Stocks of butter and cheese have risen seasonally during the past month. For most products they are now well above a year ago. Livestock slaughter during April was lower than in the previous month for all species but above a year ago except for sheep and lambs. Industrial production and employment are declining.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Because of lower milk prices, Wisconsin farm product prices declined further during the past month while prices paid did not change. As a result Wisconsin farm purchasing power is now 4 percent below pre-World War I.

#### Special Items (Page 4)

Wisconsin Crops Used for Silage

Egg Production, 1925 and 1948

THE past month has been dry in most of Wisconsin and temperatures have been warmer than normal. Progress of spring work for the state as a whole is about normal. In the southern and western districts planting of grain by May 1 was a little more advanced than usual and in the extreme northern and east-central areas of Wisconsin where there are heavy soils grain planting was behind normal on May 1. For the entire state, however, the progress was about normal.

In early May weather has been warmer and drier than normal and farm work has moved ahead rapidly. Vegetation also advanced rapidly and fruit trees were blooming earlier than usual.

#### Condition of Tame Hay and Pasture May 1, 1949, 1948, and 10-Year Average (Percent of Normal)

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
Tame hay....	84	88	86	87 <sup>1</sup>	86 <sup>1</sup>	84
Pasture.....	82	89	83	85	84	81

<sup>1</sup>Condition of all hay.

The condition of hay and pasture is a little uncertain. In some of the areas where drought prevailed last year stands are thin. The vegetation seems to have wintered quite well, but the thin stands are the results of last year's dry weather. Some winter damage from ice, however, is reported in a few southeastern counties. Pastures have had a slow start and in some of the northern areas the pasture prospects are reduced by damage done to them by dry weather last year. In the southern part of the state pasture prospects are fair. The shortage of moisture generally has delayed pasture growth.

#### Winter Wheat and Rye Production and Yield

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	Indicated 1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47	Indicated 1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
Production, Thousand Bushels						
Winter wheat	588	698	728	1,021,476	990,098	726,553
Rye.....	1,080	1,104	1,705	21,552	26,388	35,109
Yield, Bushels						
Winter wheat	21.0	22.5	19.1	18.4	18.7	17.0
Rye.....	12.0	12.0	11.2	12.7	12.6	12.1

#### Weather Summary, April 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	April 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	24	78	44.4	37.0	0.95	2.06	-0.53
Spooner.....	8	80	44.4	42.9	1.42	1.79	-0.58
Park Falls....	13	79	43.0	40.7	1.35	2.65	-1.91
Rhinelanders	16	80	43.4	40.8	0.87	2.24	-1.64
Wausau.....	21	79	46.4	43.8	2.04	2.49	+1.17
Marinette....	19	72	44.8	43.3	2.60	2.57	-2.93
Escanaba....	21	67	41.4	37.9	0.97	2.23	-1.40
Minneapolis	22	80	47.1	46.4	1.89	2.25	+1.59
Eau Claire...	19	83	46.7	46.2	1.67	2.50	+1.77
La Crosse....	23	81	48.9	47.2	2.06	2.42	+2.06
Hancock.....	9	77	45.4	44.7	1.86	2.73	-1.02
Oshkosh.....	19	77	46.1	45.0	1.51	2.63	-0.60
Green Bay....	17	77	44.6	43.2	2.69	2.65	+1.58
Manitowoc...	21	68	44.3	42.3	1.41	2.63	-1.34
Dubuque.....	26	81	49.3	48.6	1.94	2.85	+1.06
Madison.....	26	75	47.2	45.4	1.37	2.77	-0.03
Beloit.....	20	76	49.6	47.8	1.66	2.72	-0.72
Milwaukee...	25	71	44.8	42.2	1.38	2.68	-0.43
Average for 18 Stations	19.4	76.7	45.7	43.6	1.65	2.49	-0.22

Winter wheat and rye in Wisconsin have improved somewhat during the past month. The April snow was favorable to these crops. Apparently there were no extensive winter losses of either rye or winter wheat, but because of a lower acreage the production of both crops is expected to be under last year.

#### Stocks of Hay on Farms

(May 1 estimate)

	Thousand tons			Percent of previous year's crop		
	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
Wisconsin....	880	1,314	1,132	16.0	19.0	16.7
United States	15,151	15,128	15,214	15.2	14.7	15.6

#### United States Crops

For the country as a whole, winter grains developed well during the past month. The winter wheat acreage is large and the crop is expected to be over a billion bushels. Conditions have been favorable for planting spring wheat and a total wheat crop of over 1,300 million bushels is now expected. Rye production will be small this year, a crop of only 22 million bushels being expected. With the exception of 1946, this is the smallest rye crop since 1934. Stocks of hay for the country as a whole are about average.

Current Trends

Table with columns for Latest Report and Previous Reports for WISCONSIN and UNITED STATES. Includes sub-sections for Farm Price Indexes, Dairy Production and Markets, Poultry Production, Feed Prices, Stocks of Dried Milk, Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection, and Business and Industry.

Milk Production

Milk production per cow continued at a record-breaking rate during April. Production per cow was high enough so that despite a smaller number of milk cows on farms total

milk production on farms was greater than a year ago. For the country as a whole 10,226 million pounds were produced which was nearly 4 percent more than was produced in April 1948 and was almost 3 percent

greater than the 1938-47 average for the month. In Wisconsin milk production totaled 1,438 million pounds, 3 percent more than in April last year and 12 percent more than the 1938-47 average for April.

1Preliminary. 2Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service. 3Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) 4Based on Wisconsin price reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) 5As reported by Wisconsin price reporters. 6Subsidy of 3.75 cts. included from December 1942 to January 1946. 710-year average. 8Based on Wisconsin dairy reporters' data. 9Computed 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 the month. 10Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A. 11Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A. 12Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. 13Bureau of Labor Statistics converted to 1910-14 base. 14U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1935-39=100. 15Federal Reserve Board.



**Silage Making Practices<sup>1</sup>**

District	Percentage of Silage by Kinds			Method of Cutting Silage	
	Corn	Grass	All other	Field choppers	Stationary cutters
	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent
Northwest.....	99.0	0.5	0.5	23	77
North.....	97.8	1.9	0.3	15	85
Northeast.....	95.4	4.4	0.2	20	80
West.....	92.0	7.5	0.5	37	63
Central.....	92.3	6.5	1.2	26	74
East.....	94.3	4.5	1.2	52	48
Southwest.....	95.9	3.9	0.2	26	74
South.....	93.7	5.9	0.4	51	49
Southeast.....	92.0	7.5	0.5	63	37
State.....	94.2	5.3	0.5	42	58

<sup>1</sup>As reported by crop correspondents for 1948 production.

one-half of one percent of the total. Of these minor silage crops, sorghum is the most important.

Reporters were also asked about methods of harvesting silage. They indicate that last year 58 percent of the silage was put up with stationary cutters, but there is considerable difference in the various parts of the state. Stationary cutters are by far the most important in the northern, central, and western parts of the state. In the eastern, southern, and southeastern parts of the state field choppers have increased greatly and in these areas over half of the silage was put up with such equipment, as is shown in the last part of the accompanying table.

**Spring Grain Sown by May 1, 1949 and 1948 Compared with Usual**

District	Sown by May 1, 1949	Sown by May 1, 1948	Usually sown by May 1 <sup>1</sup>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Northwest.....	70	81	75
North.....	71	85	71
Northeast.....	80	73	78
West.....	94	98	92
Central.....	90	95	90
East.....	77	87	91
Southwest.....	96	97	94
South.....	98	97	96
Southeast.....	97	96	95
State.....	87	92	89

<sup>1</sup>3-year average.

**Higher Winter Egg Production**

Wisconsin farm flocks have made tremendous gains in the rate of lay per bird during the fall and winter

months. In January 1949 each layer averaged nearly 14 eggs, which is more than three and a third times the 1925 January average of 4.14 eggs. During 1948 the monthly egg production per layer was over three times the 1925 rate for the months of November, December, and January. While the production rate during the spring and summer months was not greatly different from that of earlier years, the February 1948 laying rate was nearly twice as great as the same month in 1925. A comparison of the 1948 fall and winter monthly average laying rates with the 5-year (1943-47) average rates for the corresponding months shows a smaller percentage increase, indicating some leveling off in the rate of lay.

This rise in the egg laying rate during the colder months of the year when egg prices are usually higher is due to such factors as improved housing, better feeding, higher laying strains, and the use of artificial lights in supplementing the short daylight hours. During the month of May—the peak in egg production per hen—there has been little change in the rate of lay. Since 1925 the May average has ranged from 17.24 eggs to 18.64 eggs per layer. The average per layer for May 1948 was 18.35 eggs.

The trend has been almost steadily upward in the annual average egg production per layer. Several factors have been responsible for the greatly increased rate of lay. The improvement in feeding practices is probably one of the most important. Farmers

**Monthly Egg Production per Layer\* Wisconsin-1948 Compared with 1925 and 5-year average**

Month	Number			1948 as a percent of	
	1948	1925	5-yr. av. 1943-47	1925	5-yr. av. 1943-47
January.....	13.14	4.14	12.36	317	106
February.....	13.11	6.62	12.64	198	104
March.....	15.93	12.89	15.74	124	101
April.....	17.28	16.94	16.84	102	103
May.....	18.35	17.41	17.85	105	103
June.....	16.92	14.39	16.55	118	102
July.....	16.06	12.74	15.65	126	103
August.....	14.57	11.80	14.02	123	104
September.....	11.85	9.84	11.21	120	106
October.....	10.48	6.22	9.26	168	113
November.....	10.80	3.37	8.85	320	122
December.....	12.65	4.02	10.85	315	117

\*As reported on farms of crop correspondents.

have realized for some time that the income from eggs and chickens provides a substantial contribution to the total farm income and they have adopted better poultry management and feeding practices. The trend toward the commercialization of the poultry industry has also meant improved feeding practices with the consequent higher rate of lay. Another important factor has been the improvement in quality of the flocks. A larger proportion of the chicks is now purchased from hatcheries where high quality eggs are incubated. Buyers are assured of getting chicks of high egg production capacity. Closer culling of farm flocks is a factor associated with higher quality and better laying birds.

**Maple Sugar and Sirup Production by States**

State	Trees tapped (1,000 trees)			Sugar made <sup>1</sup> (1,000 pounds)			Sirup made <sup>1</sup> (1,000 gallons)		
	1949	1948	1938-47 average	1949	1948	1938-47 average	1949	1948	1938-47 average
Maine.....	89	89	126	5	2	7	10	12	21
New Hampshire.....	221	215	249	15	10	23	41	39	55
Vermont.....	3,191	3,290	3,853	235	148	239	549	619	912
Massachusetts.....	159	157	190	14	11	22	44	30	52
New York.....	2,563	2,615	2,878	28	26	112	538	431	680
Pennsylvania.....	345	340	412	21	15	33	94	61	111
Ohio.....	511	521	771	0	0	3	150	111	208
Michigan.....	542	571	499	16	11	10	110	80	109
Wisconsin.....	277	227	297	0	0	2	59	48	62
Maryland.....	32	34	38	7	6	10	16	14	17
10 States.....	7,930	8,059	9,315	341	229	460	1,611	1,445	2,228

<sup>1</sup>Does not include production on nonfarm lands in Somerset County, Maine.

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### IN THIS ISSUE

#### June Crop Report

With a dry spring and a good deal of warm weather, crops in much of Wisconsin have reduced prospects. Conditions are quite uneven, however. For the United States crop prospects in early June were generally good.

#### Milk Production

Both for Wisconsin and for the country as a whole, milk production so far this year has been above the same period last year. Heavy grain feeding is reported and the peak of production came earlier than usual in most areas.

#### Egg Production

Output of eggs for both Wisconsin and the country as a whole is lower than a year ago. There are fewer layers on farms and the rate of production per bird is also lower.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

The level of prices for farm products for both this state and the country as a whole continues downward. Milk prices have fallen more than most other farm products and as a result the decline in Wisconsin has been greater than in most other states. Prices paid by farmers are declining much more slowly than prices received.

#### Current Trends

With fairly good prospects for feed production nationally, prices of feed have been working to lower levels. They are now about two-thirds as high as a year ago. Storage holdings of butter are rising and are slightly above the 5-year average levels. Cheese stocks are about average. Stocks of eggs are low. Holdings of dried, condensed, and evaporated milk are large.

#### Special Items (Pages 3 and 4)

Grass Silage, 1948

Seed Crops by Size Groups

Wisconsin Dairy Manufacturers for 1948

**A**DRY spring and a warm month of May were experienced in Wisconsin this year. Most weather stations in southern and central Wisconsin experienced greatly reduced rainfall in May. Only in the northern areas of the state were there reports of above normal rainfall. The driest sections seem to have been northwestern, central and east-central Wisconsin. Weather stations at Minneapolis, Oshkosh, and Green Bay reported less than an inch of rain in May. With few exceptions, the stations in Wisconsin show a marked deficit of moisture for the first five months of 1949. When this is combined with a general rainfall shortage in 1948 which left the subsoil dry, it is clear that the moisture situation could easily continue critical during the present growing season.

The first two weeks in June continued warm and for most of the state dry. As a result, growth of hay was reduced, pastures became short, and grain over wide areas headed on short straw. Much of the damage done to crops by lack of moisture during May and early June probably cannot be overcome even with favorable weather later.

#### Condition of Crops, June 1, 1949, 1948, and 10-year Average (Percent of normal)

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
Winter wheat	87	82	86	84	85	84
Spring wheat	91	94	90	87	84	82
Oats	92	93	89	87	84	81
Barley	90	92	89	84	83	81
Rye	83	84	86	86	83	83
All hay	80	85	86	86	83	83
Clover and timothy hay	76	82	85	84	84	84
Alfalfa hay	90	90	88	90	85	85
Wild hay	86	89	86	85	81	81
Pasture	82	86	85	88	82	84

Temperatures have averaged rather high, they being above normal everywhere in the state during May, and relatively hot weather prevailed in early June. There were also several periods of cool weather which brought frosts in various parts of the state. Some damage by frost during the last week in May to apples was reported in Door County, and some damage to cherries in early June. Cranberry bogs were flooded in order to protect them against the frost.

Progress of farm work was rapid with the dry weather. Planting of spring-sown grains and corn was somewhat ahead of usual in most counties. Some haying was also done unusually early because of the dry

#### Weather Summary, May 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	May 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth	33	77	50.0	47.3	4.20	3.25	+0.42
Spooer	27	92	57.8	54.7	3.14	3.19	-0.63
Park Falls	29	88	54.8	52.5	3.87	3.50	-1.54
Rhineland	28	86	55.1	52.7	3.00	3.18	-1.82
Wausau	29	86	56.6	55.2	1.08	3.44	-1.19
Marinette	30	91	55.5	55.1	1.23	3.12	-4.82
Escanaba	34	75	50.3	49.6	4.46	2.93	+0.13
Minneapolis	38	93	62.0	57.7	0.90	3.67	-1.18
Eau Claire	38	93	61.6	57.4	1.44	4.04	-0.83
La Crosse	40	91	62.5	59.3	2.48	3.75	+0.79
Hancock	30	91	59.6	56.4	1.42	4.11	-3.71
Oshkosh	29	91	58.8	56.4	0.72	3.52	-3.40
Green Bay	31	90	57.2	54.9	0.71	3.52	-1.23
Manitowoc	36	84	54.7	52.2	1.24	3.49	-3.59
Dubuque	39	92	63.1	60.3	1.95	4.22	-1.21
Madison	35	88	60.2	57.6	2.01	3.85	-1.87
Beloit	34	91	62.2	58.5	1.55	3.54	-2.71
Milwaukee	34	89	57.0	52.6	1.72	3.35	-2.06
Average for 18 Stations	33.0	88.2	57.7	55.0	2.06	3.54	-1.69

weather. The condition of crops was somewhat below normal in much of the state because of the lack of moisture. Hay production will vary greatly in different areas, good crops being harvested on some of the heavier soils and in other areas relatively light first cuttings are the rule. Thin stands are frequently reported, especially in northwestern Wisconsin where drought conditions prevailed last year.

The condition of winter grains at the beginning of June was a little better than was the case a year ago, but the condition of spring-sown grains is lower. Hay and pasture prospects are below those reported at this time last year.

#### United States Crops

Prospects for the nation's crops beginning in June were more promising than usual, the season having generally started well. Weather conditions generally over the country have been favorable, both for crop growth and for work progress.

Winter wheat is already being harvested in some of the southwestern states and the prospects for this crop place the production estimate above a billion bushels. Wet weather has delayed harvesting in some of the areas where the crop is already ripe. Corn planting progressed well in most states with good seed beds and a promising start for the crop. Spring-sown grains were generally planted under good conditions and were making good progress except in a few



Current Trends

WISCONSIN					UNITED STATES						
	Latest Report		Previous Reports				Latest Report		Previous Reports		
	Date	Reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month
<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>2</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>					<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>10</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>						
Farm prices, general.....%	May	243	248	310	214	Farm prices, general.....%	May	256	289	214.2	
Livestock and livestock products.....%	May	246	252	315	212	Livestock and livestock products.....%	May	277	282	309	
Milk.....%	May	225	229	330	217	Dairy products.....%	May	234	240	291	
Meat animals.....%	May	303	315	336	222	Meat animals.....%	May	328	333	361	
Poultry and eggs.....%	May	211	210	198	168	Poultry and eggs.....%	May	217	221	211	
Crops.....%	May	221	224	277	224	Crops.....%	May	234	236	267	
Feed grains and hay.....%	May	175	182	266	171	Feed grains and hay.....%	May	174	178	282	
Fruits.....%	May	231	231	216	301	Fruits.....%	May	257	258	265	
Prices farmers pay.....%	May	260	261	268	193	Prices farmers pay.....%	May	100	101	109	
Purchasing power, farm products.....%	May	93	95	116	111	Purchasing power, farm products.....%	May	100	101	109	
<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>					<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>						
Milk price per cwt. <sup>3</sup>	May	2.85	2.90	4.27	2.74	Milk price, wholesale <sup>10</sup> .....\$	May 15	3.60	3.74	4.65	
All utilizations.....\$	May	2.77	2.82	4.07	2.59	Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>10</sup> , per lb.....cts.	May 15	60.6	61.4	83.6	
For cheese.....\$	May	2.75	2.79	4.06	2.72	Price (wholesale) 92-score butter, Chicago, per lb. <sup>11</sup> .....cts.	May	58.9	59.0	79.6	
Condensery products.....\$	May	2.85	2.85	4.20	2.81	Total milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	May	11888	10226	11702	
Market milk.....\$	May	3.26	3.33	4.56	3.11	Creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Apr.	124190	111865	100190	
Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>4</sup> .....cts.	May 15	66	68	88	58.4	American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Apr.	86910	72140	73160	
Farm price of butter <sup>4</sup> .....cts.	May 15	62	62	80	52.0	Evaporated whole milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Apr.	269250	215750	335400	
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound					Dried skim milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.						
American <sup>5</sup> (twins).....cts.	May	30.4	29.9	44.3	27.5	Human food.....lbs.	Apr.	94250	76930	64825	
Swiss.....cts.	May	45.4	44.2	56.4	34.6	Animal feed.....lbs.	Apr.	2785	1790	1550	
Brick.....cts.	May	33.4	32.3	51.9	28.2	Butter receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	May	45268	38241	37474	
Total milk production <sup>5</sup> , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	May	1771	1438	1732	1586 <sup>7</sup>	Cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	May	16244	15469	16915	
Cows in herd freshening <sup>6</sup> .....%	May	5.80	8.71	5.28	6.06	<b>Cold-Storage Holdings<sup>11</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Calves born during month being raised <sup>6</sup> .....%	May	32.53	36.48	36.77	30.74	Creamery butter.....lbs.	June 1	49200	15338	18638	
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow <sup>7</sup> .....lbs.	May	175	227	160	170.6	American cheese.....lbs.	June 1	114336	109920	106712	
Grains and concentrates fed daily <sup>8</sup>						Swiss cheese.....lbs.	June 1	1863	1525	1741	
Per farm.....lbs.	June 1	63.5	129.1	56.5	66.3	All other cheese.....lbs.	June 1	15854	14458	15054	
Per cow in herd.....lbs.	June 1	3.73	7.58	3.34	3.88	All varieties of cheese.....lbs.	June 1	132053	125903	123507	
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced.....lbs.	June 1	12.75	29.68	11.92	14.77	Total frozen poultry.....lbs.	June 1	77571	89205	117935	
Wisconsin creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Apr.	17685	16240	8310	10952	Eggs, shell.....cases	June 1	1944	954	4903	
Wisconsin American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Apr.	39690	35800	33380	34114	Eggs, shell, frozen, and dried, (case equivalent).....cases	June 1	11455	8599	11919	
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	May	8963	8938	3339	4917	<b>Poultry Production<sup>10</sup></b>					
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	May	10860	10418	11142	11167	Layers on hand in month, (000 omitted).....no.	May	321897	339629	328531	
<b>Poultry Production<sup>11</sup></b>					Eggs per 100 layers.....no.						
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.	May	13791	14508	14490	14341	Total eggs produced, (000,000 omitted).....no.	May	1816	1798	1817	
Eggs per 100 layers.....no.	May	1786	1710	1835	1785	<b>Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk<sup>10</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Total eggs produced, (000,000 om.).....no.	May	246	248	266	256	Dried whole milk.....lbs.	Apr. 30	14198	15479	14779	
<b>Feed Price Changes<sup>3</sup></b>					Dried skim milk.....lbs.						
Index of feed prices, 1910-14=100.....%	May	200.3	204.6	303.9	194.2	Dried buttermilk.....lbs.	Apr. 30	7032	7053	4346	
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration.....\$	May	25.30	26.45	37.72	24.22	Condensed milk (case goods).....lbs.	Apr. 30	9511	8350	8777	
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy.....lbs.	May	112.6	109.6	113.2	114.5	Evaporated milk (case goods).....lbs.	Apr. 30	189735	177077	79563	
Wisconsin by-product feed cost per ton f.o.b. Madison						<b>Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection<sup>11</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Standard bran.....\$	May	56.40	63.50	73.00	45.79	Cattle.....no.	May	1025	996	877	
Lined oil meal.....\$	May	63.50	68.10	75.55	54.96	Calves.....no.	May	510	562	509	
Corn gluten feed.....\$	May	55.10	55.25	77.75	47.18	Sheep and lambs.....no.	May	761	676	978	
Tankage.....\$	May	114.40	114.65	103.50	81.96	Hogs.....no.	May	3721	3894	3562	
Standard middlings.....\$	May	59.40	64.10	78.65	46.64	<b>Business and Industry</b>					
Soybean meal.....\$	May	74.00	73.55	89.60	57.79	Wholesale prices <sup>13</sup> , 1910-14=100					
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration.....\$	May	27.13	27.75	39.52	24.59	All commodities.....%	May	228	229	239	
Amount of ration 10 doz. eggs would buy.....lbs.	May	154.4	147.7	101.2	136.0	Foods.....%	May	253	253	275	
<b>Farm Product Prices<sup>3</sup></b>					Retail prices <sup>13</sup> , 1910-14=100						
Milk cows, per head.....\$	May 15	210	220	233	151.00	All commodities.....%	Apr.	246	246	245	
Hogs, per cwt.....\$	May 15	17.60	18.90	20.50	15.34	Foods.....%	Apr.	262	260	268	
Beef cattle, per cwt.....\$	May 15	18.70	18.60	20.70	12.06	Total personal income <sup>14</sup> .....%	Apr.	315.2	317.9	307.7	
Veal calves, per cwt.....\$	May 15	23.50	25.30	24.00	15.00	Total non-agricultural income <sup>14</sup> .....%	Apr.	315.8	317.6	302.8	
Sheep, per cwt.....\$	May 15	9.00	9.80	9.20	6.48	Total agricultural income <sup>14</sup> .....%	Apr.	309.1	320.9	353.0	
Lambs, per cwt.....\$	May 15	25.10	25.10	22.00	14.76	Factory employment (adjusted) <sup>15</sup> , No. of employees, 1939=100.....%	Mar.	150.7	153.5	160.1	
Wool, per lb.....\$	May 15	.44	.44	.43	.44	Industrial production (adjusted) <sup>15</sup> , 1935-39=100.....%	Mar.	184	189	191	
Chickens, per lb.....cts.	May 15	29.3	30.8	26.0	24.5	Freight-car loadings (adjusted) <sup>15</sup> , 1935-39=100.....%	Mar.	120	126	130	
Eggs, per doz.....cts.	May 15	41.9	41.0	40.0	32.9	<b>Footnotes</b>					
Wheat, per bu.....\$	May 15	1.98	2.00	2.25	1.57	<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service. <sup>3</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>4</sup> Based on Wisconsin price reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>5</sup> As reported by Wisconsin price reporters. <sup>6</sup> Subsidy of 3.75 cts. included from December 1942 to January 1946. <sup>7</sup> 10-year average. <sup>8</sup> Based on Wisconsin dairy reporters' data. <sup>9</sup> 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 the month. <sup>10</sup> Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A. <sup>11</sup> Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A. <sup>12</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. <sup>13</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics converted to 1910-14 base. <sup>14</sup> U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1935-39=100. <sup>15</sup> Federal Reserve Board.					

