

Southern Indiana Farm Income Drops 31% In '59

Average 1959 net farm income of 120 southern Indiana farmers who keep records with Purdue University's agricultural economics department totaled \$5,016, only 60 per cent as much as in 1958.

While 1958 was a relatively higher income year, 1959 net farm income was the lowest for any year since 1953, except for 1955, when it averaged \$3,439. Average net income of 122 similar farms in 1958 was \$7,289.

Net farm income is defined as net cash income, plus (or minus) inventory changes, minus a value for any unpaid family labor.

Average returns for labor and management amounted to \$1,718, lowest since 1955. The 1958 labor income averaged \$4,271. This is computed by deducting a five per cent interest charge on the capital investment from the net farm income. The capital investment on these 120 farms averaged \$65,954.

The rate earned on investment for these farms averaged 1.4 per cent, compared to 5.3 per cent earned in 1958. Rate earned represents net farm income, less operator wage and management charges and management charge for the landlord, divided by the capital invested.

The economists explain that the drop of approximately \$2,300 in net farm income from 1958 resulted largely from a difference in inventory values of feed, supplies, livestock, machinery and improvements. Net inventory changes averaged \$71, compared to \$2,596 in 1958.

Net cash income of the cooperating farmers was \$260 larger in 1959 than in 1958. This increase resulted not from higher cash receipts, but rather from a decrease in cash expenses—particularly machinery and equipment, farm improvements and feed expenses. The economists point out that as a result of more narrow profit margins these farmers tended to delay purchases and thus slow down the date of inventory accumulation or actually reduce inventories. Cash receipts in 1959 averaged \$21,114, while cash expenses averaged \$15,944.

The 1959 data on these farms shows a continuation of the trend toward larger units with higher capitalization. The 120 farm units averaged 301 acres. Farms in the southern Indiana account summary have increased 110 acres in size, or at the rate of 11 acres a year, since 1950. In this period, total capitalization per farm has more than doubled from approximately \$27,000 in 1950 to approximately \$66,000 in 1959.

Account cooperators' farms are larger and more efficiently operated than the average of all farms. Therefore, average incomes shown should not be considered as representative of all farms in southern Indiana, the economists assert.

High blood pressure affects more than twice as many women as men in the United States.

City children suffer from acute health conditions about half again as often as farm youngsters, according to the Health Insurance Institute.

Before the windshield wiper came into common use, motorists were advised to apply a mixture of kerosene oil and glycerine on windshields to keep the glass clear of rain, snow or ice.

Each evening over 4,500 copies are printed of the Decatur Daily Democrat.

Fishing Report

2nd District, 21 Northeastern Counties. Sgt. Bullock reporting. This district offers the best report in the state this week. Bluegill fishing is very good in LaGrange County at Shipshewana Lake, on the east side of Big Long Lake, the south side of Pretty Lake, the west side of Emma Lake, Blind Island on Cedar Lake and on Adams Lake. Trout fishing is good on both the North and South Twin Lakes. Bass and trout fishing is good on Pretty and Dallas lakes. Bass fishing is good on all lakes in water 3 to 4 feet deep where there are heavy lily pads. Kosciusko County reports fishing is poor, bluegill biting but of no great size. At Palestine Lake they are taking some nice redears through holes in duck weeds. From Carr Lake they say the quantity is good, the quality poor. Bluegill fishing is slow. The conditions of the Tippecanoe River are improving, few bullheads and channel catfish have been caught, also blue cats and rock bass. Pike and Winona lakes are offering fair fishing for bass both largemouth and silver. Steuben County bass and bluegill fishing good on Lake James and the Jimmerson Flats. Silver Lake and Hamilton Lake are offering fair bass fishing. Whitley county's Blue Lake has reported good catches of crappies at night after the moon goes down. The report from Elkhart county is smallmouth bass and rock bass are being taken from the St. Joseph river. Simonton Lake offers pike and bass. Noble county says bluegill and crappies are hitting at Sylvan Lake. All rivers are low and muddy and river fishing is poor.

Overplanting Affects Future Wheat Crops

With seeding of the 1960 winter wheat crop about to get underway, growers were reminded today that overplanting the farm's wheat allotment will usually have indirect as well as direct effects upon the farm's crop or operation.

According to James Garboden, chairman of the Adams County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, farmers generally understand very well that wheat from a farm where the wheat allotment has been exceeded is not eligible for price support. With a few exceptions, such as the 15-acre exemption provisions and the feed wheat exemption, it will also be subject to marketing quota penalties. What is not so well understood, however, is that such overproduction can also reduce the farm's wheat allotments under a ruling provided by legislation enacted within recent years.

"If a farmer complies with his 1961 allotment," the chairman explained, "the base acreage—which is the farm wheat acreage allotment plus the acreage diverted from wheat for the current year—will be considered as the farm's wheat acreage history for 1961 in establishing future allotments.