spots like Wisconsin where there was a shortage of moisture. Altogether, the prospect for crop production is

good this year. Fruit production is expected to be above last year, though it varies greatly in different areas. In

Wisconsin the cherry crop will be much smaller than a year ago, but the apple crop is expected to be larger.

**Milk Production**

Aided by good pastures, liberal grain feeding, and favorable weather throughout most of the United States, milk production per cow continued at a record rate during May. As a result milk production in the United States was 2 percent greater than in May 1948 and was 2 percent above the 1938-47 average for the month. In Wisconsin where pastures were somewhat dry and short but where liberal feeding of grain and concentrates continued, milk production in May was 2 percent above May last year and 12 percent greater than the 10-year average, 1938-47. For the United States the total was 11,888 million pounds; for Wisconsin it was 1,771 million pounds.

**Egg Production**

Egg production during the month of May for Wisconsin and the nation as a whole was lower than a year ago. Fewer layers on farms and a lower rate of production are the causes for lower egg output.

There were 5 percent fewer layers on Wisconsin farms during May than a year ago. The number was 4 percent below the 5-year (1943-47) average number. The rate of production in May was 17.86 eggs per layer—3 percent below last May. Egg production for the state was 7½ percent less than a year ago and 4 percent below the 5-year average.

Egg production for the nation as a whole during May was 2 percent lower than May last year and 9 percent less than the 5-year (1943-47) average. There were 2 percent fewer layers on farms than during May 1948 and 12 percent fewer than the 5-year average. Layers averaged 18.16 eggs per layer during the month compared with 18.17 during May last year.

**Wisconsin Farm Prices**

The trend toward lower farm commodity price levels this year was resumed during May. The index of farm prices received by Wisconsin was 243 percent of the 1910-14 average in mid-May—a decline of 2 percent from the preceding month. The decline in prices was rather broad and eggs were the main farm product to advance during the period. Meat animals and dairy product prices were weaker as greater supplies reached the markets. Feed grains were also lower, but their declines did not keep pace with livestock and livestock product price changes.

Nationally, as in Wisconsin, farm prices have shown a downtrend but not as sharp. The United States index of average prices received by farmers on May 15 was 5 percent above the average for this state. The greater declines in milk prices compared with other farm products is largely the cause of the difference between the Wisconsin and United States price index level.

**Seed Crops by Size Groups**

The Wisconsin assessors' enumeration of clover and grass seed production for 1947 has been tabulated by

**Clover and Grass Seed Production by Size Groups, 1947**

Size Groups	Percentage of farms reporting in each size group				Percentage of production in each size group			
	Alfalfa	Alsike and White Clover	Red Clover	Timothy	Alfalfa	Alsike and White Clover	Red Clover	Timothy
	Bu. %	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1	14.7	7.3	18.4	7.3	1.5	.4	3.7	.4
2	16.6	6.5	22.8	10.6	3.5	.6	9.2	1.3
3	8.3	4.8	12.7	5.9	2.6	.7	7.7	1.1
4	7.7	3.1	9.4	7.1	3.2	.6	7.6	1.8
5	7.0	4.5	8.7	6.0	3.7	1.1	8.8	1.8
6-10	20.3	19.4	19.2	25.6	16.4	7.9	29.4	12.9
11-15	8.4	11.8	4.8	11.0	11.7	7.7	12.5	8.8
16-20	6.5	8.3	2.1	7.0	12.5	7.8	7.6	8.2
21 and over	10.5	34.3	1.9	19.5	44.9	73.2	13.5	63.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

production size groups. The accompanying table shows the percent of farms reporting in each producing size group and the percentage of the total 1947 crop grown in each size group for the four kinds of seeds.

The relative importance of the different size groups varies between the different kinds of seed. The smaller production size groups are more important in the production of alfalfa and red clover than for timothy, alsike and white clover. A larger portion of the farms harvesting alfalfa and red clover seed are reported in the groups harvesting less than 6 bushels. From the table it may be noted that nearly 15 percent of the farms reporting alfalfa seed in 1947 reported one bushel per farm and nearly 17 percent of the farms reported 2 bushels per farm. Over 18 percent of the farms reporting red clover seed harvested had 1 bushel per farm and about 23 percent harvested 2 bushels per farm. For alsike and white clover and timothy the importance of the bushels per farm is much less.

More than half of the farms harvesting alfalfa seed averaged less than 6 bushels per farm and this group produced about 15 percent of the 1947 reported crop. A little more than one-fourth of the farms that harvested alsike and white clover averaged under 6 bushels per farm and this group produced only 3.4 percent of the state's crop in 1947. There were 72 percent of the red clover seed growers who averaged less than 6 bushels per grower and this group produced 37 percent of the 1947 red clover crop. Thirty-seven percent of the farmers threshing timothy in 1947 averaged under 6 bushels per farm and this group contributed 6.4 percent of the crop for that year.

Alsike and white clover are grown in larger amounts per farm. More than one-third of the farms reporting alsike and white clover seed harvested 21 or more bushels of seed per farm. This size group produced nearly three-fourths of the total alsike and white clover seed reported in 1947. About one-fifth of the timothy seed growers harvested more than 20 bushels each and accounted for a little less than two-thirds of the timothy seed crop in 1947. Over 10 percent of the alfalfa seed growers averaged 21 or more bushels each and they harvested 45 percent of the alfalfa seed. Only 2 percent of the farms reporting

red clover seed averaged more than 20 bushels, but they produced over 13 percent of the red clover seed.

These data show that red clover seed is grown on a larger number of farms with smaller production per farm. Alfalfa seed is harvested on fewer farms but tends to higher production per farm. The bulk of the timothy seed is harvested on farms producing more seed output per farm. Alsike and white clover seed harvesting is reported on fewer farms and the bulk of the growers as well as the production is reported on farms producing fairly large quantities per farm.

**Grass Silage, 1948**

Some time ago Wisconsin crop reporters supplied names of farmers who had grass silage in 1948. An inquiry was sent to these men and the experience of 315 was tabulated. A little over half of these put up the grass for silage in unwilted form and the others used the wilted method. With unwilted grass silage most farmers used preservatives, but with the wilted grass less than half of them used them. While a high percentage reported excellent or good silage, those using the preservative had the best results though those using the wilted method also had very good results without preservative. Molasses was the most popular preservative and ground corn and cob meal was second.

These farmers were also asked how they thought the feeding value of grass silage compared with corn silage. Thirty-eight percent thought it was better than corn silage, 12 percent thought it was poorer than corn silage, 46 percent thought there was no difference, and 4 percent expressed no opinion.

Field forage harvesters were used by three-fourths of the farmers reporting grass silage last year. These machines seem to be equally satisfactory with both the wilted and unwilted silage. They seem to be used on both large and small farms, though more of the farms in the larger size groups seem to be making grass silage.

**Manufactured Dairy Products, 1948**

Butter, cheese, condensed and evaporated whole milk production in Wisconsin declined during 1948. In large part this was due to the decline in milk production, but another factor

was the resumption of out-of-state shipments which had dropped off during 1947. Again, as in all years since the close of World War II, there was considerable shifting in types of cheese manufactured and in the various condensery products.

**Butter:** The decline in butter production which began in the latter months of 1947 continued into 1948. Not until October, November, and December did the production of butter exceed that of the same month of the previous year. For the entire year butter totaled 99,992,000 pounds, 14 percent less than in 1947. This was the second lowest production since 1919—only in 1946 was less butter produced in recent years.

**Cheese:** Six percent less cheese was manufactured in Wisconsin in 1948 than in 1947. The decline in American cheese production was primarily responsible for this drop. Slightly over 386,000,000 pounds of American cheese was produced which was 7 percent less than the previous year. Swiss cheese production was 8 percent lower. Cream cheese was down 4 percent. Munster was down 12 percent and 17 percent less Limburger was produced than in 1947.

Two types of cheese showed an increase. The greatest gain was in the Italian varieties with a gain of 27 percent. Brick cheese continued the climb which began from the low point reached in 1945 and the 15,726,000 pounds manufactured made this the fourth most important type of cheese in Wisconsin from the standpoint of pounds manufactured.

**Condensed and Evaporated Milk:** The decline in condensed and evaporated whole milk production was less than 1 percent from 1947. However sweetened condensed whole milk was 33 percent lower than in the previous year, unsweetened condensed whole milk was 8 percent higher, and unsweetened evaporated milk was up 1 percent above 1947.

Condensed skim milk products were 35 percent below 1947. Seventy percent less sweetened skim milk was produced in Wisconsin in 1948 than during the previous year. Unsweetened skim milk production was 6 percent higher than in 1947.

## Wisconsin Dairy Manufactures, 1948, 1947, and 1946

Product	1948	1947	1946	1948
	(000 omitted)	(000 omitted)	(000 omitted)	1947 percent change
<b>Creamery butter (includes whey butter)</b> .....lb.	99,992	115,710	83,063	- 13.6
<b>Cheese</b>				
<b>American (cheddar and Colby)</b> .....lb.	386,020	416,043	370,734	- 7.2
Swiss (drum and block).....lb.	43,192	46,720	36,227	- 7.6
Munster.....lb.	7,990	9,135	8,142	- 12.5
Brick.....lb.	15,726	14,418	7,314	+ 9.1
Brick and Munster, total.....lb.	23,716	23,553	15,456	+ .7
Limburger.....lb.	3,637	4,397	4,533	- 17.3
Italian.....lb.	19,492	15,396	41,723	+ 26.6
Cream.....lb.	13,339	13,881	20,288	- 3.9
All other cheese (not cottage cheese).....lb.	12,708	15,882	36,365	- 20.0
<b>Total cheese (excluding cottage cheese)</b> .....lb.	502,104	535,872	525,326	- 6.3
<b>Condensed and powdered products</b>				
<b>Sweetened condensed whole milk</b>				
Case goods.....lb.	31,257	38,485	27,173	- 18.8
Bulk goods.....lb.	8,595	21,184	11,280	- 59.4
Total.....lb.	39,852	59,669	38,453	- 33.2
Unsweetened condensed whole milk (bulk).....lb.	53,840	49,686	17,320	+ 8.4
<b>Evaporated whole milk unsweetened (case goods)</b> .....lb.	875,123	865,407	831,417	+ 1.1
<b>Evaporated and condensed whey milk</b>				
Case goods.....lb.	906,380	903,892	858,590	+ .3
Bulk goods.....lb.	62,435	70,870	28,600	- 11.9
Total.....lb.	968,815	974,762	887,190	- .6
<b>Condensed skim milk (bulk)</b>				
Sweetened.....lb.	30,947	101,810	193,117	- 69.6
Unsweetened.....lb.	88,412	83,237	142,367	+ 6.2
Total.....lb.	119,359	185,047	335,484	- 35.5
Concentrated whey.....lb.	41,988	32,904	24,305	+ 27.6
<b>Powdered skim milk for human use</b>				
Spray.....lb.	122,129	113,693	97,857	+ 7.4
Roller.....lb.	79,431	75,872	91,401	+ 4.7
Total.....lb.	201,560	189,565	189,258	+ 6.3
Powdered skim milk for animal feed.....lb.	3,366	3,287	3,082	+ .6
Powdered whole milk.....lb.	73,336	67,542	74,744	+ 8.6
Powdered buttermilk.....lb.	2,152	2,603	1,578	- 17.3
Powdered whey.....lb.	64,686	71,285	65,503	- 9.3
Malted milk powder.....lb.	23,596	28,712	36,457	- 17.8
<b>Total condensed and powdered products (except dried casein)</b> .....lb.	1,505,332	1,556,095	1,622,785	- 3.3
<b>Other products</b>				
Dried casein.....lb.	1,862	8,170	3,238	- 77.2
Ice cream.....gal.	16,637	17,839	19,189	- 6.7
Ice cream mix shipped out of state.....gal.	1,198	1,271	1,777	- 5.7
Cottage cheese curd.....lb.	17,194	14,630	19,368	+ 17.5
Cottage cheese, creamed.....lb.	9,763	11,560	11,126	- 15.5
Whole milk shipped out of state.....lb.	963,605	847,954	855,729	+ 13.6
Butterfat in cream shipped <sup>2</sup> .....lb.	52,527	55,061	84,898	- 4.6

<sup>1</sup>Includes dry cream 1948—107,000 pounds; 1947—263,000 pounds; 1946—411,000 pounds; and concentrated skim milk for animal feed 1948—6,427,000 pounds; 1947—125,000 pounds; 1946—4,773,000 pounds.

<sup>2</sup>Includes butterfat in whey cream shipped out of the state.

**Powdered Milk Products:** Powdered whole milk production rose from 67,542,000 pounds in 1947 to 73,336,000 pounds in 1948, an increase of 9 percent. Part of the decline in condensed skim milk was compensated for by an increase in the production of powdered skim milk. Spray process skim milk production rose 7 percent and roller process production was 5 percent higher. The production of malted milk powder was 18 percent lower

than in 1947 and was 35 percent below 1946.

**Miscellaneous Dairy Products:** Ice cream production declined with 7 percent less reported by dairy plants in 1948 than in 1947. The total for Wisconsin was 16,639,000 gallons which was about 5 gallons per person. Cottage cheese (plain) rose 18 percent over 1947 but creamed cottage cheese production dropped 16 percent.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

Walter H. Ebling,

C. D. Caparoon,

Agricultural Statisticians

Emery C. Wilcox,

Cecil W. Estes

Vol. XXVIII, No. 7

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

July 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### July Crop Report

Crop prospects have improved in Wisconsin during the past month. Acreage changes are not large this year. For the United States another good crop year is in prospect and acreage changes for the more important crops are not unusual.

#### Stocks of Grain on Farms

Farm stocks of corn and oats are large, both in this state and for the country as a whole. Farm stocks of wheat for the nation are smaller than last year.

#### Milk Production

June milk production for the United States was slightly higher than a year ago, but in Wisconsin it was lower. The peak came early this year and the decline was rapid.

#### Egg Production

Production of eggs during June was lower than in the same month last year. In Wisconsin the decline was 7 percent; for the United States 2 percent. Flocks are smaller than a year ago and the rate of laying is lower.

#### Current Trends

Stocks of dairy products are fairly large. American cheese stocks are as big as a year ago. Total cheese stocks are a little smaller. Butter stocks are under last year, but evaporated milk stocks are at record levels. Livestock slaughter during June was very low, all species being under last year. For cattle and hogs June slaughter was the lowest since 1946. Sheep slaughter was the lowest on record.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

With higher livestock prices and milk prices leveling off, the Wisconsin index of farm product prices rose slightly during June. This was the first increase in this index since last July, but the index is now 23 percent below a year ago. Prices paid by farmers for commodities bought declined slightly during the past month.

#### Special News Items (Page 4)

The Spring Pig Crop and Prospects for Fall.

WITH good rains since the middle of June, crop prospects in Wisconsin have improved. May and early June were dry in most of the state and drought conditions were widely reported in early June. Since then all parts of the state have had rain and the moisture supply is now generally good. As a result, pastures which had become short are again improving and crops which were suffering from lack of moisture are progressing. While the rains have been helpful for plant growth generally, they have interfered seriously with hay and damage to cut hay has been common. Crop prospects in the state are poorest in a belt across central Wisconsin which was intensely dry. This can be seen on the accompanying map of the United States showing crop prospects for July.

While the total acreage of crops in Wisconsin this year is not greatly different from last year, increases are reported for some of the important items. The acreage of corn and oats is up 2 percent, alfalfa 30 percent, and some of the truck and canning crops such as peas, snap beans, onions, lima beans, canning beets, and tomatoes show increases. Decreases in acreage are reported this year for barley, spring and winter wheat, clover and timothy hay, potatoes, and tobacco.

Crop production in Wisconsin is now expected to be above last year for corn, rye, alfalfa hay, canning peas, potatoes, and snap beans. Except for rye, the grain crops are expected to make smaller production than a year ago. July 1 conditions indicate less oats, barley, and wheat.

### Weather Summary, June 1949

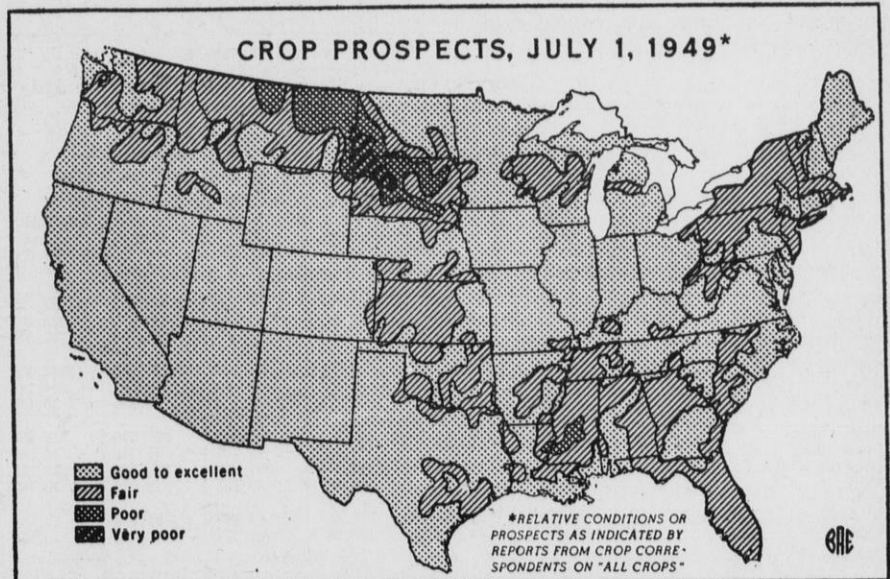
Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches	
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	June 1949	Normal Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	41	90	62.4	57.2	2.94	3.91 -0.55
Spoooner.....	99	99	62.4	64.1	2.26	3.94 -2.31
Park Falls.....	36	91	65.8	62.8	7.04	4.88 +0.62
Rhineland.....	32	89	66.6	62.7	5.28	4.68 -1.22
Wausau.....	49	93	70.4	64.7	4.85	4.15 -0.49
Marinette.....	34	92	69.1	66.5	3.17	3.16 -4.81
Escanaba.....	34	85	64.4	60.7	3.73	3.22 +0.64
Minneapolis.....	46	99	72.2	67.5	2.74	4.22 -2.66
Eau Claire.....	45	99	72.9	66.9	5.18	4.72 -0.37
La Crosse.....	50	94	72.0	68.3	3.32	4.07 +0.04
Hancock.....	41	95	70.7	66.3	4.97	4.47 -3.21
Oshkosh.....	43	95	71.6	66.3	3.27	3.94 -4.07
Green Bay.....	38	92	69.8	64.9	3.58	3.70 -1.35
Manitowoc.....	40	87	67.7	62.1	3.25	3.30 -3.64
Dubuque.....	46	94	73.3	69.4	4.85	4.31 -0.67
Madison.....	45	91	71.5	67.2	5.88	3.76 +0.25
Beloit.....	40	94	73.4	68.0	5.04	4.05 -1.72
Milwaukee.....	46	90	69.5	62.1	3.79	3.40 -1.67
Average for 18 Stations	41.5*	92.7	69.6*	64.9	4.17	3.99 -1.51

\*17 stations.

Hay production, mainly because of the big increase in alfalfa, will probably be a little above a year ago, but the production of clover and timothy hay will be about 20 percent under last year.

#### United States Crops

The country as a whole is having another good crop year. As will be noted in the accompanying map, crop conditions are good to fair in nearly



Crop Summary of Wisconsin for July 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage			Production					Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	July 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of			Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
							1948	10-year average				
Corn.....	2,596,000	2,545,000	102.0	119,416,000	113,252,000	101,106,000	105.4	118.1	Bu.	46.0	44.5	41.3
Potatoes.....	84,000	87,000	96.6	12,180,000	10,875,000	13,292,000	112.0	91.6	Bu.	145.	125	88
Tobacco.....	18,700	19,900	94.0	28,050,000	28,738,000	33,653,000	97.6	83.4	Lb.	1500	1444	1465
Oats.....	2,924,000	2,867,000	102.0	119,884,000	126,148,000	103,365,000	95.0	116.0	Bu.	41.0	44.0	40.0
Barley.....	184,000	204,000	90.2	6,716,000	7,752,000	13,177,000	86.6	51.0	Bu.	36.5	38.0	32.9
Rye.....	92,000	92,000	100.0	1,196,000	1,104,000	1,705,000	108.3	70.1	Bu.	13.0	12.0	11.2
Winter wheat.....	27,000	31,000	87.1	608,000	698,000	728,000	87.1	83.5	Bu.	22.5	22.5	19.1
Spring wheat.....	78,000	92,000	84.8	1,872,000	2,208,000	965,000	84.8	194.0	Bu.	24.0	24.0	20.5
All tame hay.....	3,841,000	3,918,000	98.0	5,509,000	5,371,000	6,788,000	102.6	81.2	Ton	1.43	1.37	1.73
Alfalfa hay.....	1,369,000	1,053,000	130.0	2,670,000	1,948,000	2,286,000	137.1	116.8	Ton	1.95	1.85	2.18
Clover and timothy hay.....	2,223,000	2,646,000	84.0	2,556,000	3,175,000	4,061,000	80.5	62.9	Ton	1.15	1.20	1.56
Other tame hay.....	249,000	219,000	113.7	283,000	248,000	441,000	114.1	64.2	Ton	1.14	1.13	1.47
Wild hay.....	130,000	130,000	100.0	130,000	130,000	158,000	100.0	82.3	Ton	1.00	1.00	1.19
Flax.....	19,000	22,000	86.4	238,000	275,000	104,000	86.5	228.8	Bu.	12.5	12.5	11.2
Sugar beets.....	10,000	6,800	147.1	90,000	59,600	154,200	151.0	58.4	Ton	9.0	8.8	10.1
Sorghum.....	1,000	1,000	100.0	228,000,000	168,620,000	241,120,000	135.2	94.6	Lb.	1900	1440	1860
Peas for canning.....	120,000	117,100	102.5	18,800	13,600	13,710	138.2	137.1	Ton	1.4	1.4	1.4
Snap beans for canning.....	13,400	9,700	138.1	817,000	817,000	672,000			Cwt.	215	215	197.5
Onions.....	2,100	1,900	110.5									
Green lima beans for canning.....	7,200 <sup>1</sup>	5,000 <sup>1</sup>	144.0									
Beets for canning.....	7,300 <sup>1</sup>	6,200 <sup>1</sup>	118.0									
Tomatoes for canning.....	1,500 <sup>1</sup>	1,400 <sup>1</sup>	107.0									
Apples, commercial.....				571,000	642,000	704,000	88.9	81.1	Bu.			
Cherries.....				8,400	25,000	10,730	33.6	78.3	Ton			
Strawberries.....	2,300	2,300	100.0	172,000	184,000	169,000	93.5	101.8	Crt. <sup>2</sup>	75	80	83
Pasture.....										72 <sup>3</sup>	69 <sup>3</sup>	91 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Planted acreage.

<sup>2</sup>24-quart crate.

<sup>3</sup>July 1 condition.

all of the country. Only in the western part of the Dakotas and eastern Montana are there large areas of poor crop prospects. With dry weather recently in New York, Pennsylvania, and parts of New England pasture and other prospects in that region have declined.

For the country as a whole the third largest wheat crop on record is expected this year even though prospects for wheat are not as good now as they were a month ago. With a crop of nearly 86 million acres in corn, a near-record crop of corn is in prospect. Nationally, most other crops also are making good production. The total acreage of crops in the United States this year is the largest since 1933. Prospects have been good all spring. The season opened early with favorable planting conditions prevailing in most of the country and as a result crop prospects in July are considerably above normal.

**Stocks of Grain on Farms**  
Farm stocks of corn, oats, wheat, and soybeans in Wisconsin are larger than a year ago, and with the excep-

**Stocks of Grains on Farms**  
(July 1 estimates)

Crop	Thousands of bushels			Percent of previous year's crop		
	1949	1948	10-yr. average 1938-47	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
Wisconsin						
Corn <sup>1</sup> .....	16,444	12,008	10,290	27.0	21.0	20.0
Oats.....	21,445	20,548	17,533	17.0	17.0	17.7
Wheat.....	610	531	452	21.0	19.0	27.9
Soybeans.....	23	17	44	12.0	5.0	9.8
United States						
Corn <sup>1</sup> .....	1,239,444	423,006	708,080	36.8	19.8	28.2
Oats.....	270,264	169,707	210,599	18.1	14.1	17.0
Wheat.....	65,598	94,511	93,882	5.1	6.9	10.2
Soybeans.....	9,416	4,311	9,026	4.3	2.3	4.7

<sup>1</sup>Data based on corn for grain.

tion of soybeans they are above average. For the United States there is a remarkable increase in the stocks of corn on farms, these being nearly 37 percent of last year's large crop and nearly three times as large as the farm stocks of corn were a year ago after the poor crop of 1947. Stocks of oats and soybeans on the nation's farms are also above last year and above average, but wheat stocks are smaller than a year ago and average.

**Milk Production**

Milk production over the United States reached an early seasonal peak in June this year and dropped more sharply than usual in the latter part of the month. Production per cow was lowered in many areas by hot weather which also affected the pastures. These influences were also evident in Wisconsin milk production.

For the United States total milk production was 12,303 million pounds. Although this was 1 percent above

Crop Summary of the United States for July 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)			1949 production as a percent of		Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	July 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of			Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
							1948	10-year average				
Corn.....	85,780	85,439	100.4	3,530,185	3,650,548	2,787,628	96.7	126.6	Bu.	41.2	42.7	31.4
Potatoes.....	1,897.9	2,099	90.4	368,696	445,850	393,403	82.7	93.7	Bu.	194.3	212.4	145.5
Tobacco.....	1,625.9	1,554.6	104.6	2,025,429	1,981,730	1,718,375	102.2	117.9	Lb.	1246	1275	1033
Oats.....	40,619	40,191	101.0	1,379,672	1,491,752	1,234,082	92.5	111.8	Bu.	34.0	37.1	32.1
Barley.....	10,019	12,046	83.2	244,104	317,037	304,741	77.0	80.1	Bu.	24.4	26.3	24.0
Rye.....	1,586	2,097	75.6	19,735	26,388	35,109	74.8	56.2	Bu.	12.4	12.6	12.1
Winter wheat.....	55,687	52,859	105.4	932,095	990,098	726,553	94.1	128.3	Bu.	16.7	18.7	17.0
Durum wheat.....	3,528	3,187	110.7	48,766	44,742	36,256	109.0	134.5	Bu.	13.8	14.0	14.5
Spring wheat other than durum.....	16,266	15,858	102.6	207,829	253,566	229,141	82.0	90.7	Bu.	12.8	16.0	15.5
Flax.....	4,694	4,737	99.1	45,558	52,533	30,102	86.7	151.3	Bu.	9.7	11.1	9.2
Tame hay.....	58,329	58,669	99.4	84,695	86,998	87,684	97.4	96.1	Ton	1.45	1.48	1.45
Wild hay.....	15,031	14,947	100.6	12,976	12,848	11,855	101.0	109.5	Ton	.86	.86	.89
Pasture.....										85 <sup>1</sup>	82 <sup>1</sup>	86 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>July 1 condition.



percent fewer than the 5-year average for June. Layers averaged 16.62 eggs per layer—2 percent below last year but about the same as the June 5-year 1943-47 average.

The number of layers in farm flocks of the United States was about 1½ percent lower than June 1948 and 11 percent below the 5-year 1943-47 average number for June. The rate of lay was only slightly less than June last year but was about 4 percent above the 5-year average for June.

#### Wisconsin Farm Prices

Higher livestock and steady milk prices during June have again interrupted the downward slide of farm price levels in Wisconsin. The improved summer markets for hogs, beef cattle, and calves are the result of normal seasonal influences on market supplies for this time of year. The peak of the milk flow passed during June was also a stabilizing factor in dairy markets. These usual summer supply developments were sufficiently strong this year to offset declines in crop prices and to raise the index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers for June to 249 percent of the 1910-14 average.

The June level of the index was 23 percent below June last year, but was 11 percent above June 1946, about the end of O.P.A. controls, and 92 percent above the June level which preceded Pearl Harbor. It is difficult, of course, to determine the composite effect of the various farm price support programs on the level of farm prices for an individual state. Rough calculations, however, suggest that the current June index for Wisconsin was about 10 percent above the support levels authorized by existing laws.

Evidences of any decline in farm production costs and farm family living expenses paralleling the fall in farm product prices the first half of 1949 are hard to find. The index of prices paid by farmers for things they buy came down from 263 percent of the 1910-14 average at the

beginning of 1949 to 260 percent at the end of June. The index of prices received by farmers in the first half of 1949 declined from 270 percent of the 1910-14 average to 249 percent. The differences between these two rates are reflected in lower farm income and reduced purchasing power of farmers.

#### Spring Pig Crop Up Sharply

##### —More Fall Pigs Expected

Wisconsin had a spring pig crop 10 percent above the 1948 production, and hog production this year is expected to be further increased by a larger fall pig crop than was reported for last year.

About 2,197,000 pigs were saved from the litters of the 326,000 sows farrowing on Wisconsin farms this spring. While about equal to the 10-year average the number of sows farrowing this spring was 30,000 head more than a year ago. In addition to more sows farrowing, the spring pig crop was increased over a year ago by more pigs being saved per litter. Litters this spring averaged 6.74 pigs saved. The state's spring pig crop this year is the third largest on record with larger crops produced during the war years of 1942 and 1943.

About 12 percent more sows will be bred to farrow on Wisconsin farms this fall than in the fall of 1948, according to reports from farmers in the June Pig Survey. Present plans are to breed 171,000 sows for fall farrowing, which is equal to the 10-year average for the state but 18,000 more sows than were bred for fall farrowing last year.

All states in the Corn Belt reported larger spring pig crops than a year ago. The increase of 17 percent in the spring pig crop for the Corn Belt was the result of more sows farrowing as the number of pigs saved per litter averaged slightly less than in the spring of 1948. Total spring pig production in the United States is 15 percent larger than a year ago and 9 percent above the 1938-47 average. The crop of 59 million spring pigs is 8 million more pigs than in 1948 and the third largest crop on record for the nation.

An increase of 16 percent over last fall in the number of sows to farrow is reported for the Corn Belt and for the United States the increase is 13 percent. If present breeding plans are carried out the nation will have the third largest number of sows for fall farrowing on record.

#### Spring and Fall Pig Crops

(000 omitted)

	Spring		Fall		Total No. Pigs Saved Spring and Fall
	Sows Farrowed	Pigs Saved	Sows Farrowed	Pigs Saved	
<b>Wisconsin</b>					
10-yr. av., 1938-47.....	326	2,162	174	1,166	3,328
1948.....	296	1,989	153	1,043	3,032
1949.....	326	2,197	171 <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Corn Belt<sup>2</sup></b>					
10-yr. av., 1938-47.....	6,456	40,677	3,434	22,276	62,953
1948.....	5,874	38,414	3,335	22,346	60,760
1949.....	6,895	44,952	3,879 <sup>1</sup>		
<b>United States</b>					
10-yr. av., 1938-47.....	8,763	54,392	5,451	34,692	89,084
1948.....	7,964	51,266	5,169	33,995	85,261
1949.....	9,148	59,040	5,832 <sup>1</sup>		

<sup>1</sup>Estimates based on intentions of farmers as reported in the June Pig survey and subject to revision.

<sup>2</sup>Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

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## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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### IN THIS ISSUE

#### August Crop Report

Corn production on Wisconsin farms is expected to exceed the record 1948 crop by 8 percent. Weather conditions in July were excellent for growing crops but interfered with small grain and hay harvesting. Small grain yields dropped below earlier estimates. For the nation, a near-record crop production is expected although there is no record output for any one crop.

#### Milk Production

Wisconsin's milk production was slightly above the July 1948 output as a result of a record milk production per cow. Milk production during July for the nation was about equal to the milk produced in July 1948.

#### Egg Production

Fewer layers on Wisconsin farms averaged the highest July rate of lay on record. Total egg production for the state, however, was below July 1948 but was equal to the 5-year average. A trend in egg production similar to that for the state is reported for the nation.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Purchasing power of the Wisconsin farm dollar in July was 22 percent below July of last year, although a slight upturn from June to July is shown in prices received by farmers. A drop of only 4 percent is shown in the index of prices paid by farmers from July 1948 to July of this year.

#### Current Trends

Wholesale and retail prices are below a year ago, but consumer incomes are slightly higher. Trends in cold-storage holdings are mixed.

#### Special News Items (Page 4)

Bread Used on Wisconsin Farms

Water Supply on Farms

ABOVE normal temperatures and rainfall in July were excellent for growing crops in Wisconsin but interfered with harvesting and haying operations. Most of the heavy July rainfall was timely and well distributed in scattered showers without high winds and flash floods. Growth of pastures and hay were benefited by the good distribution of rainfall although recovery in the northwestern and west central counties was not up to the rest of the state. Crop pests and diseases are reported more frequently than in any of the past three summers.

Earlier prospects for yields of small grains were not realized as harvesting results for both oats and barley are lower than previously expected. This situation prevails generally throughout the Corn Belt and in Wisconsin dry weather earlier retarded oats and brought them to maturity under hot weather and on short straw. Rust, root rot, and slowness of shocks to cure out also caused further harvest losses. Reported yields range from poor to good with pronounced local variation between varieties and individual fields.

Appearance of the corn crop on August 1 was the best for that date on record. Condition of the corn crop reported by crop correspondents averaged 100 percent of normal for the first time on record. The expected total production this year at this time exceeds the all-time records obtained last year by 8 percent. Despite the favorable appearance of the corn crop there are some threatening factors which could reduce yields. Infestation of corn borers is very heavy but the crop is well advanced.

The short hay production has been supplemented by good yields on secondary cuttings but is still expected to be 15 percent below the 10-year average. Canning crops of peas and corn have turned out surprisingly good in spite of the unfavorable earlier conditions. Tobacco made splendid progress during July although threatened by disease and washing in some neighborhoods. Potatoes continue to look very promising and yield prospects are favorable. The cherry crop was less than half the record crop last year and frost damage this spring was somewhat offset by excellent sizing and quality. A good crop of apples is ripening nicely.

#### United States Crops

Even with wide variations between producing regions, the total volume of crop production nationally in prospect for 1949 continues second only

### Weather Summary, July 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	July 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	51	89	67.0	63.9	7.36	3.76	+3.05
Spooner.....	43	98	71.4	69.1	7.40	3.96	+1.13
Park Falls....	46	91	68.4	67.2	6.86	4.50	+2.98
Rhinelandler..	47	89	69.0	67.1	6.36	4.41	+0.73
Wausau.....	49	93	71.2	68.4	5.42	4.07	+0.86
Marinette.....	48	96	73.1	71.1	2.51	3.37	-5.67
Escanaba.....	48	88	74.2	66.0	5.17	3.33	+2.48
Minneapolis...	56	100	76.4	72.3	6.01	3.73	-0.38
Eau Claire....	54	100	76.3	71.5	3.94	3.59	-0.02
La Crosse.....	53	96	76.2	72.8	2.99	3.90	-0.87
Hancock.....	49	94	73.0	71.3	5.77	3.45	-0.89
Oshkosh.....	51	97	74.3	71.7	4.74	3.42	-2.75
Green Bay....	51	90	73.2	70.0	4.89	3.46	+0.03
Manitowoc....	55	90	74.0	68.0	2.34	3.50	-4.83
Dubuque.....	58	97	77.1	74.1	7.80	3.94	+3.19
Madison.....	57	93	75.2	72.1	5.76	3.88	+2.13
Beloit.....	54	96	77.0	72.8	3.44	3.58	-1.86
Milwaukee....	55	96	74.4	68.2	3.46	2.83	-1.04
Average for 18 Stations	51.4	94.4	73.4	69.9	5.12	3.70	-0.09

to 1948, the best year in history. Developments during July resulted in declines for several important crops, but these were partly offset by improvements in corn, hay, rice, and fruit. The situation was nearly ideal for corn and soybeans. Corn prospects improved very slightly during July, so that production is now estimated at 3,538 million bushels, 3 percent below the 1948 record crop. Combining August 1 production estimates into a total of all principal commodities, the aggregate is 130 percent of the 1923-32 base, compared with 137 percent obtained in 1948. The tremendous total comes as a result of fairly heavy production in all groups, with none outstanding.

The most liberal feed supplies in history, both in total and per animal unit, are in prospect for the 1949-50 season. Livestock to be fed during the coming season will exceed those fed in each of the three preceding seasons and in any season prior to 1941, though well below the 1943-44 peak numbers. Record carryovers of corn in prospect and large carryovers of oats and barley will be added to another huge corn crop and much larger than average feed crops. Hay production, bolstered by a large carryover, will provide an ample supply per animal unit for the country as a whole. Pastures were better than average on August 1 for the nation. While furnishing but little feed in the dry Atlantic area from New England to Delaware and poor in the



Crop Summary of Wisconsin for August 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per acre			
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	August 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of		Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47	
							1948					10-year average
Corn	2,596,000	2,545,000	102.0	122,012,000	113,252,000	101,106,000	107.7	120.7	Bu.	47.0	44.5	41.3
Potatoes	84,000	87,000	96.6	12,180,000	10,875,000	13,292,000	112.0	91.6	Bu.	145	125	88
Tobacco	18,700	19,900	94.0	28,216,000	28,738,000	33,653,000	98.2	118.8	Lb.	1509	1444	1465
Oats	2,924,000	2,867,000	102.0	111,112,000	126,148,000	103,365,000	88.1	107.5	Bu.	38.0	44.0	40.0
Barley	184,000	204,000	90.2	5,704,000	7,752,000	13,177,000	73.6	43.3	Bu.	31.0	38.0	32.9
Rye	92,000	92,000	100.0	1,288,000	1,104,000	1,705,000	116.7	75.5	Bu.	14.0	12.0	11.2
Winter wheat	27,000	31,000	87.1	608,000	698,000	728,000	87.1	83.5	Bu.	22.5	22.5	19.1
Spring wheat	78,000	92,000	84.8	1,755,000	2,208,000	965,000	79.5	181.9	Bu.	22.5	24.0	20.5
Buckwheat	20,000	16,000	125.0	300,000	240,000	254,000	125.0	118.1	Bu.	15.0	15.0	15.0
Alltame hay	3,841,000	3,918,000	98.0	5,826,000	5,371,000	6,788,000	108.5	85.0	Ton	1.52	1.37	1.73
Alfalfa hay	1,369,000	1,053,000	130.0	2,875,000	-1,948,000	2,286,000	147.6	125.8	Ton	2.10	1.85	2.18
Clover and timothy hay	2,223,000	2,646,000	84.0	2,668,000	3,175,000	4,061,000	84.0	65.7	Ton	1.20	1.20	1.56
Other tame hay	249,000	219,000	113.7	283,000	248,000	441,000	114.1	64.2	n	1.14	1.13	1.47
Wild hay	130,000	130,000	100.0	130,000	130,000	158,000	100.0	82.3	.	1.00	1.00	1.19
Flax	19,000	22,000	86.4	238,000	275,000	104,000	86.5	228.8	Bu.	12.5	12.5	11.2
Canning peas	120,000	117,100	102.5	228,000,000	168,620,000	241,120,000	135.2	94.6	Lb.	1900	1440	1860
Corn for canning	97,600	99,700	97.9	244,000	229,300	149,410	106.4	163.3	Ton	2.5	2.3	2.3
Snap beans for canning	13,400	9,700	138.1	20,100	13,600	13,710	147.8	146.6	Ton	1.5	1.4	1.4
Tomatoes for canning	1,400	1,300	107.7	7,700	9,200	9,700	83.7	79.4	Ton	5.5	7.1	5.3
Cabbage, domestic	10,000	10,000	100.0	95,000	97,600	92,000	97.3	103.3	Ton	9.5	9.8	8.9
Cabbage, Danish	3,800	3,800	100.0		38,000	30,400			Ton		10.0	8.7
Onions	2,100	1,900	110.5	451,500	408,500	336,000	110.5	134.4	(wt.	215	215	197.5
Sugar beets	10,000	6,800	147.1	95,000	59,600	154,200	159.4	61.6	Ton	9.5	8.8	10.1
Apples, commercial				704,000	642,000	704,000	109.7	100.0	Bu.			
Cherries				11,100	25,000	10,730	44.4	103.4	Ton			
Pasture										78 <sup>1</sup>	58 <sup>1</sup>	80 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>August 1 condition.

large northwestern dry area from western North and South Dakota to the Pacific, pastures in most other areas were excellent and supplying abundant grazing. Dry sections, as in parts of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa were exceptions. Range pastures varied from good or very good in the central and southern Great Plains to dry, short-feed conditions in the Northern Great Plains and the far West. Livestock are in good condition in the large area where feed is good, but some cattle have been moved from the drier areas.