Stivers suggests that twice the usual rate of broadcast nitrogen, phosphate and potash be applied to these strips. This can be done several spreader widths running the length of the field. Plow this under after application in the spring. Then harvest the same number of rows in each area and compare weights.

Plant tissue tests also will aid in determining hidden hunger in corn. Details on tissue tests are contained in SB 635, The Purdue Soil and Plant Tissue Tests, available without charge to Indiana residents from the Agricultural publications office, AES building, Purdue University, Lafayette.

Old Faithful geyser in Yellowstone Park erupts on an average of every 65 minutes.

Newspapermen founded the Missouri State Historical Society more than 60 years ago.

Federal land holdings in just five states—Alaska, Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Oregon—total some 525 million acres.

The first complete journey along the famous Santa Fe Trail was made by Pedro Vial in 1792.

Good pasture—your cheapest feed—offers you the best opportunity to cut feeding costs and boost productivity per acre. In fact, one good acre of pasture can save up to 1000 lbs. of grain and 500 lbs. of protein supplement!

The secret of building good quality pasture is found in a sound, economical fertilizing program. Your Farm Bureau Co-op will help you select the fertilizer program best suited to your soil requirements.

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ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU CO-OP
WILLIAMS-BERNE-MONROE-PLEASANT MILLS-GENEVA

Conservation Land Cannot Be Used

Chairman James Garboden of the Adams County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee today reminded farmers with land in the Conservation Reserve of their continuing responsibility to refrain from using this land for grazing or harvesting any crop from it during the contract period.

"Even though we are not authorized to take new land into the Conservation Reserve," Mr. Garboden said, "there has been no change in the regulations concerning the land returned from production under existing contracts.

The farmer is being paid an annual rental for compliance with his Conservation Reserve contract, and most cases has already received his payment for a part of the cost of establishing a conservation practice on the land. In return, he is obligated to exercise his responsibility of withholding the land from production for the life of the contract."

There are 55 Conservation Reserve contracts in effect in Adams County involving a total of 2847 acres of cropland. Of these contracts 46 are "whole farm" contracts, covering all the cropland on the farm. Some of this land will be held out of production through the 1969 crop season.

Nationally, there is a total of about 28.6 million acres in the Conservation Reserve in 48 of the 50 States. This acreage involves part or all of the cropland on about 305,000 farms which have a total farmland acreage of 96.1 million acres, or nearly 10 percent of the total U. S. acreage in farms.

The Conservation Reserve program provides for limiting the production on the participating farms. In addition, new land may not be brought into production on these farms. On all participating farms the acreage normally used for the production of crops must be reduced. On farms that have all cropland in the program all the acreage is withdrawn from crop production. Nationally 70 percent of participating farms have placed all cropland in the Reserve.

Just because nitrogen deficiency isn't observed, doesn't mean that the corn is getting an adequate diet. One way to find out if the crop is under nourished is to establish test strips.

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The fisheries department of the Fish & Game division of the Indiana department of conservation have received their first shipment of Muskellunge "Muskies." Two hundred muskies were transported from the New York State Fish Hatchery on Chautauqua Lake in New York State to Waukesha State Fish Hatchery near Syracuse. The muskies were from 7 to 9 inches in length. The entire shipment stood the 450 mile trip without losing a single muskie.

The fish and game division has attempted to secure muskies for experimental purposes for some time, but they have not been available. This new adventure is part of the progressive program of the Indiana Department of Conservation to provide more and better fishing opportunities for Indiana anglers. Another program recently started was the propagation of channel catfish, which is rapidly becoming established.

Muskies feed on live minnows and will grow rapidly if supplied with plenty of them. It is hoped this first shipment of 200 will develop into breeding stock so the species can be propagated for stocking purposes. Indiana is experiencing a growth in large reservoirs and lakes, some in construction and others on the drawing board. It is planned to place the muskie in these waters, which will benefit the angler as well as many of the present impoundments and lakes now in existence.

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Drip on condensation of moisture on windows may be prevented by opening both the top and bottom sash a crack and setting up a greater movement of air across the glass.

To match hooks or snaps, sew on one side first, rub with chalk, and press on the opposite side of the material to accurately mark its location.

Some good sources of vitamin C: grapefruit, oranges, strawberries, cantaloupe, broccoli, green pepper and sweet red pepper.

Stuff the gathered pockets of little girls' dresses with soft tissue paper, and they will be easier to iron.

County Agent's Corner

By: LEO N. SELTENRIGHT

State Fair

The state fair is bigger and better than ever and everybody seemed to be doing fine when I was there Thursday. Saturday is state 4-H day and Adams county will be represented by quite a number of 4-H club members. Represented will be 4-H county exhibitors, 4-H Junior Leaders, 4-H dairy members, and several township 4-H groups.

Reports from the cattle barn indicate the biggest cattle show yet. There is quite an increase in the Jersey cattle show this year according to the cattle director's office.