Yields per acre declined during July for numerous crops, particularly small grains and others being harvested. Yields improved for rice, hay, sugar beets, dry beans and peas. Apparently no crop will reach a record yield in 1949, though corn, soybeans, sorghum grain, sugar beets, tobacco,

potatoes and dry beans may be near-record. In most cases current yields exceed average, however, reflecting the use of more fertilizer, insecticides and weed-killing chemicals, as well as adoption of improved varieties, which tended to offset some of the unfavorable aspects of the season. Composite yields, based on August 1 estimates, are 141 percent of the 1923-32 average, which is a higher index than in any other year except the 151 percent in 1948.

The total acreage of principal crops for harvest in 1949 is now estimated at 353.2 million acres and the acreage on which crops were planted or growing at 366.2 million acres. The acreage for harvest is the largest since 1932, while abandonment is about the average of the past 10 years, though more than in any year since 1943.

**Milk Production**

The amount of milk produced on the farms of the United States was just about the same as was produced in July 1948. A smaller number of milk cows on farms was counterbalanced by an increase in milk production per cow. The total production, estimated at 11,544 million pounds compared with 11,514 million pounds in 1948, was 1 percent above the 10-year average 1938-47.

Wisconsin's production totaled 1,518 million pounds or 13 percent of the nation's total. This was an increase of not quite 1 percent over July 1948 but was 6 percent lower than the 10-year average. With a more satisfactory relationship between milk prices and feed costs farmers fed grain and concentrates liberally and set a new record in milk production per cow.

Crop Summary of the United States for August 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)			1949 production as a percent of		Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	August 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1948	10-year average		Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
Corn	85,780	85,439	100.4	3,538,257	3,650,548	2,787,628	96.9	126.9	Bu.	41.2	42.7	31.4
Potatoes	1,897.9	2,099	90.4	362,534	445,850	393,403	81.3	92.2	Bu.	191.0	212.4	145.5
Tobacco	1,625.9	1,554.6	104.6	2,018,597	1,981,730	1,718,375	101.9	117.5	Lb.	1242	1275	1033
Oats	40,619	40,191	101.0	1,308,608	1,491,752	1,234,082	87.7	106.0	Bu.	32.2	37.1	32.1
Barley	10,019	12,046	83.2	232,787	317,037	304,741	73.4	76.4	Bu.	23.2	26.3	24.0
Rye	1,586	2,097	75.6	18,831	26,388	35,109	71.4	53.6	Bu.	11.9	12.6	12.1
Winter wheat	55,687	52,859	105.4	894,874	990,098	726,553	90.4	123.2	Bu.	16.1	18.7	17.0
Durum wheat	3,528	3,187	110.7	42,278	44,742	36,256	94.5	116.6	Bu.	12.0	14.0	14.5
Spring wheat other than durum	16,266	15,858	102.6	194,678	253,566	229,141	76.8	85.0	Bu.	12.0	16.0	15.5
Flax	4,694	4,737	99.1	41,924	52,533	30,102	79.8	139.3	Bu.	8.9	11.1	9.2
Buckwheat	278	337	82.5	4,810	6,324	7,075	76.1	68.0	Bu.	17.3	18.8	16.7
Tame hay	58,329	58,669	99.4	85,271	86,998	87,684	98.0	97.2	Ton	1.46	1.48	1.45
Wild hay	15,031	14,947	100.6	12,682	12,848	11,855	98.7	107.0	Ton	.84	.86	.89
Pasture										83 <sup>1</sup>	84 <sup>1</sup>	80 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>August 1 condition.

Current Trends

WISCONSIN	Latest Report		Previous Reports			UNITED STATES	Latest Report		Previous Reports		
	Date	Reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month
<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>1</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>						<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>1</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>					
Farm prices, general.....%	July	250	249	337	227	Farm prices, general.....%	July	249	252	301	222.2
Livestock and livestock products.....%	July	255	254	348	225	Livestock and livestock products.....%	July	275	277	344	225.2
Milk.....%	July	237	233	364	232	Dairy products.....%	July	236	230	300	212.8
Meat animals.....%	July	310	316	377	229	Meat animals.....%	July	324	331	417	246.4
Poultry and eggs.....%	July	210	211	216	183	Poultry and eggs.....%	July	214	213	234	192.2
Crops.....%	July	217	219	261	234	Crops.....%	July	220	225	253	218.4
Feed grains and hay.....%	July	169	169	242	177	Feed grains and hay.....%	July	171	168	256	195.4
Fruits.....%	July	194	222	231	300	Prices farmers pay.....%	July	256	257	266	195.4
Prices farmers pay.....%	July	259	260	263	195	Purchasing power, farm products.....%	July	97	98	113	113.4
Purchasing power, farm products.....%	July	97	96	123	116						
<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>						<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>					
Milk price per cwt. <sup>2</sup>						Milk price, wholesale <sup>10</sup> .....\$	July 15	3.72	3.59	4.89	3.45
All utilizations.....\$	July	3.00	2.95	4.60	2.94	Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>10</sup> , per lb.....cts.	July 15	58.9	59.3	84.4	57.7
For cheese.....\$	July	2.85	2.84	4.62	2.85	Price (wholesale) 92-score butter, Chicago, per lb. <sup>11</sup> .....cts.	July	59.9	58.8	78.8	55.1
For butter.....\$	July	3.00	2.96	4.43	2.90	Total milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	July	11544	12303	11514	11422 <sup>7</sup>
Condensery products.....\$	July	2.90	2.94	4.66	3.00	Creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	June	155325	158675	138640	165513
Market milk.....\$	July	3.25	3.20	4.75	3.26	American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	June	112875	115585	106040	107209
Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>4</sup> .....cts.	July 15	65	66	88	61.2	Evaporated whole milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	June	357500	362850	450000	413198
Farm price of butter <sup>4</sup> .....cts.	July 15	60	60	84	57.0	Dried skim milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	June	109400	118250	91040	84087
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound						Human food.....lbs.	June	2250	2900	2000	3152
American <sup>8</sup> (twins).....cts.	July	29.6	29.6	47.1	31.0	Animal feed.....lbs.	June	37738	48009	36029	49596
Swiss.....cts.	July	33.9	34.2	48.8	37.7	Cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	July	15896	17579	17748	21914
Brick.....cts.	July	31.8	33.7	52.4	31.1						
Total milk production <sup>4</sup> , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	July	1518	1736	1511	1429 <sup>7</sup>	<b>Cold-Storage Holdings<sup>11</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Cows in herd freshening <sup>9</sup> .....%	July	3.07	4.40	3.37	3.46	Creamery butter.....lbs.	Aug. 1	136525	102701	83105	111742
Calves born during month being raised <sup>9</sup> .....%	July	27.49	27.64	34.43	29.34	American cheese.....lbs.	Aug. 1	157919	140859	168809	165549
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow <sup>9</sup> .....lbs.	July	117	115	102	84.4	Swiss cheese.....lbs.	Aug. 1	2855	2144	3343	1787
Grains and concentrates fed daily <sup>9</sup>						All other cheese.....lbs.	Aug. 1	20155	19253	25068	26196
Per farm.....lbs.	Aug. 1	60.7	67.2	58.7	48.9	All varieties of cheese.....lbs.	Aug. 1	180929	162256	197220	193532
Per cow in herd.....lbs.	Aug. 1	3.58	3.95	3.49	2.86	Total frozen poultry.....lbs.	Aug. 1	73122	74733	91186	137903
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced.....lbs.	Aug. 1	16.47	15.83	16.98	13.93	Eggs, shell.....cases	Aug. 1	1957	2290	5525	6921
Wisconsin creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	June	16900	19750	10230	13771	Eggs, shell, frozen, and dried, (case equivalent).....cases	Aug. 1	13171	12806	14390	18221
Wisconsin American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	June	49730	50640	47200	48564						
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	July	8033	9226	2537	5402	<b>Poultry Production<sup>10</sup></b>					
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	July	10529	12137	12341	14310	Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.	July	291393	305776	292795	321040
						(000 omitted).....no.	July	1487	1604	1515	1416
<b>Poultry Production<sup>13</sup></b>						Eggs per 100 layers.....no.	July	4334	4905	4435	4543
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.	July	12428	13078	12854	12775	Total eggs produced, (000,000 omitted).....no.	July	4334	4905	4435	4543
Eggs per 100 layers.....no.	July	1612	1662	1606	1565						
Total eggs produced, (000,000 om.).....no.	July	200	217	206	200	<b>Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk<sup>10</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
						Dried whole milk.....lbs.	June 30	17377	16096	23116	21926
<b>Feed Price Changes<sup>3</sup></b>						Dried skim milk.....lbs.	June 30	106612	96976	81642	85385
Index of feed prices, 1910-14=100.....%	July	194.0	191.5	282.9	215.2	Dried buttermilk.....lbs.	June 30	8979	8023	4224	5912
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration.....\$	July	23.98	23.50	33.03	26.49	Condensed milk (case goods).....lbs.	June 30	13059	11390	12615	10888
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy.....lbs.	July	125.1	125.5	139.3	112.6	Evaporated milk (case goods).....lbs.	June 30	379000	298661	337507	310106
Wisconsin by-product feed cost per ton f.o.b. Madison						<b>Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection<sup>11</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Standard bran.....\$	July	47.90	48.00	53.80	50.53	Cattle.....no.	July	1090	1095	1046	1138
Linseed oil meal.....\$	July	65.40	59.25	76.30	63.64	Calves.....no.	July	501	533	577	578
Corn gluten feed.....\$	July	56.00	53.50	72.05	51.22	Sheep and lambs.....no.	July	976	898	1195	1570
Tankage.....\$	July	143.05	125.30	109.00	89.72	Hogs.....no.	July	3165	3745	3044	3582
Standard middlings.....\$	July	50.60	54.60	64.15	53.12						
Soybean meal.....\$	July	88.55	78.40	99.90	68.91	<b>Business and Industry</b>					
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration.....\$	July	27.50	26.59	36.83	27.86	Wholesale prices <sup>13</sup> , 1910-14=100					
Amount of ration 10 doz. eggs would buy.....lbs.	July	158.2	161.0	116.5	135.4	All commodities.....%	July	225	223	246	171.2
						Foods.....%	July	255	247	296	194.8
<b>Farm Product Prices<sup>4</sup></b>						Retail prices <sup>13</sup> , 1910-14=100					
Milk cows, per head.....\$	July 15	210	210	238	151.00	All commodities.....%	June	246	245	249	194.2
Hogs, per cwt.....\$	July 15	19.50	19.10	25.50	15.52	Foods.....%	June	264	261	276	195
Beef cattle, per cwt.....\$	July 15	18.10	18.90	21.30	12.58	Total personal income <sup>14</sup> .....%	June	302.0	311.7	301.8	259.8
Veal calves, per cwt.....\$	July 15	23.10	24.40	26.40	15.62	Total non-agricultural income <sup>14</sup> .....%	June	301.4	312.2	295.3	257.8
Sheep, per cwt.....\$	July 15	8.00	8.30	10.10	6.46	Total agricultural income <sup>14</sup> .....%	June	307.2	307.5	362.3	279.7
Lambs, per cwt.....\$	July 15	21.60	23.10	24.50	14.86	Factory employment (adjusted) <sup>14</sup> , No. of employees, 1939=100.....%	May	145.5	149.0	156.7	161.9
Wool, per lb.....\$	July 15	.43	.44	.44	.45	Industrial production (adjusted) <sup>14</sup> , 1935-39=100.....%	May	174	179	192	208.8
Chickens, per lb.....cts.	July 15	25.3	27.7	30.5	26.1	Freight-car loadings (adjusted) <sup>14</sup> , 1935-39=100.....%	May	124	127	142	132
Eggs, per doz.....cts.	July 15	43.5	42.8	42.9	36.2						
Wheat, per bu.....\$	July 15	1.94	1.94	2.19	1.65	<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service. <sup>3</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>4</sup> Based on Wisconsin price reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>5</sup> As reported by Wisconsin price reporters. <sup>6</sup> Subsidy of 3.75 cts. included from December 1942 to January 1946. <sup>7</sup> 10-year average. <sup>8</sup> Based on Wisconsin dairy reporters' data. <sup>9</sup> 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 the month. <sup>10</sup> Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A. <sup>11</sup> Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A. <sup>12</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. <sup>13</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics converted to 1910-14 base. <sup>14</sup> U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1935-39=100. <sup>15</sup> Federal Reserve Board.					

Egg Production

Fewer layers on Wisconsin farms averaged the highest July rate of lay on record. Farm flocks were 3 per cent smaller in July this year compared with last year. Layers aver-

aged 16.12 eggs per bird which was a new peak for the month. Aggregate egg production for the month of 200 million was equal to the 5-year average for July but reflecting the smaller farm flocks fell short of

the production for the same month last year. Wisconsin egg production for the first seven months of 1949 was 2 percent under the same period in 1948. Egg production nationally shows

about the same trends as Wisconsin and continues slightly below figures for July last year. The number of layers on the nation's farms was about equal to the July average of the past year but the rate of lay averaged 2 percent less. The number of potential layers on farms the first of August was 5 percent greater than the same date a year ago. The number of pullets under laying age was 10 percent above August 1 last year and with current feed-price relationships the most favorable since 1945 a somewhat higher proportion of pullets may be retained than usual.

#### Wisconsin Farm Prices

The index of prices received by farmers showed a slight upturn in Wisconsin between mid-June and mid-July. The increase was due to somewhat better returns for milk since all the other major farm commodity groups turned downward. The index at 250 percent of the 1910-14 average on July 15 was barely above the index for the United States as a whole, but this is the first time that the Wisconsin index has been on the top side of the national index since the decline in farm prices began early in the first quarter of 1949.

Farm markets have been sensitive to changes in the supply situation, especially as new grain crops entered marketing channels. The uneasy tone of farm prices, however, has not been confined to grain crops since livestock prices during July also tended to go up and down with changes in market receipts. Summer milk supplies have been good and prices have held around government support price levels.

Purchasing power of Wisconsin farmer's dollar is 22 percent below mid-July a year ago and this trend agrees far more closely with the 26-percent decline in farm prices received between the two periods than it does with the 4-percent decline shown by prices farmers pay in the same period.

Falling prices during the month for cattle, wheat, potatoes, and apples were largely responsible for pulling the index of prices received by farmers in the United States down 3 points to 249 percent of its August 1909-July 1914 base. These lower prices more than offset slightly higher prices for feed grains and hay, truck crops, dairy products, hogs, eggs, and turkeys. Divergent changes occurred in many commodity groups. For example, hogs increased while all other meat animals showed decreases, corn was up and oats were down, and milk increased while butterfat declined.

#### Bread Used on Wisconsin Farms

Three-fifths of all the bread used on Wisconsin farms is still baked by the farm housewife. However, there are more farms in the state on which all or part of the bread used is purchased than there are farms on which the entire supply comes from the farm kitchen. Modern transportation resulting in farm families getting to nearby cities and villages more easily and more often as well as the greater availability of "bakery bread" is no doubt largely responsible for a decline in farm baking.

About 10 to 11 loaves of bread are used each week on the average Wisconsin farm according to a recent survey of the Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. Of these 6.2 loaves are baked on the farm and 4.3 loaves are purchased. The amount of bread used per farm varies little from one part of the state to another.

Only on 30 percent of the farms was all the bread baked at home. Twenty-seven percent reported that none of the bread consumed on the farm was home baked. The remaining 43 percent baked some bread and purchased some bread. It seems likely that in the latter case the purchases often represent specialty types such as rye bread, whole or cracked wheat bread.

Regionally the average consumption per farm ranges from 9.6 loaves to 11.4 loaves per week. There are only two regions of the state—the northwest and north central crop reporting districts where there are many small farms—where the reported average is less than 10 loaves. In only two regions, the northeast and the southwest, is the average reported over 11 loaves per week.

The percentage of bread baked on the farm varies greatly between areas of the state, ranging from 80 to only 38 percent.

#### Water Supply on Farms

Wells provide about 95 percent of the water used in Wisconsin farm homes. Reports from farmers to the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service show that slightly over 95 percent of the farm water supply for drinking purposes is from drilled or dug wells and that over 4 percent is from springs or surface water such as streams, ponds, or lakes. Less than 1 percent of the farms reported water from other sources.

The alternating sandstone and limestone rock layers of southwestern Wisconsin cut deeply by streams are ideal for springs. Especially is this true of the counties just north of the Wisconsin River—Crawford, Richland, Sauk, and Vernon. As a result southwestern Wisconsin farmers reported 83 percent of their drinking water from wells and 17 percent from springs.

In 8 of the 9 districts of the state over 90 percent of the farms obtain water from wells. The percentage is highest in southeastern Wisconsin where 98 percent is well water, but the northwestern, eastern, and southern counties follow closely with 97 percent each. The northeastern and central districts are the only districts of the 8 in which less than 95 percent of the drinking water is from wells.

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# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

Walter H. Ebling,

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Emery C. Wilcox,  
Agricultural Statisticians

Bernice Hanan,

Cecil W. Estes

Vol. XXVIII, No. 9

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

September 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### September Crop Report

Crop prospects improved in Wisconsin during August. Larger crops of corn, oats, and tame hay are now shown for the state than earlier. For the nation, total crop production this year will be the second largest on record.

#### Cranberry Production

While smaller than a year ago, cranberry production in Wisconsin and for the nation will be well above average.

#### Milk Production

Milk production on Wisconsin farms last month was above August 1948 with weather and pasture conditions favorable for high production per cow. While about equal to last year, milk production in the nation last month was a little above average for the month.

#### Egg Production

Egg production on Wisconsin farms in August was lower than for the same month last year. A slight decrease in egg production compared with August last year is also shown for the nation.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices of Wisconsin farm products during the past month increased slightly but are below the record levels of August 1948. A small drop in farm costs and family living expenses is also shown.

#### Current Trends

Wholesale and retail prices continue downward from the record levels last fall but are much above average. Trends in business, industry, and employment are mixed following the lower levels of the past summer.

#### Special News Items (page 4)

Fuel Used on Farms.

The Use of Bottled Gas.

**AUGUST** was exceptionally favorable for maturing the Wisconsin corn crop and general farm operations despite the deficiency of rainfall. Many localities throughout the state missed the scattered showers last month and had become quite dry by the beginning of September. Hail caused damage to crops in some sections but losses were mostly limited to tobacco in a few southern and southwestern counties.

Corn has continued to improve all summer and prospects at the beginning of September indicated a new state record production of nearly 125 million bushels—7 percent above the previous state record obtained in 1944. The crop is generally considered to be safe from frosts and cutting and shocking is well started in most grain-areas. Silo filling began relatively early this year and is also well underway.

Both grain and hay production will be higher than expected in July as a result of favorable weather and more complete harvest reports. Production of grain especially oats, will be below last year. Total hay production will be 12 percent above last year's short crop but still about 12 percent under the 10-year average output. Truck and canning crops have been excellent this year with the tonnage of sweet corn canned exceeding last year's record crop by nearly 15 percent. Cranberry production is expected to be 25 percent below last year but substantially above the 10-year average. Altogether the prospects for aggregate crop output this year in Wisconsin compare favorably with some of our best years.

#### United States Crops

The total outturn of all crops, as estimated in September is virtually the same as forecast in August. The current total is 130 percent of the 1923-32 base, second only to the record in 1948. Only rice and tree nuts promise record production in 1949, but corn, soybeans and grapes are second-largest in history. Among relatively large crops are cotton, wheat, flaxseed, sorghum grain, dry beans, cherries, and sugarcane. Crops exceeding average by a narrower margin include oats, tobacco, apples, peaches, pears, hops, cranberries, and broomcorn. Below average in production are hay, barley, peanuts, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, sugarbeets and apricots, with rye, buckwheat and dry peas very small crops.

#### Above Average Cranberry Crop

Wisconsin's cranberry crop this year is expected to be above average although 24 percent below the record crop harvested last year. All but

#### Weather Summary, August 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	August 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	43	94	67.2	62.6	2.13	3.18	+2.00
Spoooner.....	41	93	69.4	66.1	2.70	3.50	+0.33
Park Falls....	37	90	66.6	63.6	2.56	4.21	+1.33
Rhinelandler	40	90	67.1	64.0	1.58	4.15	-1.84
Wausau.....	42	91	68.0	66.0	2.63	3.52	-0.03
Marinette....	43	94	70.1	68.3	2.72	3.02	-5.97
Escanaba....	42	93	67.6	64.3	2.62	3.19	+1.91
Minneapolis..	47	97	74.2	69.9	2.64	3.12	-0.86
Eau Claire...	47	99	74.3	69.1	2.18	3.68	-1.52
La Crosse....	50	95	73.5	70.0	1.58	3.71	-3.00
Hancock.....	41	94	70.1	68.6	2.57	3.41	-1.73
Oshkosh.....	45	96	71.8	68.8	3.10	3.04	-2.69
Green Bay...	42	94	70.2	67.7	2.45	3.18	-0.65
Manitowoc...	53	94	71.2	66.6	1.58	2.90	-6.12
Dubuque.....	51	95	74.2	71.7	3.09	3.24	+3.04
Madison.....	50	91	72.4	69.8	2.82	3.21	+1.74
Beloit.....	51	95	74.0	70.7	1.61	3.31	-3.56
Milwaukee...	49	94	72.0	67.6	1.08	2.66	-2.62
Average for 18 Stations	45.2	93.8	70.8	67.5	2.31	3.35	-1.12

Oregon of the 5 states reporting cranberry production have smaller crops than were harvested in 1948, and for the nation the crop will also be above average but below last year's harvest. The following table gives cranberry production for the five states with comparisons with recent years and average.

#### Cranberry Production (Thousand Barrels)

State	Sept. 1, 1949 forecast	1948	1947	10-year average 1938-47
Massachusetts	510	605	485	437.6
Wisconsin....	180	238	161	110.4
New Jersey...	56	69	82	76.8
Washington...	41.5	42.4	48	29.6
Oregon.....	15.5	13.3	14.2	10.8
5 States.....	803	967.7	790.2	665.2

#### Milk Production

Despite a slightly smaller number of milk cows on farms, milk production on the farms of the United States during August was about the same as in August 1947 and August 1948 and it was 2 percent greater than the 1938-47 average for the month. The smaller number of milk cows was more than offset by production per cow. In all major geographic regions except the West new records in milk production per cow were established on September 1 this year.

Of the 10,546 million pounds of milk produced in the nation, 1,304

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for September 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per acre			
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	September 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of		Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47	
							1948					10-year average
Corn	2,596,000	2,545,000	102.0	124,608,000	113,252,000	101,106,000	110.0	123.2	Bu.	48.0	44.5	41.3
Potatoes	84,000	87,000	96.6	12,600,000	10,875,000	13,292,000	115.9	94.8	Bu.	150	125	88
Tobacco	18,700	19,900	94.0	28,487,000	28,738,000	33,653,000	99.1	84.6	Lb.	1523	1444	1465
Oats	2,924,000	2,867,000	102.0	116,960,000	126,148,000	103,365,000	92.7	113.2	Bu.	40.0	44.0	40.0
Barley	184,000	204,000	90.2	6,348,000	7,752,000	13,177,000	81.9	48.2	Bu.	34.5	38.0	32.9
Rye	92,000	92,000	100.0	1,288,000	1,104,000	1,705,000	116.7	75.5	Bu.	14.0	12.0	11.2
Winter wheat	27,000	31,000	87.1	608,000	698,000	728,000	87.1	83.5	Bu.	22.5	22.5	19.1
Spring wheat	78,000	92,000	84.8	1,755,000	2,208,000	965,000	79.5	181.9	Bu.	22.5	24.0	20.5
Buckwheat	20,000	16,000	125.0	310,000	240,000	254,000	129.2	122.0	Bu.	15.5	15.0	15.0
All tame hay	3,841,000	3,918,000	98.0	6,025,000	5,371,000	6,788,000	112.2	88.8	Ton	1.57	1.37	1.73
Alfalfa hay	1,369,000	1,053,000	130.0	2,943,000	1,948,000	2,286,000	151.1	128.7	Ton	2.15	1.85	2.18
Clover and timothy hay	2,223,000	2,646,000	84.0	2,779,000	3,175,000	4,061,000	87.5	68.4	Ton	1.25	1.20	1.56
Other tame hay	249,000	219,000	113.7	303,000	248,000	441,000	122.2	68.7	Ton	1.22	1.13	1.47
Wild hay	130,000	130,000	100.0	130,000	130,000	158,000	100.0	82.3	Ton	1.00	1.00	1.19
Flax	19,000	22,000	86.4	247,000	275,000	104,000	89.8	237.5	Bu.	13.0	12.5	11.2
Sugar beets	10,000	6,800	147.1	100,000	59,600	154,200	167.8	64.9	Ton	10.0	8.8	10.1
Peas for canning	120,000	117,100	102.5	228,000,000	168,620,000	241,120,000	135.2	94.6	Lb.	1900	1440	1860
Corn for canning	97,600	99,700	97.9	263,500	229,300	149,410	114.9	176.4	Ton	2.7	2.3	2.3
Snap beans for canning	13,400	9,700	138.1	20,100	13,600	13,710	147.8	146.6	Ton	1.5	1.4	1.4
Lima beans for canning	7,100	4,900	144.9	9,240,000	5,840,000	3,340,000	158.2	276.6	Lb.	1300	1190	1230
Beets for canning	7,000	5,900	118.6	64,400	41,300	36,580	155.9	176.1	Ton	9.2	7.0	7.8
Tomatoes for canning	1,400	1,300	107.7	8,100	9,200	9,700	88.0	83.5	Ton	5.8	7.1	5.3
Cabbage	13,800	13,800	100.0	136,100	135,600	122,400	100.4	111.2	Ton	9.9	9.8	9.0
Onions, commercial	2,100	1,900	110.5	420,000	408,500	336,000	102.8	125.0	Cwt.	200	215	197.5
Apples, commercial				704,000	642,000	704,000	109.7	100.0	Bu.			
Cherries				11,100	25,000	10,730	44.4	103.4	Ton			
Cranberries				180,000	238,000	110,400	75.6	163.0	Bbl.			
Pasture										73 <sup>1</sup>	46 <sup>1</sup>	73 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>September 1 condition.

million pounds or 12 percent were produced in Wisconsin. The August total for Wisconsin was 5 percent higher than in August last year and 7 percent above the 1938-47 average for August. Good weather combined with good pastures were largely responsible for maintaining a record level of milk production per cow.

Egg Production

Fewer layers and a lower rate of production per layer resulted in a Wisconsin egg production figure for August which is 5 percent lower than the same month last year. The number of layers in farm flocks of Wisconsin was 4 percent lower than August a year ago and about 3½ percent below the 5-year (1943-47) average number. Layers averaged 14.45 eggs per layer during the month com-

pared with 14.57 during August 1948. Egg production in August was estimated at 170 million eggs or 5 percent below last year and about 1 percent below the 5-year average for the month.

Farm flocks on the nation's farms laid 1 percent fewer eggs during August than were produced during the same month a year ago. Production last month was also 1 percent lower than the 5-year average for August. The number of layers on farms of the nation in August was slightly higher than last year but was 7 percent less than the 5-year (1943-47) average. The rate of production was lower than a year ago. Layers averaged 13.46 eggs during the month compared with 13.68 eggs in August last year and the 5-year average of 12.60 eggs.

Wisconsin Farm Prices

Farm product prices in Wisconsin increased during the month ending August 15. Most of the gains resulted from normal seasonal influences which tend to raise livestock and livestock product prices in late summer and lower crop prices as new supplies reach the markets.

The August index of prices received by farmers was 254 percent of the 1910-14 average—a gain of 2 percent over July but 24 percent below the corresponding month a year ago. Egg prices featured the August farm price rise with a gain of 11 percent over July. Returns for milk per hundred pounds are expected to be 5 percent above July due more to higher butterfat tests than to any widespread increase in buying prices. Corn prices in the state declined to \$1.21 per

Crop Summary of the United States for September 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)			1949 production as a percent of		Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	September 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of			Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
							1948	10-year average				
Corn	85,780	85,439	100.4	3,525,741	3,650,548	2,787,628	96.6	126.5	Bu.	41.1	42.7	31.4
Potatoes	1,898	2,099	90.4	363,061	445,850	393,403	81.4	92.3	Bu.	191.3	212.4	145.5
Tobacco	1,626	1,555	104.6	1,994,183	1,981,730	1,718,375	100.6	116.1	Lb.	1227	1275	1033
Oats	40,619	40,191	101.0	1,314,258	1,491,752	1,234,082	88.1	106.5	Bu.	32.4	37.1	32.1
Barley	10,019	12,046	83.2	233,395	317,037	304,741	73.6	76.6	Bu.	23.3	26.3	24.0
Rye	1,586	2,097	75.6	18,831	26,388	35,109	71.4	53.6	Bu.	11.9	12.6	12.1
Winter wheat	55,687	52,859	105.4	894,874	990,098	726,553	90.4	123.2	Bu.	16.1	18.7	17.0
Durum wheat	3,528	3,187	110.7	40,472	44,742	36,256	90.5	111.6	Bu.	11.5	14.0	14.5
Spring wheat other than durum	16,266	15,858	102.6	193,735	253,566	229,141	76.4	84.5	Bu.	11.9	16.0	15.5
Flax	4,694	4,737	99.1	41,569	52,533	30,102	79.1	138.1	Bu.	8.9	11.1	9.2
Buckwheat	278	337	82.5	4,862	6,324	7,075	76.9	68.7	Bu.	17.5	18.8	16.7
Tame hay	58,329	58,669	99.4	85,738	86,998	87,684	98.6	97.8	Ton	1.47	1.48	1.45
Wild hay	15,031	14,947	100.6	12,339	12,848	11,855	96.0	104.1	Ton	.82	.86	.89
Pasture										79 <sup>1</sup>	78 <sup>1</sup>	75 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>September 1 condition.



### United States Prices

August farm product prices were averaging closer to the parity level than at any time since 1942. The national parity ratio at 101 percent was the same as for December 1941. The index of prices received by farmers in the United States declined 4 points to 245 percent of the August 1909-July 1914 average. Most commodities were lower, but important exceptions were dairy products, oil-bearing crops, and chickens and eggs.

### Fuel Used on Farms

During the winter of 1948-49 Wisconsin dairy reporters used 18 cords of wood, 5 tons of coal, and 525 gallons of fuel oil. These figures represent averages reported to the Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service by over 1,000 farmers in the state.

Farmers who used wood and no other fuel reported their consumption during a 12-month period was 29 cords. Farmers who used only coal showed they used nearly 8 tons. Those farmers who used only oil as their heating fuel reported their consumption as 1,084 gallons.

Although the figures on the amount of fuel used seem large it should be remembered that winter-heating season in Wisconsin is much longer than 3 months. Oftentimes, some home heating is necessary in October and sometimes the season starts in September and lasts into May. Too, it should be remembered that very few farm homes have modern insulation and many are very large so that heating is somewhat inefficient.

The amount of wood used per farm varies greatly from one section of the state to another. In part, this is due to the fact that winters are longer and colder in the northern portions of Wisconsin. It is, however, also due in part to the type of wood available, and also to the cost of wood. Pine and popple which are often used in the northern and central counties burn considerably faster than the hardwoods which are burned in the

western, eastern, and southern counties. Where fuel is cheaper it is probably used more liberally than where it is expensive.

Twenty-eight cords of wood were burned on all farms in northeastern Wisconsin that reported any wood used for fuel. The average was 27 cords in the central district, 26 in the northwest, and 23 in the north. In western Wisconsin the average was 19 cords per farm using wood, in the southwestern counties it was 16 cords and in eastern Wisconsin it was 10 cords. Wood was not heavily used in the southern and southeastern portions of the state—averaging 7 cords per farm in the south district and 4 in the southeast.

Coal was the usual fuel where wood was not used heavily. In the south district the average was nearly 7 tons per farm while in the southeast it was slightly over 6 tons. Eastern and southwestern farmers reported 5 tons per farm. Four tons of coal were used per farm in the northwest district, the north central, the west, and the central districts. In northeastern Wisconsin the average was 3 tons per farm.

Fuel oil consumption varied considerably with the southeast district reporting 776 gallons per farm and the northeast only 252 gallons. The second heaviest user was the northwest district with a 624 gallon average. Between 500 and 550 gallons were used per farm in the central, southwest, and south districts. In western Wisconsin farmers using fuel oil consumed 473 gallons per farm, in the east district it was 399 gallons, and in the north district the average was 369 gallons per farm.

### The Use of Bottled Gas

Almost one-third of the Wisconsin farm housewives use some form of bottled gas for cooking meals. Reports from farmers to the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service show that 30 percent of the farm homes have bottled gas for cooking. The average cost of such fuel per farm for a 12-month period was \$42.57.

The use of bottled gas was most common in the south-central portion of the state where it was reported on 47 percent of the farms. It was also used quite extensively in the southwestern counties, 40 percent of the farms reporting. In southeastern Wisconsin, however, where many farms have electric or oil burning stoves only 25 percent of the farms reported bottled gas as the cooking fuel.

East-central Wisconsin was second in the use of bottled gas, its use being reported on 44 percent of the farms. Thirty-four percent of the farms in central Wisconsin reported the use of bottled gas while only 22 percent of the farms in west-central Wisconsin reported bottled gas for cooking. The surprisingly low percentage in the west-central area may be due to the fact that during the winter months a bad storm may isolate the farm for several days making delivery of the gas impossible.

Northern Wisconsin used relatively little bottled gas. The smaller number of farms and the distance between farms means that delivery routes cannot cover all the region economically. Only 17 percent of the farmers in the northwest district reported bottled gas, only 20 percent so reported in the north central district, and only 16 percent used bottled gas for cooking in the northeast district.

### Bernice C. Hanan

On September 4, 1949 Wisconsin agriculture lost a most effective and faithful worker in the death of Bernice C. Hanan of the State Crop Reporting Office. She served in this field for nearly 23 years and carried much responsibility. She devoted herself to making the output of the office as accurate and useful as it could be made, and her efforts were basic to the quality of much of our work. Her office associates, friends, and others who knew her in her professional work will greatly miss her kindly and helpful personality and dependable service.

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## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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Agricultural Statisticians

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State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

October 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### October Crop Report

With a dry fall, work progress in Wisconsin has been good. The state has a record corn crop and frosts have done little damage this year. Crop production for the United States, while smaller than the record output of last year, is generally high.

#### Grain Stocks on Farms

Large stocks of old corn were being held on the farms of the state and the nation at the beginning of October. Stocks of wheat, oats, and barley were smaller than a year ago.

#### Milk Production

In Wisconsin the output of milk in September was nearly 7 percent above the same month last year. For the United States the increase was 3 percent.

#### Egg Production

Wisconsin's egg production is down sharply this year, September output being 8 percent below a year ago. For the United States an increase of 2 percent was shown in September.

#### Current Trends

With a rise in the prices of farm products during the past month and a small decline in prices farmers pay, farm purchasing power increased 4 percent. Stocks of butter and American cheese on October 1 were above a year ago, but for most other dairy products they were lower. Industrial employment, production, and car loadings declined during the past month.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices of Wisconsin farm products rose 3 percent during the past month, mainly because of higher prices for milk and eggs. For the United States prices rose less than 2 percent during the same period.

#### Special News Items (Page 4)

Crop Variety Survey for Oats, Barley, and Wheat.

WISCONSIN has had an unusual amount of dry and sunny weather for harvesting during the past two months. Rainfall was under normal in southern Wisconsin and in many counties it was too dry for plowing in September. Farm work generally made good progress although the soil was rather dry for fall-sown grain or new seedings. Late crops such as potatoes and corn have been harvested under unusually favorable conditions. Frosts in late September did little damage because harvesting was well along and corn was well ripened. Pastures in the state have recently been better than a year ago but because of the dry weather they were below average.

#### Wisconsin Crops

The state has a record corn crop this year, yields being good generally. With the use of more hybrid seed in some of the northern counties, corn production has increased in these areas.

Oats and barley yields are lower than last year and supplies of feed grain in the state will be a little smaller than a year ago. Hay production on the other hand is larger than last year but still below average for the state.

Other late harvested crops such as potatoes, truck crops and fruit have had a good season for harvesting. The potato crop is yielding well, and for the state it is about 15 percent larger than a year ago. Canning crops with the exception of tomatoes are larger than they were last year.

#### Grain Stocks on Farms

(October 1 estimates)

Crop	Thousand bushels on hand			Percent of current year's crop <sup>1</sup>		
	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47	1949	1948	10-yr. av. 1938-47
WIS.						
Corn <sup>2</sup> ..	7,918	5,432	5,150	13.0	9.5	10.0
Wheat	2,221	2,557	1,516	94.0	88.0	89.5
Oats...	106,697	114,795	93,957	89.0	91.0	90.9
Barley	4,701	6,899	-----	73.0	89.0	-----
Rye	940	894	-----	73.0	81.0	-----
Soybeans	10	7	22 <sup>3</sup>	5.1	2.1	4.9 <sup>3</sup>
U. S.						
Corn <sup>2</sup> ..	699,218	114,035	360,087	20.8	5.3	14.6
Wheat	459,556	546,151	492,852	40.8	42.4	49.9
Oats...	1,049,342	1,187,541	1,000,150	79.4	79.6	81.1
Barley	146,288	208,979	217,895 <sup>3</sup>	62.5	65.9	69.4 <sup>3</sup>
Rye	8,789	14,189	23,469 <sup>3</sup>	46.7	53.8	68.2 <sup>3</sup>
Soybeans	2,134	1,838	3,290 <sup>3</sup>	1.0	1.0	1.7 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Except corn and soybeans which are from previous year's crop.

<sup>2</sup>Based on corn for grain.

<sup>3</sup>Short-time average.

#### Weather Summary, September 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	September 1-4	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	34	83	54.6	55.1	1.99	3.31	+0.68
Spooer.....	25	81	55.4	58.5	3.69	3.44	+0.58
Park Falls...	25	76	52.6	55.9	2.46	4.17	-0.38
Rhinelande...	27	77	54.6	56.9	4.52	3.94	-1.26
Wausau.....	23	81	54.0	58.9	2.20	3.72	-1.55
Marinette...	26	82	57.4	62.5	1.66	3.52	-7.83
Escanaba...	31	77	54.9	57.1	1.60	3.32	+0.19
Minneapolis	34	84	58.4	61.4	2.67	3.13	-1.32
Eau Claire...	29	87	58.3	61.2	2.28	4.10	-3.34
La Crosse...	30	84	59.2	62.2	1.20	3.99	-5.79
Hancock....	21	83	56.3	61.0	1.89	3.81	-3.65
Oshkosh....	25	81	58.2	62.1	1.31	3.40	-4.78
Green Bay... <sup>4</sup>	24	79	56.0	60.4	1.25	3.52	-2.92
Manitowoc...	32	80	58.3	60.0	0.86	3.61	-8.87
Dubuque....	33	80	59.2	64.0	1.09	4.01	+0.12
Madison....	33	77	57.8	62.4	1.10	3.72	-0.88
Beloit.....	31	81	59.4	63.8	2.27	3.87	-5.16
Milwaukee...	34	81	58.6	61.0	1.88	3.29	-4.03
Average for 18 Stations	28.7	80.8	56.8	60.2	2.00	3.66	-7.79

The biggest increases are shown in peas, snap beans, lima beans, and beets for canning. Among the fruits the cranberry crop is one-fourth smaller than it was last year. Cherry production was less than half of the big crop of a year ago. Apple production on the other hand is larger this year but high winds in early October damaged a part of the crop.

#### United States Crops

The country as a whole has had favorable weather for harvesting during the past months and the total output of crops for the year is expected to be the second largest on record. The nation's corn crop is a little smaller than the big one of 1948, but it is generally well ripened.

The crops of wheat, oats, barley and rye are smaller than last year so that supplies of feed grains from this year's production will be under those of 1948. Hay supplies are close to last year's levels. The nation's potato crop is about 67 million bushels smaller than the big crop of 1948. Because of the large apple crop, total fruit production will probably be somewhat greater than in 1948.

#### Grain Stocks on Farms

Stocks of old corn on farms for both Wisconsin and the United States as a whole are large this year. Farm stocks of wheat, oats and barley are smaller than they were a year ago. Soybean stocks on farms at the beginning of October are higher than last year.



Crop Summary of Wisconsin for October 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage			Production				Unit	Yield per acre			
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	October 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of		Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47	
							1948					10-year average
Corn	2,596,000	2,545,000	102.0	127,204,000	113,252,000	101,106,000	112.3	125.8	Bu.	49.0	44.5	41.3
Potatoes	84,000	87,000	96.6	12,600,000	10,875,000	13,292,000	115.9	94.8	Bu.	150	125	88
Tobacco	18,700	19,900	94.0	28,362,000	28,738,000	33,653,000	98.7	84.3	Lb.	1517	1444	1465
Oats	2,924,000	2,867,000	102.0	119,884,000	126,148,000	103,365,000	95.0	116.0	Bu.	41.0	44.0	40.0
Barley	184,000	204,000	90.2	6,440,000	7,752,000	13,177,000	83.1	48.9	Bu.	35.0	38.0	32.9
Rye	92,000	92,000	100.0	1,288,000	1,104,000	1,705,000	116.7	75.5	Bu.	14.0	12.0	11.2
Winter wheat	27,000	31,000	87.1	608,000	698,000	728,000	87.1	83.5	Bu.	22.5	22.5	19.1
Spring wheat	78,000	92,000	84.8	1,755,000	2,208,000	965,000	79.5	181.9	Bu.	22.5	24.0	20.5
Buckwheat	20,000	16,000	125.0	330,000	240,000	254,000	137.5	129.9	Bu.	16.5	15.0	15.0
All tame hay	3,841,000	3,918,000	98.0	6,224,000	5,371,000	6,788,000	115.9	91.7	Ton	1.62	1.37	1.73
Alfalfa hay	1,369,000	1,053,000	130.0	3,149,000	1,948,000	2,286,000	161.7	137.8	Ton	2.30	1.85	2.18
Clover and timothy hay	2,223,000	2,646,000	84.0	2,779,000	3,175,000	4,061,000	87.5	68.4	Ton	1.25	1.20	1.56
Other tame hay	249,000	219,000	113.7	296,000	248,000	441,000	119.4	67.1	Ton	1.19	1.13	1.47
Wild hay	130,000	130,000	100.0	130,000	130,000	158,000	100.0	82.3	Ton	1.00	1.00	1.19
Flax	19,000	22,000	86.4	247,000	275,000	104,000	89.8	237.5	Bu.	13.0	12.5	11.2
Sugar beets	10,000	6,800	147.1	100,000	59,600	154,200	167.8	64.9	Ton	10.0	8.8	10.1
Peas for canning	119,800	117,100	102.3	244,400,000	168,620,000	241,120,000	144.9	101.4	Lb.	2040	1440	1860
Corn for canning	97,600	99,700	97.9	263,500	229,300	149,410	114.9	176.4	Ton	2.7	2.3	2.3
Snap beans for canning	13,400	9,700	138.1	20,100	13,600	13,710	147.8	146.6	Ton	1.5	1.4	1.4
Lima beans for canning	7,100	4,900	144.9	9,940,000	5,840,000	3,340,000	170.2	297.6	Lb.	1400	1190	1230
Beets for canning	7,000	5,900	118.6	61,600	41,300	36,580	149.2	168.4	Ton	8.8	7.0	7.8
Tomatoes	1,400	1,300	107.7	8,400	9,200	9,700	91.3	86.6	Ton	6.0	7.1	5.3
Cabbage	13,800	13,800	100.0	141,800	135,600	122,400	104.6	115.8	Ton	10.3	9.8	9.0
Onions, commercial	2,100	1,900	110.5	409,500	408,500	336,000	100.2	121.8	Cwt.	195	215	197.5
Apples, commercial				775,000	642,000	704,000	120.7	110.1	Bu.			
Cherries				11,100	25,000	10,730	44.4	103.4	Ton			
Cranberries				180,000	238,000	110,400	75.6	163.0	Bbl.			
Pasture										71 <sup>1</sup>	47 <sup>1</sup>	81 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>October 1 condition.