Also the state fair is the place that new agricultural equipment is first shown and this is true again this year.

Fly Free Wheat Date

To avoid possible severe damage to their 1961 wheat crop from Hessian fly, Indiana farmers are urged by Gilbert P. Walker, Purdue University extension agronomist, to observe "fly free" seeding dates.

These range from Sept. 22 in the northern tier of counties to Sept. 27 in the latitude of Lafayette-Tipton-Portland; Sept. 30 in the Rockville - Indianapolis - Winchester latitude; Oct. 3 in the latitude of Sullivan-Bloomington-Greensburg, and Oct. 8 in the Evansville-Rockport area.

These dates apply all wheat varieties except Dual and the new short-strawed, early Monon. These two varieties, because of their resistance to Hessian fly, may be seeded from three to four weeks earlier than the dates indicated.

When seeded early and well fertilized with fertilizer high in nitrogen, Dual and Monon, are heavy-stooling, leafy, fast-growing varieties that can furnish palatable and nutritious late fall and winter pasture.

Fall grazing and clipping trials showed no reduction in yields below the unclipped according to Walker. When seeded in early September, neither variety showed any reduction in the fall even when every rank growth developed.

Dual has replaced much of the rye formerly used for pasture and winter cover. Because of later seeding it can be plowed under at the right stage of growth; wet weather often prevents plowing under rye until it is headed out and too far advanced for best results.

Seed Directory Available

Copies of the 1960 Summer Indiana Certified Seed Director are available at the county agricultural agents' office and from the Seed Certification Service, Life Sciences building, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana.

The new director lists sources of Indiana certified seed wheat, winter oats, winter barley, rye and tall fescue.

More than 12,000 acres of wheat were field inspected by Seed Certification staff inspectors.

The four major wheat varieties for fall seeding are Dual, Knox, LaPorte, and Vermillion. Acreage certified are Dual, 1,390; Knox, 3,603; LaPorte, 2,685 and Vermillion, 1,540. Monon is an early, Hessian fly resistant variety being multiplied state-wide on 3,651 acres.

DuBois, recommended for use in southern Indiana, is the only winter oat variety certified in the state. Growers of Hudson winter barley produced 133 acres of certified seed. Although Kenbar is still recommended for southern Indiana, Hudson is rapidly becoming the major variety throughout the state.

Farmers are encouraged to consider their own seed needs early since the supply of good seed probably will be exhausted before seed time.

Purdue Agronomist's Report

A Purdue University agronomist, Dr. A. J. Ohrogge, described his experiments showing that a single corn root could furnish all the nitrogen and phosphate needed for normal plant growth. Ohrogge's scientific paper, presented before the American Society for Horticultural Science meeting in connection with the American Institute of Biological Sciences at Oklahoma State University, explained the effectiveness of placing starter fertilizer in narrow bands in the soil for corn.

In Ohrogge's experiment, corn was started in the greenhouse.

then transplanted to specially prepared holes in the field. The holes were lined with a double thickness of heavy plastic film. A three-gallon can was placed inside each hole and both the can and the hole around the can were filled with vermiculite.

The corn plants were placed in the vermiculite outside the can, and one root from each plant was led into the can through a hole in the side. The nitrogen and phosphate were added to the vermiculite in the can, but now is supplied to the other roots from the vermiculite.

The corn grew vigorously, tasseled and produced ears yielding about one-half pound of grain each.

This proved to Ohrogge that one corn root can handle the nitrogen and phosphate requirements of the plant if the supply of nutrients at the end of the root is sufficient and if the absorbing system is adequate.

Roots will not send out the fertilizer band, said Ohrogge, and only the very few roots which actually come in contact with the band are able to take up nutrients from it.

Ohrogge said that the fertilizer band should be placed where it will intercept the growing root, but not so close that mineral salts would damage the germinating seed. His experience showed that the band should be placed one to three inches below and to the side of the seed.

What About Frost Damage?

Jim Newman, Agricultural Climatologist, has passed along this report on frost:

Many have raised the question: Does an early fall frost normally follow a late, cool, wet spring such as occurred in Indiana and over much of the corn belt this year? The answer is simply NO, based on statistical studies past weather records.

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Primitive Ink

NEW YORK (UPI) — The first writing inks, dating back to 2,500 B.C., were made of soot and charcoal mixed with gum.

New Teachers

NEW YORK (UPI) — About 100,000 new teachers will enter the nation's classrooms when the school bells ring in September.

Although glossy paint finish on a sewing machine is easiest to clean, light reflections may prove annoying. Purdue University clothing specialists note.

Sewing machine service guarantees should be in writing and signed by your dealer, Purdue University clothing specialists assert.

Of This And That

State 4-H Judging:

Our congratulations go to three Adams county girls who represented the Fort Wayne district in the state home economics judging contest on August 29. Barbara Carver, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clair Carver of Blue Creek township received a blue ribbon in the food contest. Judy Yoder, daughter of Mr.