Milk Production

During September 1,143 million pounds of milk were produced on Wisconsin farms, which was 7 percent greater than in September 1948 and was 11 percent above the 10-year average, 1938-47, for the month. Milk production for the United States totaled 9,390 million pounds for September. This was 3 percent more than was produced during September last year and also 3 percent greater than the 10-year average for September. For the first three-quarters of the year milk production in Wisconsin was 3 percent above the same 9 months of 1948 while that for the United States as a whole showed a 2 percent increase.

Egg Production

Egg production on Wisconsin farms during September was 8 percent lower than the same month in 1948. There were 7 percent fewer layers on farms and the rate of laying was 1 percent lower than a year ago.

Layers on farms of the nation produced about 2 percent more eggs in September than the same month in 1948. There were 1 percent more layers on farms and the rate of production was about .5 percent higher than a year ago.

Farmers received an average of 52.7 cents per dozen for eggs in September. This is the highest price on record for the month and compares with 48 cents a year ago and the 5-year September average of 41 cents. In September Wisconsin farmers received an average of 24 cents

per pound for chickens. This compares with 32.4 cents per pound a year ago and 25.6 cents a month ago.

Wisconsin Farm Prices

Higher prices to farmers for milk and eggs carried the Wisconsin index of prices received by farmers on September 15 to 262 percent of the 1910-14 average—a gain of 3 percent over the mid-August level of 254 percent. Average prices received by farmers for corn, oats, beef cattle, potatoes, clover seed, sheep and chickens were at or near their lowest levels so far in 1949. In the case of apples the sharp price break in September brought the average to its lowest point in nearly 3 years. Of the 32 basic commodities carried in the Wisconsin farm price index, 14 are now below their levels in 1946 when

Crop Summary of the United States for October 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)			1949 as a percent of		Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	October 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of			Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
							1948	10-year average				
Corn	85,780	85,439	100.4	3,476,986	3,650,548	2,787,628	95.2	124.7	Bu.	40.5	42.7	31.4
Potatoes	1,898	2,099	90.4	378,805	445,850	393,403	85.0	96.3	Bu.	199.6	212.4	145.5
Tobacco	1,626	1,555	104.6	2,004,214	1,981,730	1,718,375	101.1	116.6	Lb.	1233	1275	1033
Oats	40,619	40,191	101.0	1,321,075	1,491,752	1,234,082	88.6	107.0	Bu.	32.5	37.1	32.1
Barley	10,019	12,046	83.2	234,025	317,037	304,741	73.8	76.8	Bu.	23.4	26.3	24.0
Rye	1,586	2,097	75.6	18,831	26,388	35,109	71.4	53.6	Bu.	11.9	12.6	12.1
Winter wheat	55,687	52,859	105.4	894,874	990,098	726,553	90.4	123.2	Bu.	16.1	18.7	17.0
Durum wheat	3,528	3,187	110.7	38,996	44,742	36,256	87.2	107.6	Bu.	11.1	14.0	14.5
Spring wheat other than durum	16,266	15,858	102.6	192,356	253,566	229,141	75.9	83.9	Bu.	11.8	16.0	15.5
Flax	4,694	4,737	99.1	41,153	52,533	30,102	78.3	136.7	Bu.	8.8	11.1	9.2
Buckwheat	278	337	82.5	5,126	6,324	7,075	81.1	72.5	Bu.	18.4	18.8	16.7
Tame hay	58,329	58,669	99.4	86,780	86,998	87,684	99.7	99.0	Ton	1.49	1.48	1.45
Wild hay	15,031	14,947	100.6	12,339	12,848	11,855	96.0	104.1	Ton	.82	.86	.89
Pasture										81 <sup>1</sup>	72 <sup>1</sup>	75 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>October 1 condition.

Current Trends

WISCONSIN	Latest Report		Previous Reports			UNITED STATES	Latest Report		Previous Report		
	Date	Re-reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month
<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>2</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>						<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>2</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>					
Farm prices, general.....%	Sept.	262	254	326	240	Farm prices, general.....%	Sept.	249	245	290	222.2
Livestock and livestock products.....%	Sept.	269	260	339	242	Livestock and livestock products.....%	Sept.	284	276	343	233.4
Milk.....%	Sept.	253	245	342	255	Dairy products.....%	Sept.	249	243	302	228.6
Meat animals.....%	Sept.	314	305	379	234	Meat animals.....%	Sept.	326	317	408	246.2
Poultry and eggs.....%	Sept.	242	227	239	199	Poultry and eggs.....%	Sept.	237	226	253	209.6
Crops.....%	Sept.	212	216	234	226	Crops.....%	Sept.	211	212	231	210.2
Feed grains and hay.....%	Sept.	179	169	200	183	Feed grains and hay.....%	Sept.	167	166	223	198.6
Fruits.....%	Sept.	175	186	205	257	Fruits.....%	Sept.	253	254	265	197.8
Prices farmers pay.....%	Sept.	252	254	266	199	Prices farmers pay.....%	Sept.	98	96	109	112.2
Purchasing power, farm products.....%	Sept.	104	100	123	120	Purchasing power, farm products.....%	Sept.				
<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>						<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>					
Milk price per cwt. <sup>3</sup>						Milk price, wholesale <sup>10</sup> .....\$	Sept. 15	3.99	3.86	5.02	3.79
All utilizations.....\$	Sept.	3.20	3.10	4.33	3.23	Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>10</sup> , per lb.....cts.	Sept. 15	61.7	60.5	75.6	62.1
For cheese.....\$	Sept.	3.05	2.96	4.21	3.17	Chicago (wholesale) 92-score butter, per lb.....cts.	Sept.	61.9	61.9	71.8	58.7
For butter.....\$	Sept.	3.23	3.11	4.21	3.24	Total milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	Sept.	9390	10546	9124	91027
Condensery products.....\$	Sept.	3.21	3.10	4.28	3.34	Creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Aug.	129125	136870	117265	129994
Market milk.....\$	Sept. 15	3.50	3.35	4.90	3.61	American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Aug.	86935	96950	87300	81142
Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>4</sup> .....cts.	Sept. 15	69	67	85	66.2	Evaporated whole milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Aug.	273750	312500	360100	299917
Farm price of butter <sup>4</sup> .....cts.	Sept. 15	62	63	79	60.2	Dried skim milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Aug.	76400	89900	52515	50930
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound						Human food.....lbs.	Aug.	1775	1935	1100	1708
American <sup>5</sup> (twins).....cts.	Sept.	30.8	30.8	40.9	32.4	All other feed.....lbs.	Aug.	33116	36632	31043	32836
Swiss.....cts.	Sept.	38.0	37.0	44.6	41.7	Cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Sept.	15865	19268	14447	17393
Brick.....cts.	Sept.	32.9	32.3	45.3	32.7	<b>Cold-Storage Holdings<sup>11</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Total milk production <sup>2</sup> , (000,000 omitted).....lbs.	Sept.	1143	1304	1070	10317	Creamery butter.....lbs.	Oct. 1	153001	153855	93850	114971
Cows in herd freshening <sup>3</sup> .....%	Sept.	8.29	4.35	7.58	7.02	American cheese.....lbs.	Oct. 1	186206	183208	182449	169047
Calves born during month being raised <sup>3</sup> .....%	Sept.	39.47	35.57	38.60	34.74	Swiss cheese.....lbs.	Oct. 1	3646	3226	4688	2504
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow <sup>3</sup> .....lbs.	Sept.	115	111	128	97.4	All other cheese.....lbs.	Oct. 1	21149	23977	25145	23835
Grains and concentrates fed daily <sup>3</sup>						All varieties of cheese.....lbs.	Oct. 1	211001	210411	212282	195386
Per farm.....lbs.	Oct. 1	69.9	60.7	76.8	58.4	Total frozen poultry.....cases	Oct. 1	130044	83466	108368	168731
Per cow in herd.....lbs.	Oct. 1	4.09	3.58	4.58	3.38	Eggs, shell.....cases	Oct. 1	818	1426	3290	4197
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced.....lbs.	Oct. 1	23.56	18.25	27.88	20.81	Eggs, shell, frozen, and dried, (case equivalent).....cases	Oct. 1	11100	12231	11374	14483
Wisconsin creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Aug.	13525	14760	7870	9675	<b>Poultry Production<sup>10</sup></b>					
Wisconsin American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Aug.	38620	42960	35000	35211	Layers on hand in month, (000 omitted).....no.	Sept.	308845	286329	305070	325773
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Sept.	5075	5777	1752	2849	Eggs per 100 layers.....no.	Sept.	1158	1346	1153	1043
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted).....lbs.	Sept.	10446	12094	10129	11294	Total eggs produced, (000,000 omitted).....no.	Sept.	3576	3853	3516	3395
<b>Poultry Production<sup>13</sup></b>						<b>Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk<sup>10</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.).....no.	Sept.	12110	11780	12984	12647	Dried whole milk.....lbs.	Aug. 31	17808	19059	29613	19557
Eggs per 100 layers.....no.	Sept.	1176	1445	1185	1121	Dried skim milk.....lbs.	Aug. 31	98633	99781	99340	63591
Total eggs produced, (000,000 om.).....no.	Sept.	142	170	154	142	Dried buttermilk.....lbs.	Aug. 31	7128	8474	6234	6194
<b>Feed Price Changes<sup>2</sup></b>						Condensed milk (case goods).....lbs.	Aug. 31	8559	11778	14275	11452
Index of feed prices, 1910-14=100.....%	Sept.	188.7	189.8	237.6	214.4	Evaporated milk (case goods).....lbs.	Aug. 31	477812	454397	513665	309598
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration.....%	Sept.	23.85	23.36	26.79	25.90	<b>Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection<sup>14</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>					
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy.....lbs.	Sept.	134.2	132.7	161.6	127.0	Cattle.....no.	Sept.	1224	1232	1178	1123
Wisconsin by-product feed cost per ton f.o.b. Madison						Calves.....no.	Sept.	552	549	599	620
Standard bran.....\$	Sept.	44.75	43.50	45.65	47.42	Sheep and lambs.....no.	Sept.	1180	1126	1464	1577
Linseed oil meal.....\$	Sept.	66.90	67.40	68.80	59.85	Hogs.....no.	Sept.	3879	3417	2836	2333
Corn gluten feed.....\$	Sept.	54.75	57.00	58.25	52.12	<b>Business and Industry</b>					
Tankage.....\$	Sept.	135.50	153.20	107.40	88.83	Wholesale prices <sup>12</sup> , 1910-14=100					
Standard middlings.....\$	Sept.	49.40	46.50	53.40	49.46	All commodities.....%	Sept.	225	222	247	172.8
Soybean meal.....\$	Sept.	86.15	103.30	84.50	67.62	Foods.....%	Sept.	258	250	294	193.8
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration.....\$	Sept.	26.55	27.23	32.50	27.98	Retail prices <sup>12</sup> , 1910-14=100					
Amount of ration 10 doz. eggs would buy.....lbs.	Sept.	198.5	176.6	147.7	152.6	All commodities.....%	Aug.	245	244	253	198.0
<b>Farm Product Prices<sup>5</sup></b>						Foods.....%	Aug.	261	260	280	202
Milk cows, per head.....\$	Sept. 15	210	205	245	148.40	Total personal income <sup>14</sup> .....%	Aug.	302.6	300.0	308.2	264.2
Hogs, per cwt.....\$	Sept. 15	19.90	20.00	26.50	17.08	Total non-agricultural income <sup>14</sup> .....%	Aug.	305.9	303.5	305.7	264.2
Beef cattle, per cwt.....\$	Sept. 15	18.00	17.00	20.20	11.44	Total agricultural income <sup>14</sup> .....%	Aug.	273.2	268.1	329.6	264.8
Veal calves, per cwt.....\$	Sept. 15	24.20	22.80	26.50	15.20	Factory employment (adjusted) <sup>14</sup> .....%					
Sheep, per cwt.....\$	Sept. 15	7.10	8.70	9.50	6.27	No. of employees, 1939=100.....%	July	144.6	145.3	159.8	161.3
Lambs, per cwt.....\$	Sept. 15	20.90	19.40	22.70	14.90	Industrial production (adjusted) <sup>14</sup> .....%					
Wool, per lb.....\$	Sept. 15	.43	.43	.45	.45	1935-39=100.....%	July	162	169	186	205.6
Chickens, per lb.....cts.	Sept. 15	24.0	25.6	32.4	24.7	Freight-car loadings (adjusted) <sup>14</sup> , 1935-39=100.....%	July	110	115	138	139
Eggs, per doz.....cts.	Sept. 15	52.7	48.1	48.0	41.0	<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service. <sup>3</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>4</sup> Based on Wisconsin price reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>5</sup> As reported by Wisconsin price reporters. <sup>6</sup> Subsidy of 3.75 cts. included from December 1942 to January 1946. <sup>7</sup> 10-year average. <sup>8</sup> Based on Wisconsin dairy reporters' data. <sup>9</sup> 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 the month. <sup>10</sup> Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A. <sup>11</sup> Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A. <sup>12</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. <sup>13</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics converted to 1910-14 base. <sup>14</sup> U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1935-39=100. <sup>15</sup> Federal Reserve Board.					

price controls were eliminated in October just three years ago. **United States Farm Prices** The index of prices received by farmers in the month ended September 15 rose for the first time since

March 15. The index is now 249, up less than 2 percent from August 15, but 14 percent under a year ago. Higher prices for beef cattle and hogs contributed most to the upturn in the index of prices received. Truck

crops, poultry and eggs, and dairy products were also higher than a month earlier. Soybeans, potatoes, rice, dry beans, and fruit were the commodities showing the sharpest decreases this month.

### Wisconsin Crop Variety Survey

Newer crop varieties are gaining in popularity with Wisconsin farmers, according to a survey made jointly by Smith-Hughes Vocational Agriculture teachers and their students with the Crop Reporting Service of the Wisconsin and United States Departments of Agriculture. Many changes and trends in leading varieties of farm crops are shown by this survey of plantings in 1949.

### Oat Varieties

Four years ago the Vicland variety of oats predominated in Wisconsin by a wide margin, but it has now dropped to second place. The Clinton oat variety now is the most popular oat variety by almost as wide a margin as that formerly held by Vicland. Clinton and Vicland varieties together still accounted for two-thirds of the 1949 oat acreage. Clinton was most concentrated in the southern and southwestern counties.

Several other varieties of oats are increasing in popularity and generally have given a satisfactory yield performance in 1949. The Bonda variety ranked third in the survey and was reported about half as common as Vicland. In the growing list of improved oat varieties now available a number of relative new-comers are becoming more widely distributed. The Ajax and Forvic varieties ranked fourth and fifth, respectively, in the survey and together they accounted for about one-eighth of the oats acreage reported.

A large number of different oat varieties are still grown in this state especially in the northern counties. In addition to the five leading varieties indicated in the survey there were 42 others reported. While each of these varieties individually was relatively insignificant in the totals, collectively they added to 12 percent of the acreage. Nine varieties were reported in the Kherson group but less than 2 percent of the oat acreage was reported in these varieties. The mid-season variety group made up 10 percent of the oat acreage reported with 14 different varieties named. Ajax was by far more frequently given as the most common variety in this group but Vanguard, Beaver, Eaton and Spooner ranked below Ajax. Minda and Benton led in the Bond variety group exclusive of Bonda and made up about 3 percent of the oats acreage reported. Of the 13 varieties

reported in the miscellaneous early group varieties, Gopher and Marion stood out in popularity above the others in this classification.

### Wisconsin Oat Varieties by Percent of total Acreage<sup>1</sup>

Variety	State	Northern Counties	Central Counties	Southern Counties
Clinton.....	47	28	43	61
Vicland.....	19	17	18	19
Bonda.....	9	11	10	8
Ajax.....	7	14	8	3
Forvic.....	6	8	7	4
Others (42 Varieties) ..	12	22	14	5
	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>1</sup>As reported in Smith-Hughes Vocational Agricultural Students Survey.

### Barley Varieties

Wisconsin 38 is still the leading all-purpose barley variety in the state according to the survey although its leadership has been reduced since 1946. Three years ago Wisconsin 38 accounted for 69 percent of the barley but in the recent 1949 survey only 51 percent. Wisconsin 38 has maintained its favor with growers better in the central and southern parts of the state. In the northern counties more emphasis has been put on the Oderbrucker variety. The popularity of the Manchuria variety has also been gaining in some parts of the state but still accounted for only about 4 percent of the 1949 acreage reported in the survey and this compares with 1 percent of the state total in 1946.

The process of proving, introducing, and distributing to farmers new and improved barley varieties has been tremendously advanced in recent years. The Moore barley variety is a good example of these better methods. Since its introduction a short time ago it has become widely distributed and gained popularity among farmers in all parts of the state. It ranked third in the list of varieties reported in the survey and appears destined to become one of the leading varieties in the state. There are still a fair number of miscellaneous barley varieties grown and their acreage in the aggregate is rather large although no one particular variety prevails. The Artic (OAC 21) has declined from 8 percent of the acreage in the 1946 survey to a little more than 1 percent in the present survey.

### Wisconsin Barley Varieties by Percent of Total Acreage<sup>1</sup>

Variety	State	Northern Counties	Central Counties	Southern Counties
Wisconsin 38.....	51	20	57	48
Oderbrucker.....	17	62	10	16
Manchuria.....	4	1	5	3
Moore.....	10	11	10	12
Other (10 Varieties)	18	6	18	21
	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>1</sup>As reported in Smith-Hughes Vocational Agricultural Students Survey.

### Wheat Varieties

Since their introduction the varieties of Henry spring wheat and Blackhawk winter wheat have increased to predominate in the state's wheat acreage in 1949. Henry accounted for three-fourths of all the wheat acreage reported in the 1949 survey. Its superiority in yielding ability has made it very popular with wheat growers. Thatcher seems to be the only other spring wheat variety in this state with much of a following but it accounted for only 3 percent of the total wheat acreage reported in the survey. Other minor varieties of spring wheat reported made up 4 percent of the total acreage and included 11 different varieties. Older spring wheat varieties such as Marquis seem to have largely disappeared from Wisconsin farms.

In the case of winter wheat, Blackhawk was by far the leading variety, although several more recent introductions were mentioned. Minturkey was reported occasionally but does not appear to be as common as formerly.

### Wisconsin Wheat Varieties by Percent of Total Acreage<sup>1</sup>

Variety	State	Northern Counties	Central Counties	Southern Counties
Henry (Spring)....	75	64	78	76
Blackhawk (Winter).....	17	24	16	15
Thatcher (Spring)	3	1	1	5
Other Spring (11 Varieties)....	4	10	4	1
Other Winter (5 Varieties)....	1	1	1	3
	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>1</sup>As reported in Smith-Hughes Vocational Agricultural Students Survey.

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# WISCONSIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

Walter H. Ebbing,

Chief, Caparoon,

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Agricultural Statisticians

Vol. XXVIII, No. 111

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

November 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### November Crop Report

Feed supplies are better than last year with the record corn crop produced in Wisconsin. Weather conditions were good for late fall harvesting but in some areas it was too dry for plowing and for fall-sown grains. The nation had a good crop year although production was a little below 1948.

#### Milk Production

October milk production in Wisconsin was above a year ago. The nation's milk production was the second highest on record for October.

#### Egg Production

Egg production per layer in Wisconsin was a record for October. There are fewer layers on farms than many years ago but a larger than average number. The total egg production for the nation was also a record for October and 77 percent above last year.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers in October were slightly less than the previous month and the index showed a drop of 15 percent from October 1948. For the nation, prices received by farmers in October were 12 percent below a year earlier.

#### Farm Wage Rates

Wisconsin farmers are now paying wages of 30 hired help averaging 99 percent below the level reported last fall.

#### Current Trends

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese were above the November 1 holdings of last year and larger than average for November 1. Stocks of dried, condensed and evaporated milk were smaller than on November 1 last year but much larger than average. October slaughter of cattle, calves and sheep was below a year earlier but hog slaughter was much larger this year.

#### Special News Items (Page 4)

Farm Weights  
Cattle and Lambs on Feed

WISCONSIN has had a warm, dry fall. This was favorable in the maturing and harvesting of late crops and for some field work. It was too dry for plowing in some areas and also dry for fall-sown grain. Recent rains have helped with fall plowing.

In spite of a shortage of moisture during much of the growing season Wisconsin has had a good crop year. Corn is making a new record production with an estimated yield of 50 bushels per acre and a total production for the state of nearly 130 million bushels. Feed grain crops were a little smaller than last year, while hay production was larger than a year ago but under average. Pastures were better in 1949 than in 1948.

Feed supplies for the coming feeding season are good. Much hay, grain, and corn was carried over in the country from the large crops of 1948 so that with fairly good production in 1949 feed supplies are good this fall.

Potato production for the country as a whole is about 13 percent smaller this year than last year, but in Wisconsin the crop is larger. With the dry fall the quality of the Wisconsin crop is good. Fruit production in the state is varied. The apple crop was large and the quality good, but crops of cherries and cranberries are smaller than last year. The state's important canning crops have had a good year, all of them making above average production. The greatest increases over last year are shown for lima beans, snap beans, beets, and canning peas.

#### United States Crops

For the country as a whole crop production is a little smaller than last year, but the season generally has been a good one. The corn crop for the nation is 8 percent under the record of 1948. Grain production is a little smaller and the hay crop is about as large as last year. Taking the country as a whole production is smaller for potatoes, soybeans, dry peas and peanuts, and larger for cotton, rice, tobacco, beans, and fruit crops.

#### Milk Production

Farmers in the United States produced 9,004 million pounds of milk during the month of October with Wisconsin dairy herds contributing 11,024 million pounds—11 percent of the total. The United States total was the second highest on record for this month, 3 percent above October 1948 and 4 percent above the 10-year average, 1938-47. Wisconsin's milk production was 4 percent above the production in October last year and 8

### Weather Summary, October 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches	
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	November 1949	Normal Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth	18	73	47.0	44.1	5.38	2.31 +3.75
Spooner	19	77	50.4	46.3	1.95	2.37 +0.16
Park Falls	24	74	48.1	44.2	1.87	2.66 -1.17
Rhinelander	23	74	49.2	44.6	2.67	2.77 -1.36
Wausau				47.2		
Marinette	22	78	52.9	50.9	1.41	2.66 -9.08
Escanaba	25	69	50.2	46.0	1.16	2.63 -1.28
Minneapolis	20	80	52.9	48.9	1.72	2.08 -1.68
Eau Claire	24	77	52.6	48.9	4.40	2.91 -1.85
La Crosse	27	80	55.4	50.3	0.91	2.32 -7.20
Hancock	18	82	53.4	48.4	1.06	2.49 -5.08
Oshkosh	22	87	54.5	49.6	1.13	2.25 -5.90
Green Bay	23	83	51.6	48.5	1.05	2.54 -4.41
Manitowoc	29	74	52.0	49.0	1.77	2.78 -9.88
Dubuque	26	86	56.0	51.9	1.87	2.48 -0.49
Madison	27	83	55.4	50.3	1.98	2.43 -1.33
Beloit	26	84	56.9	51.3	2.20	2.68 -5.64
Milwaukee	27	83	54.0	49.5	1.62	2.35 -4.76
Average for 18 Stations	23.5*	79.1*	52.5*	48.3	2.01*	2.53 -3.36*

\*Average for 17 stations.

percent higher than the 10-year average.

Throughout the country milking herds responded well to mild fall weather. Full utilization was made of late pastures and crop residues. In Wisconsin much less feed than usual was secured from pasture on November 1 but the feeding rate was at record levels with plentiful supplies and lower prices.

#### Egg Production

Egg production for the nation as a whole reached 3,749 million eggs during October—the largest October output on record. Last month's production was 7 percent above October last year and 16 percent higher than the 5-year, 1943-47, average for the month. There were about 2½ percent more layers on farms than a year ago but about 3 percent fewer than the 5-year average. Production per layer averaged 10.77 eggs during the month, the highest rate on record for October.

Egg markets were weak during the month but some stability was apparent at the close of the month. Farmers of the nation received an average of 51.4 cents per dozen on October 15 compared with 54.7 a year ago. The October 15 price was 1.1 cents below a month ago. Chicken prices to the farmer averaged 23.2 cents per pound compared with 29.9 cents a year ago. Wisconsin farmers received an average of 52.8 cents per dozen for eggs on October 15 compared with 54.9 cents a year ago. Chicken prices in

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for November 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage			Production					Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	November 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of			Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
							1948	10-year average				
Corn.....	2,596,000	2,545,000	102.0	129,800,000	113,252,000	101,106,000	114.6	128.4	Bu.	50.0	44.5	41.3
Potatoes.....	84,000	87,000	96.6	12,600,000	10,875,000	13,292,000	115.9	94.8	Bu.	150	125	88
Tobacco.....	18,700	19,900	94.0	28,154,000	28,738,000	33,653,000	98.0	83.7	Lb.	1506	1444	1465
Oats.....	2,924,000	2,867,000	102.0	119,884,000	126,148,000	103,365,000	95.0	116.0	Bu.	41.0	44.0	40.0
Barley.....	184,000	204,000	90.2	6,440,000	7,752,000	13,177,000	83.1	48.9	Bu.	35.0	38.0	32.9
Rye.....	92,000	92,000	100.0	1,288,000	1,104,000	1,705,000	116.7	75.5	Bu.	14.0	12.0	11.2
Winter wheat.....	27,000	31,000	87.1	608,000	698,000	728,000	87.1	83.5	Bu.	22.5	22.5	19.1
Spring wheat.....	78,000	92,000	84.8	1,755,000	2,208,000	965,000	79.5	181.9	Bu.	22.5	24.0	20.5
Buckwheat.....	20,000	16,000	125.0	320,000	240,000	254,000	133.3	126.0	Bu.	16.0	15.0	15.0
All tame hay.....	3,841,000	3,918,000	98.0	6,224,000	5,371,000	6,788,000	115.9	91.7	Ton	1.62	1.37	1.73
Alfalfa hay.....	1,369,000	1,053,000	130.0	3,149,000	1,948,000	2,286,000	161.7	137.8	Ton	2.30	1.85	2.18
Clover and timoth hay.....	2,223,000	2,646,000	84.0	2,779,000	3,175,000	4,061,000	87.5	68.4	Ton	1.25	1.20	1.56
Other tame hay.....	249,000	219,000	113.7	296,000	248,000	441,000	119.4	67.1	Ton	1.19	1.13	1.47
Wild hay.....	130,000	130,000	100.0	130,000	130,000	158,000	100.0	82.3	Ton	1.00	1.00	1.19
Flax.....	19,000	22,000	86.4	247,000	275,000	104,000	89.8	237.5	Bu.	13.0	12.5	11.2
Sugar beets.....	10,000	6,800	147.1	100,000	59,600	154,200	167.8	64.9	Ton	10.0	8.8	10.1
Peas for canning.....	119,800	117,100	102.3	244,400,000	168,620,000	241,120,000	144.9	101.4	Lb.	2040	1440	1860
Corn for canning.....	97,600	99,700	97.9	263,500	229,300	149,410	114.9	176.4	Ton	2.7	2.3	2.3
Lima beans for canning.....	7,500	4,900	153.1	12,980,000	5,840,000	3,340,000	222.3	388.6	Lb.	1730	1190	1230
Snap beans for canning.....	13,400	9,700	138.1	20,100	13,600	13,710	147.8	146.6	Ton	1.5	1.4	1.4
Beets for canning.....	7,000	5,900	118.6	61,600	41,300	36,580	149.2	168.4	Ton	8.8	7.0	7.8
Cucumbers for pickles.....	22,700	20,400	111.3	2,043,000	1,714,000	1,159,000	119.2	176.3	Bu.	90	84	79
Cabbage.....	13,800	13,800	100.0	141,800	135,600	122,400	104.6	115.8	Ton	10.3	9.8	9.0
Onions, commercial.....	2,100	1,900	110.5	409,500	408,500	336,000	100.2	121.9	Cwt.	195	215	197.5
Apples, commercial.....				724,000	642,000	704,000	112.8	102.8	Bu.			
Cherries.....				11,100	25,000	10,730	44.4	103.4	Ton			
Cranberries.....				190,000	238,000	110,400	79.8	172.1	Bbl.			
Pasture.....										67 <sup>1</sup>	43 <sup>1</sup>	77 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>November 1 condition.

Wisconsin were 23½ cents on October 15 compared with 30.2 cents a year ago.

During the past several months Wisconsin hens have been producing at a lower rate per layer than the corresponding month last year. However, during October layers made a sharp recovery and a new high October average of 10.88 eggs per layer was reported. There were 3 percent fewer layers on Wisconsin farms during the month but the higher rate of production more than offset the reduction in layer numbers. The October egg production was 156 million, establishing a new record for the month.

Wisconsin Farm Prices

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers on October 15 was 260 percent of the 1910-14 average. Preliminary indications of somewhat higher returns for milk were not sufficient to offset the declines in grain, livestock, and fruit prices. The October level of the prices received index was 1 percent below September, the previous month, and 15 percent below October a year ago.

Compared with last October, corn prices were off 29 percent, hog prices were down 30 percent, beef prices dropped 2 percent, and milk prices declined 17 percent. Chicken prices this October were 22 percent less than October 1948, turkeys 11 percent lower, and eggs were down 4 percent.

October hay prices were 24 percent below the averages for the month a year ago.

United States Farm Prices

Sharply lower prices for hogs, truck crops, cotton, and corn lowered the index of prices received by farmers 2.4 percent during the month ended October 15 to 243 percent of the August 1909-July 1914 base.

The past month's decline in the prices received index, now 12 percent less than a year ago, was the largest since February of this year. Cotton was bringing the lowest price since June 1946, and hogs were selling at the lowest level since September 1946. The all-crop index at 206 is the lowest since November 1945.

Crop Summary of the United States for November 1, 1949

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Production (000 omitted)					Unit	Yield per acre		
	1949 (Preliminary)	1948	1949 as a percent of 1948	November 1, 1949 forecast	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 as a percent of			Indicated 1949	1948	10-year average 1938-47
							1948	10-year average				
Corn.....	85,780	85,439	100.4	3,357,618	3,650,548	2,787,628	92.0	120.4	Bu.	39.1	42.7	31.4
Potatoes.....	1,898	2,099	90.4	386,832	445,850	393,403	86.8	98.3	Bu.	203.8	212.4	145.5
Tobacco.....	1,626	1,555	104.6	2,004,358	1,981,730	1,718,375	101.1	116.6	Lb.	1233	1275	1033
Oats.....	40,619	40,191	101.0	1,321,075	1,491,752	1,234,082	88.6	107.0	Bu.	32.5	37.1	32.1
Barley.....	10,019	12,046	83.2	234,025	317,037	304,741	73.8	76.8	Bu.	23.4	26.3	24.0
Rye.....	1,586	2,097	75.6	18,831	26,388	35,109	71.4	53.6	Bu.	11.9	12.6	12.1
Winter wheat.....	55,687	52,859	105.4	894,874	990,098	726,553	90.4	123.2	Bu.	16.1	18.7	17.0
Durum wheat.....	3,528	3,187	110.7	38,996	44,742	36,256	87.2	107.6	Bu.	11.1	14.0	14.5
Spring wheat other than durum.....	16,266	15,858	102.6	192,356	253,566	229,141	75.9	83.9	Bu.	11.8	16.0	15.5
Flax.....	4,694	4,737	99.1	41,153	52,533	30,102	78.3	136.7	Bu.	8.8	11.1	9.2
Buckwheat.....	278	337	82.5	5,240	6,324	7,075	82.9	74.1	Bu.	18.8	18.8	16.7
Tame hay.....	58,329	58,669	99.4	86,780	86,998	87,684	99.7	99.0	Ton	1.49	1.48	1.45
Wild hay.....	15,031	14,947	100.6	12,339	12,848	11,855	96.0	104.1	Ton	.82	.86	.89
Pasture.....										81 <sup>1</sup>	70 <sup>1</sup>	73 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>November 1 condition.



from the spring level, and a further drop is shown in the fall reports from crop correspondents. From 1939 through 1948 farm wages rose steadily, and the decline this year is the first in 10 years. The down trend in wages paid by farmers this year has been brought about by a larger labor supply, the increased use of farm machinery, and the lower level of farm income. Compared with October of last year, the prices of farm products as a whole have declined 15 percent while October wage rates show a decrease of only 9 percent from a year ago.

Farm workers this fall averaged \$102 per month with board and room, and the wages by the month with a house furnished averaged \$129 on farms of crop reporters. A year ago wage rates averaged \$111 with board and room and \$146 per month with a house furnished. Day wage rates show a similar decline with the average wages by the day with board and room furnished now at \$4.95 or 65 cents less than a year ago, and wages without board and room at \$6.20 or 40 cents less per day than last fall. Hourly wages averaged 80 cents, which is 7 cents less than a year ago.

Beginning with 1950 the trend in wage rates will be included in the national computations of parity prices in accordance with the latest congressional farm legislation.

#### Cattle and Lambs On Feed

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into Wisconsin from July through October increased 63 percent over the same period last year, and for the Corn Belt as a whole the increase was 48 percent.

The movement of cattle into the Corn Belt during October was exceptionally large. In part of the Corn Belt a considerable amount of corn is on the ground as a result of corn borer and disease damage and the effects of a severe wind storm early in October. This situation has created a demand for feeder cattle to glean the fields, but there is a question as to whether these cattle will go directly to the feed lots from the corn fields or will be roughed through the winter to be grain fed later. The answer depends upon cattle prices.

A smaller number of sheep and lambs will be fed for the coming winter and spring market. Slaughter of

lambs during the period August through October was below last year but not small enough to increase the supply of feeder lambs available from the 1949 crop. Shipments of sheep and lambs into the Corn Belt during the period July through October were about a fifth larger than the record low number shipped during the same months last year. About double the number of sheep and lambs were shipped into Wisconsin during the four months compared with July through October of last year. While shipments have been increased many farmers are holding the ewe lambs for breeding purposes and not for feeder lambs.

#### Farm Well Depths

Farm wells in Wisconsin average about 100 feet in depth. Individual farmers reporting to the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service gave the depth of wells on their farms as 96 feet. These same farmers reported the average depth of wells in their locality as about 102 feet.

Depths differ greatly throughout the state, depending primarily upon the nature and position of the underlying bedrock. In the northern part of the state glacial deposits of varying thickness overlay hard crystalline rock. Central Wisconsin is underlain with sandstone which is very porous and therefore is a good water-bearing rock. Eastern Wisconsin has alternate limestone and sandstone layers covered with glacial deposits; much of western Wisconsin has the same alternating limestone and sandstone strata but with no glacial cover.

Well depths also vary greatly with the site of the farm. Farms in valley bottoms seldom have wells as deep as adjoining farms on the ridge tops, especially if the valley is underlain with sandstone. Where glacial deposits occur, the type and age of deposit and the drainage pattern of the area may have much to do with well depths.

The deepest wells were reported in the most rugged portions of the state. In the southwestern portion of the state the average was 128 feet on the individual farms, with very deep wells—about 200 feet—reported in Crawford and Vernon counties where some of the farms are located on high, broad limestone ridges. For the locality, southwestern farmers reported the average of 153 feet. Deep

wells were also characteristic of the west district, averaging 120 feet on the farms reporting and 13 feet deeper in the locality. Pepin, Pierce, and St. Croix counties reported the deepest wells in that region.

Shallow wells were most common on farms in north-central and central Wisconsin. In the north-central areas where wells are sunk in the glacial drift the average depth reported on the farm was 56 feet while the average for their region was about 70 feet. Central Wisconsin farmers reported 66 feet on their farm and 65 feet in their vicinity.

There was not much difference in well depths in the eastern and south-eastern parts of the state. Farmers in the eastern counties reported an average of 111 feet for their farms and 108 in their locality. In south-eastern Wisconsin the average is 110 for the farms reporting and 114 feet in their neighborhood. The southern district reports were 103 feet for the farms reporting and 104 for wells in the vicinity.

Wells in northwestern Wisconsin averaged 85 feet on the farms of the farmers reporting and 90 feet for their neighbors. Reports from north-eastern Wisconsin showed an average depth of 73 feet on the individual farms and 79 as the average for all farms in the region.

#### New Publications

##### 1. "Wisconsin Dairying"

A monthly publication designed to give current information on production, prices, and markets for the state's dairy industry.

##### 2. "Wisconsin Hog Production and Marketing"

Bulletin No. 295 deals with the production and marketing of hogs in Wisconsin and is a summary of the latest research on this subject.

##### 3. "Crop and Market Reports"

Bulletin No. 296 is a summary of the status and development of the field of crop and market reports and a selected reading list.

Copies of these publications may be had free upon request to the Crop Reporting Service, Box 351, Madison 1, Wisconsin.

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## Federal—State Crop Reporting Service

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Agricultural Statisticians

Vol. XXVIII, No. 12

State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin

December 1949

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### The 1949 Crop Report

Wisconsin had another good crop year in 1949. A record corn crop was harvested, cash crops did well, and feed supplies for this winter are good.

#### Winter Wheat and Rye Plantings

Acres of winter wheat and rye planted in the fall of 1949 on Wisconsin farms were about the same as estimated for the fall of 1948. For the United States, the winter wheat acreage is 15 percent below 1948 and an increase of 12 percent is shown for rye.

#### Milk Production

November milk production on Wisconsin farms was the second-highest on record for the month. A record November milk production is reported for the nation.

#### Egg Production

Egg production during November for the nation as well as Wisconsin were records for the month. Both the number of layers and the number of eggs produced per layer reached an all-time high for November.

#### Current Trends

Stocks of butter and cheese in cold-storage are above a year ago and average. Hog slaughter was the highest for November since 1943, but the slaughter of cattle, calves, and sheep and lambs during November was below a year earlier and the November average.

#### Prices Farmers Receive and Pay

The index of prices received by farmers in Wisconsin was 259 percent of the 1910-14 average on November 15. For the same date the index of prices paid by farmers was 250 percent of the 1910-14 average. Purchasing power of the farm dollar declined during the month.

#### Special News Items (Page 4)

1949 Pig Crops

Number of Sows to Farrow Next Spring

List of 1949 Special Items

THE DECEMBER crop report for Wisconsin shows that the state has had a year of good production. Acreage changes during the past season varied greatly. More corn and oats were grown, but less of most of the other grains. For the first time since 1945 the spring wheat acreage declined, and also the acreage of barley.

A smaller acreage of hay was grown in Wisconsin during the past year than usual. A sharp drop of more than 600,000 acres took place in clover and timothy hay, but this was largely made up by an increase of more than a half-million acres in alfalfa. The alfalfa acreage is at a new high and an unusually large portion of our total tame hay is now alfalfa. There were also increases in some of the minor hay crops such as grains cut green, millet and Sudan, and soybean hay, but altogether the tame hay acreage in the state was about 1 percent smaller in 1949 than in 1948.

The 1949 crop season began under favorable conditions. Vegetation emerged from the winter with small losses from winterkilling and planting of spring-sown crops, including corn, was done early and under good field conditions. In the late spring and early summer, however, rainfall was short. July was a month of good rainfall, but after that the season again was dry. Fortunately, the temperatures were not unusually high during much of this time with the result that crops made good growth even though the rainfall was somewhat short.

Corn production for Wisconsin in 1949 was a new record of nearly 130 million bushels with an average yield of 50 bushels per acre for the state, which is the highest so far recorded. The production of oats on the other hand was smaller in 1949 than in 1948, the yield being only 41 bushels per acre, which is 3 bushels less than in the previous year. Yields of barley and spring wheat were also lower in 1949 than in 1948. Hay production, while under average, was larger than in 1948 and with the high proportion of alfalfa the quality of the hay was better than in the previous year.

Cash crops generally had a good year in Wisconsin. Potatoes yielded exceptionally well so that the production was larger than in 1948 even though the acreage was smaller. In the tobacco crop yields were somewhat lower in 1949, but with an increase in acreage the production was higher than in 1948. Of the various commercial vegetables which are important in some Wisconsin counties, both for canning and for market, all showed large production. An increase

### Weather Summary, November 1949

Station	Temperature Degrees Fahrenheit				Precipitation Inches		
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Normal	November 1949	Normal	Accumulative excess or deficiency since January 1
Duluth.....	12	66	32.6	30.0	1.30	1.45	+3.60
Spooner.....	2	68	33.3	30.9	1.04	1.38	-0.18
Park Falls..	9	67	31.3	28.9	2.82	1.86	-0.21
Rhineland..	9	65	31.0	29.8	1.33	1.72	-1.75
Wausau.....				32.2		1.72	
Marinette..	9	68	35.4	36.7	1.47	2.34	-9.95
Escanaba... 15	62	34.4	33.1	1.94	2.13	-1.47	
Minneapolis 18	67	37.2	32.4	0.42	1.27	-2.53	
Eau Claire.. 16	73	36.5	33.1	0.57	1.82	-3.10	
La Crosse... 17	76	39.1	35.2	0.66	1.56	-8.10	
Hancock.... 1	69	34.6	33.5	1.54	1.64	-5.18	
Oshkosh.... 10	70	35.9	35.0	0.79	1.89	-7.00	
Green Bay.. 10	68	33.6	34.0	1.50	2.16	-5.07	
Manitowoc.. 17	67	37.5	36.3	1.54	2.17	-10.51	
Dubuque... 16	72	40.7	37.0	0.83	1.70	-1.36	
Madison.... 13	71	38.3	35.2	0.82	1.78	-2.29	
Beloit..... 10	71	40.2	37.3	1.25	1.99	-6.38	
Milwaukee.. 10	68	38.2	35.9	0.62	1.77	-5.91	
Average for 18 Stations	11.4*	68.7*	35.9*	33.7	1.20*	1.80	-3.96*

\*Average for 17 stations.

of 44 percent occurred in the production of sweet corn for canning, 39 percent in peas for canning, and the production of green lima beans for canning in 1949 was more than twice that of 1948. Of the commercial vegetable crops, only tomatoes made smaller production during the past year than in 1948. The output of the different fruit crops varied considerably. The commercial apple crop was above average and 13 percent larger than in 1948. The cranberry crop was considerably smaller than the big crop of 1948. The production of cherries was also light compared with the big crop harvested in 1948.

### The Season's Greetings

Loyalty and cooperation on the part of many reporters and friends interested in Wisconsin agriculture have made this publication possible during the past year. We greatly appreciate this help in furnishing our readers with current information on the progress of the state's agriculture, and we wish our reporters and other friends the best wishes for the holiday season.

The Wisconsin Crop Reporting Office



## Summary of Wisconsin Crop Acreage, Production, Prices, and Values, 1948 and 1949

Crop	Acreage (000 omitted)			Yield per Acre			Production (000 omitted)			Unit	Farm Price		Value of Production (000 omitted)	
	1949 (Prelim- inary)	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 (Prelim- inary)	1948	10-year average 1938-47	1949 (Prelim- inary)	1948	10-year average 1938-47		1949 (Prelim- inary)	1948	1949 (Prelim- inary)	1948
	<b>CEREALS</b>													
Corn.....	2,596	2,545	2,443	50.0	44.5	41.3	129,800	113,252	101,106	Bu.	1.15	1.25	149,270	141,565
Oats.....	2,924	2,867	2,555	41.0	44.0	40.0	119,884	126,148	103,365	Bu.	.65	.74	77,925	93,350
Barley.....	188	204	413	34.0	38.0	32.9	6,392	7,752	13,177	Bu.	1.35	1.43	8,629	11,085
Rye.....	92	92	147	13.0	12.0	11.2	1,196	1,104	1,705	Bu.	1.25	1.49	1,495	1,645
Spring wheat.....	85	92	46	22.5	24.0	20.5	1,912	2,208	965	Bu.	1.90	2.04	3,633	4,504
Winter wheat.....	27	31	39	22.5	22.5	19.1	608	698	728	Bu.	1.90	2.03	1,155	1,417
Buckwheat.....	15	16	17	15.5	15.0	15.0	232	240	254	Bu.	.95	1.12	220	269
<b>OTHER GRAINS AND SEEDS</b>														
Soybeans for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	15	15	34	16.5	13.0	14.5	248	195	479	Bu.	2.15	2.20	533	429
Flax.....	17	22	9	13.0	12.5	11.2	221	275	104	Bu.	3.55	5.65	785	1,554
Red clover seed.....	79 <sup>2</sup>	158 <sup>2</sup>	176.4 <sup>2</sup>	.90	.75	.85	71	118	144.7	Bu.	24.20	26.80	1,718	3,162
Sweet clover seed.....	6.5 <sup>2</sup>	6.5 <sup>2</sup>	5.01 <sup>2</sup>	3.00	2.70	2.89	19.5	17.6	14.43	Bu.	8.90	9.00	174	158
Timothy seed.....	5	4.6	14.5	2.60	2.50	3.35	13	11.5	49.9	Bu.	9.70	5.60	126	64
Alfalfa seed.....	28 <sup>2</sup>	22 <sup>2</sup>	26.82 <sup>2</sup>	1.40	1.00	.94	39	22	25.35	Bu.	25.60	31.50	998	693
Alsike seed.....	18	20	16.7	2.50	2.60	2.39	45	52	39.6	Bu.	17.50	18.80	788	978
<b>HAY AND FORAGE</b>														
All tame.....	3,829	3,855	3,933	1.61	1.38	1.73	6,178	5,328	6,788	Ton	21.50	27.20	135,192	148,458
Alfalfa.....	1,653	1,102	1,047	2.15	1.85	2.18	3,554	2,039	2,286	Ton				
All clover and timothy.....	1,900	2,534	2,586	1.20	1.20	1.56	2,280	3,041	4,061	Ton				
Annual legume.....	31	20	76	1.60	1.40	1.75	50	28	137	Ton				
Grain cut green.....	45	20	54	1.20	1.15	1.28	54	23	70	Ton				
Millet, Sudan, and other hay.....	200	179	170	1.20	1.10	1.38	240	197	234	Ton				
Wild hay.....	105 <sup>2</sup>	130 <sup>2</sup>	134 <sup>2</sup>	1.05	1.00	1.19	110	130	158	Ton				
<b>OTHER FIELD CROPS</b>														
Potatoes.....	80	87	153	170	150	88	13,600	13,050	13,292	Bu.	1.45	1.57	19,720	20,488
Tobacco.....	20.1	19.9	22.98	1,506	1,444	1,465	30,266	28,738	33,653	Lb.	.216	.228	6,532	6,555
Cabbage for market.....	9.3	9.5	8.88	10.1	9.7	9.2	94	92.2	81.3 <sup>3</sup>	Ton	20.72	17.69	1,948	1,631
Cabbage, kraut.....	4.5	4.3	4.73	10.0	10.1	8.6	45	43.4	41.2	Ton	11.50	12.50	518	542
Onions, commercial.....	2.1	1.9	1.69	200	215	197.5	420	408.5	336	Cwt.	3.60	2.20	1,512	899
Hemp.....	4.5	2.8	8.14	1,100	905	954	4,950	2,534	8,230	Lb.	.103	.103	510	261
Sorgho sirup.....	1	1	1	95	80	69 <sup>4</sup>	95	80	70	Gal.	2.50	2.50	238	200
Sugar beets.....	9	6.8	15.31	10.0	8.8	10.1	90	59.6	154.23	Ton	10.00	9.90	900	590
Cucumbers for pickles.....	22.7	20.4	14.44	90	84	79	2,043	1,714	1,159	Bu.	1.45	1.65	2,962	2,828
Peas, canning.....	115.4	117.1	127.85	2,030	1,440	1,860	234,260	168,620	241,120	Lb.	.0396	.0457	9,288	7,706
Corn, canning.....	99.8	99.7	64.76	3.3	2.3	2.3	329.3	229.3	149.41	Ton	19.70	23.60	6,487	5,411
Snapbeans for canning.....	12.1	9.7	9.86	1.7	1.4	1.4	20.6	13.6	13.71	Ton	110.30	122.50	2,272	1,666
Beets, canning.....	7.6	5.9	4.48	8.1	7.0	7.8	61.6	41.3	36.58	Ton	17.70	18.90	1,090	781
Green lima beans, canning.....	7.7	4.9	2.7	1,790	1,190	1,230	13,780	5,840	3,340	Lb.	.0698	.0707	961	413
Tomatoes, canning.....	1.3	1.3	1.85	4.8	7.1	5.3	6.2	9.2	9.7	Ton	23.00	26.60	143	245
<b>FRUIT</b>														
Apples, commercial.....							724 <sup>5</sup>	642	704	Bu.	1.35	2.50	830	1,605
Cherries.....							11.1	25	10.73	Ton	180.00	159.00	1,998	3,975
Cranberries.....	3.1	2.8	2.83	67.7	85.0	38.9	210	238	110.4	Bbl.	9.00	10.90	1,890	2,594
Maple sugar.....	277 <sup>5</sup>	227 <sup>5</sup>	297 <sup>5</sup>						2	Lb.			292	240
Maple sirup.....							59	48	62	Gal.	4.95	5.00	292	240
Strawberries.....	2.3	2.3	2.04	75	80	83	172	184	169	Crt. <sup>6</sup>	7.85	8.50	1,350	1,564
Grand Total.....	10,213.5	10,160.9	10,113.74										444,082	469,525

<sup>1</sup>Not included in acreage grown for hay. <sup>2</sup>Not included in total acreage. <sup>3</sup>Includes some quantities not marketed. <sup>4</sup>Short-time acreage. <sup>5</sup>Trees tapped. <sup>6</sup>24-quarts.

Feed supplies on farms are good this winter. With considerable carry-over from 1948 production and the record corn crop, as well as a good supply of high-quality hay, the state's feeding situation is improved. The total supply of feed grains, excluding corn, is smaller than a year ago, but with larger supplies of hay and corn it is believed that the feed supplies are generally adequate.

#### Winter Wheat and Rye

The plantings of winter grain in Wisconsin this fall are about the same as those reported last fall. For the United States there is a 15 percent reduction in the winter wheat acreage shown and a 12 percent increase in the acreage of rye. The data are shown in the accompanying table.

#### Winter Wheat and Rye Plantings for Crops of 1950, 1949 and 10-year Average<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand acres, i.e., 000 omitted)  
Wisconsin

	1950	1949	10-year average 1938-47
Winter wheat.....	29	29	40
Rye.....	119	119	201

#### United States

	1950	1949	10-year average 1938-47
Winter wheat.....	53,023	62,372	47,713
Rye.....	3,699	3,291	5,287

<sup>1</sup>Estimates of seeded acreage relate to the total acreage sown for all purposes.

#### Milk Production

November milk production on United States farms totaled 8,392 million pounds. This was a new record for the month, the previous high being 8,293 million pounds produced in November 1946. In Wisconsin milk production on farms amounted to 904 million pounds during November, and it was only the second-highest production recorded. The 1945 total for November was 907 million pounds.

#### Egg Production

A record number of layers on Wisconsin farms for the month of November combined with a record rate of production per layer provided the largest November egg production on record. There were about 3 percent more layers on hand than November

Current Trends

WISCONSIN	Latest Report		Previous Reports			UNITED STATES	Latest Report		Previous Reports						
	Date	Re-ported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month		Date	Reported figure <sup>1</sup>	One month before	One year before	5-yr. av. of same month				
<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>2</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>						<b>Farm Price Indexes<sup>10</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>									
Farm prices, general	Nov.	259	262	295	250	Farm prices, general	Nov.	239	243	271	229.0				
Livestock and livestock products	Nov.	267	270	305	253	Livestock and livestock products	Nov.	268	276	313	241.4				
Milk	Nov.	269	265	297	271	Dairy products	Nov.	258	255	284	241.4				
Meat animals	Nov.	287	293	333	232	Meat animals	Nov.	295	308	351	249.4				
Poultry and eggs	Nov.	211	241	276	213	Poultry and eggs	Nov.	217	231	272	223.2				
Crops	Nov.	205	204	226	227	Crops	Nov.	208	206	224	215.4				
Feed grains and hay	Nov.	178	176	202	191	Feed grains and hay	Nov.	159	163	181	189.2				
Fruits	Nov.	160	166	222	279	Fruits	Nov.	251	251	262	202.2				
Prices farmers pay	Nov.	250	250	265	203	Prices farmers pay	Nov.	251	251	262	202.2				
Purchasing power, farm products	Nov.	104	105	111	123	Purchasing power, farm products	Nov.	95	97	103	113.2				
<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>						<b>Dairy Production and Markets</b>									
Milk price per cwt. <sup>3</sup>	Nov.	3.40	3.35	3.76	3.43	Milk price, wholesale <sup>10</sup>	Nov. 15	4.24	4.17	4.85	4.06				
All utilizations	Nov.	3.28	3.18	3.70	3.35	Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>10</sup> , per lb.	Nov. 15	62.6	62.1	64.3	62.9				
For cheese	Nov.	3.40	3.40	3.56	3.41	Price (wholesale) 92-score butter, Chicago, per lb. <sup>11</sup>	Nov.	62.0	62.1	62.7	59.7				
For butter	Nov.	3.34	3.34	3.71	3.54	Total milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000,000 omitted)	Nov.	8392	9004	8031	79607				
Condensery products	Nov.	3.70	3.65	4.30	3.82	Creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted)	Oct.	103130	114310	91858	97571				
Market milk	Nov.	68	69	72	68.0	American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted)	Oct.	61205	73900	61914	58881				
Farm price of butterfat in cream <sup>4</sup>	Nov. 15	63	62	67	61.6	Evaporated whole milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted)	Oct.	167750	212750	221710	208908				
Farm price of butter <sup>5</sup>	Nov. 15	63	62	67	61.6	Dried skim milk production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted)	Oct.	54150	63050	38779	30257				
Wholesale prices of cheese, per pound						Human food	Oct.	1100	1250	822	773				
American <sup>6</sup> (twins)	Nov.	31.9	31.7	34.4	33.3	Animal feed	Oct.	27947	29510	26359	24567				
Swiss	Nov.	43.4	42.1	44.6	46.4	Cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted)	Nov.	13804	16301	17050	16392				
Brick	Nov.	35.1	33.2	41.3	35.4	<b>Cold-Storage Holdings<sup>11</sup>, (000 om.)</b>									
Total milk production <sup>2</sup> , (000,000 omitted)	Nov.	904	1024	876	8127	Creamery butter	Dec. 1	129206	144819	60214	69299				
Cows in herd freshening <sup>8</sup>	Nov.	10.77	10.40	11.06	10.27	American cheese	Dec. 1	175821	185839	140791	134100				
Calves born during month being raised <sup>8</sup>	Nov.	39.39	41.82	40.64	34.10	Swiss cheese	Dec. 1	3577	3917	3622	1906				
Grains and concentrates fed per month, per cow <sup>9</sup>	Nov.	175	146	170	147.2	All other cheese	Dec. 1	16464	19759	19997	19130				
Grains and concentrates fed daily <sup>8</sup>						All varieties of cheese	Dec. 1	195862	209515	164410	155136				
Per farm	Dec. 1	110.5	90.9	105.1	93.8	Total frozen poultry	Dec. 1	266084	211517	171472	275697				
Per cow in herd	Dec. 1	6.35	5.34	6.13	5.47	Eggs, shell	Dec. 1	236	501	444	869				
Per 100 lbs. of milk produced	Dec. 1	36.52	32.19	36.15	35.30	Eggs, shell, frozen and dried, (case equivalent)	Dec. 1	8964	10108	6812	9425				
Wisconsin creamery butter production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted)	Oct.	9905	12160	7746	7191	<b>Poultry Production<sup>10</sup></b>									
Wisconsin American cheese production <sup>10</sup> , (000 omitted)	Oct.	26605	32255	26825	27082	Layers on hand in month, (000 omitted)	Nov.	378879	348083	364748	390995				
Wisconsin butter receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted)	Nov.	3718	4304	2768	1554	Eggs per 100 layers	Nov.	1016	1077	948	780				
Wisconsin cheese receipts at 4 markets <sup>11</sup> , (000 omitted)	Nov.	9104	11158	11206	10682	Total eggs produced, (000,000 omitted)	Nov.	3851	3749	3456	3041				
<b>Poultry Production<sup>12</sup></b>						<b>Stocks of Dried, Condensed, and Evaporated Milk<sup>10</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>									
Layers on hand in month, (000 om.)	Nov.	16406	14322	15998	15720	Dried whole milk	Oct. 31	16639	18291	30713	16025				
Eggs per 100 layers	Nov.	1134	1088	1080	885	Dried skim milk	Oct. 31	58312	81554	74112	37310				
Total eggs produced (000,000 om.)	Nov.	186	156	173	139	Dried buttermilk	Oct. 31	5802	6472	6186	5286				
<b>Feed Price Changes<sup>2</sup></b>						Condensed milk (case goods)	Oct. 31	6925	6758	13408	8886				
Index of feed prices, 1910-14=100	Nov.	181.5	184.7	211.2	212.2	Evaporated milk (case goods)	Oct. 31	426836	484246	622624	221278				
Cost, 1000 lbs. dairy ration	Nov.	24.33	23.70	27.56	26.71	<b>Slaughter under Federal Meat Inspection<sup>11</sup>, (000 omitted)</b>									
Amount of ration 100 lbs. of milk would buy	Nov.	139.7	141.4	136.4	129.4	Cattle	Nov.	1116	1156	1151	1316				
Wisconsin by-product feed cost per ton f.o.b. Madison						Calves	Nov.	585	568	614	738				
Standard bran	Nov.	44.80	42.90	53.10	47.42	Sheep and lambs	Nov.	1060	1172	1444	1646				
Linseed oil meal	Nov.	74.70	71.05	80.90	67.56	Hogs	Nov.	6003	4959	5425	5194				
Corn gluten feed	Nov.	51.50	52.50	59.05	54.69	<b>Business and Industry</b>									
Tankage	Nov.	128.60	138.90	117.45	97.18	<b>Wholesale prices<sup>13</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>									
Standard middlings	Nov.	45.00	45.40	53.40	49.54	All commodities	Nov.	221	222	240	177.6				
Soybean meal	Nov.	72.40	77.80	82.25	70.69	Foods	Nov.	248	249	272	205.0				
Cost, 1000 lbs. poultry ration	Nov.	24.48	25.64	27.60	27.27	<b>Retail prices<sup>13</sup>, 1910-14=100</b>									
Amount of ration 10 doz. eggs would buy	Nov.	183.0	205.9	213.4	175.1	All commodities	Oct.	244	246	252	200.4				
<b>Farm Product Prices<sup>5</sup></b>						Foods	Oct.	259	264	273	205.0				
Milk cows, per head	Nov. 15	215	208	235	150.80	Total personal income <sup>14</sup>	Oct.	297.7	301.1	309.0	267.0				
Hogs, per cwt.	Nov. 15	15.60	17.00	21.90	17.50	Total non-agricultural income <sup>14</sup>	Oct.	301.9	307.0	305.7	265.5				
Beef cattle, per cwt.	Nov. 15	18.50	18.00	18.10	10.76	Total agricultural income <sup>14</sup>	Oct.	259.4	248.6	339.1	279.7				
Veal calves, per cwt.	Nov. 15	23.80	24.00	26.40	15.42	Factory employment (adjusted) <sup>15</sup> , No. of employees, 1939=100	Sept.	141.1	140.4	156.1	157.7				
Sheep, per cwt.	Nov. 15	8.20	7.60	8.40	5.87	Industrial production (adjusted) <sup>15</sup> , 1935-39=100	Sept.	173	170	192	201.4				
Lambs, per cwt.	Nov. 15	20.60	20.50	21.00	14.94	Freight-car loadings (adjusted) <sup>15</sup> , 1935-39=100	Sept.	106	119	139	137				
Wool, per lb.	Nov. 15	.44	.43	.45	.46	<b>Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A.</b>									
Chickens, per lb.	Nov. 15	23.1	23.5	29.6	23.1	<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Prepared by Wisconsin Crop Reporting Service. <sup>3</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>4</sup> Based on Wisconsin price reporters' data. (Subsidy payments excluded.) <sup>5</sup> As reported by Wisconsin price reporters. <sup>6</sup> Subsidy of 3.75 cts. included from December 1942 to January 1946. <sup>7</sup> 10-year average. <sup>8</sup> Based on Wisconsin dairy reporters' data. <sup>9</sup> 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 the month. <sup>10</sup> Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A. <sup>11</sup> Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. D. A. <sup>12</sup> Based on Wisconsin crop reporters' data. <sup>13</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics converted to 1910-14 base. <sup>14</sup> U. S. Dept. of Commerce, corresponding month 1935-39=100. <sup>15</sup> Federal Reserve Board.									

a year ago. Rate of lay was 5 percent higher than last year and egg output increased more than 7 percent.

Egg production for the nation as a whole in November was also a record for the month. Four percent more layers on farms than last year, and

a 7 percent higher rate of production gave the country more eggs during the month than any in November on record.

**December 1949 Pig Survey**  
Wisconsin's pig crop this year is 8

percent larger than the one produced in 1948, and an increase of 13 percent in pig production is reported for the nation.

All states in the Corn Belt produced larger pig crops in 1949 than were reported a year ago. Increases in pro-

Spring and Fall Pig Crops

(000 omitted)

		Spring		Fall		Total pigs saved spring and fall
		Sows farrowed	Pigs saved	Sows farrowed	Pigs saved	
Wisconsin 10-yr. average	1938-47	326	2,162	174	1,166	3,329
	1948	296	1,989	153	1,043	3,032
	1949	323	2,177	165	1,097	3,274
	1950	333 <sup>1</sup>				
Corn Belt <sup>2</sup> 10-yr. average	1938-47	6,456	40,677	3,434	22,276	62,953
	1948	5,874	38,414	3,335	22,346	60,760
	1949	6,895	44,951	3,817	25,121	70,072
	1950	7,477 <sup>1</sup>				
United States 10-yr. average	1938-47	8,763	54,392	5,451	34,692	89,084
	1948	7,964	51,266	5,158	33,921	85,187
	1949	9,150	59,039	5,726	37,262	96,301
	1950	9,771 <sup>1</sup>				

<sup>1</sup>Estimates based on intentions of farmers as reported in the December Pig Survey and subject to revision.

<sup>2</sup>Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

duction ranged from 8 percent in Wisconsin to 25 percent in Michigan. Iowa's pig crop was 16 percent larger this year. Minnesota farmers reported 18 percent more pigs, and Illinois farmers increased their crop by 15 percent. For the 12 Corn Belt states the number of pigs raised this year was 15 percent larger than the 1948 crop.

Wisconsin Pig Crops 1924-49

(000 omitted)

Year	Sows farrowed		Pigs saved		
	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Total
1924	368	146	1,985	845	2,830
1925	302	170	1,935	1,000	2,935
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	323	165	2,177	1,097	3,274

Wisconsin's spring pig crop of 2,177,000 head was 9 percent larger than a year ago and slightly above the 1938-47 average. The number of sows bred was larger than a year ago and the number of pigs saved per litter showed a slight increase. Five percent more fall pigs were produced on Wisconsin farms than in the fall of 1948. The increase was the result of more sows bred for fall farrowing since litter sizes averaged smaller than in the fall of last year. With the 1,097,000 pigs produced this fall the total pig crop for 1949 is estimated at 3,274,000 head. This is the largest crop since the 1943 record production.

For the United States, the spring pig crop this year was 15 percent larger than the one produced in 1948, and the number of pigs saved from fall farrowings was 10 percent above the fall of last year. About 96½ million pigs were produced in the nation crops were larger than the 10-year average.

Prospective Spring Farrowings

In addition to furnishing information on spring and fall pig production, farmers cooperating in the December Pig Survey indicated their intentions to breed sows for farrowing in the spring of 1950. From reports made by Wisconsin farmers, the state's pig crop is due for another increase next year. The number of sows to be bred to farrow next spring is expected to

be 3 percent more than in the spring of 1949 and will be above the Wisconsin 10-year average.

Of the 12 Corn Belt states, Wisconsin's increase in spring farrowings is the smallest. Michigan and Missouri each report increases of 15 percent compared with the number of sows bred to farrow in the spring of 1949. Minnesota farmers intend to have 9 percent more sows to farrow next spring, Illinois shows an increase of 8 percent, and Iowa 7 percent. An increase of 8 percent in the number of sows to be bred to farrow in the spring of 1950 is reported for the Corn Belt as a whole and 7 percent for the nation.

More detailed information on the spring and fall pig crops is given in the accompanying tables.

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