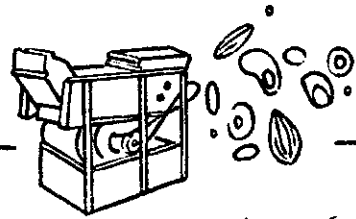


Seed Crops

BLUEGRASS SEED CONDITION REPORT



July 14, 1967

Kentucky Other Than Merion

In the Northwest, prospective yields are reported above a year ago. Swathing started after mid-June with combining expected to be completed by mid-July.

Crop prospects for other Kentucky bluegrass in Idaho appear bright. Good burns were obtained in all areas last fall and mild winter weather permitted this year's crop to get off to a good start. Conditions are above average in nearly all sections. In the dry land areas cool spring weather and timely May and early June rainfall contributed to heavy growth. Although lodging is extensive throughout the major growing areas as a result of this heavy growth, yields are not expected to be materially affected. Nearly all fields had bloomed before they began to lodge and heads appear to be in good condition. Hot weather in late June and early July forced maturity in some areas but yield loss is not expected to be great. Swathing started on June 27 in early fields and is expected to be completed by mid-July. First combining started July 6. Weather conditions during harvest have been ideal. In Washington, condition is generally good. The Spokane and Whitman County area had good moisture during the growing season but most grass has been a little slow recovering from last year's very dry weather. However, yields should exceed last year in most localities. Swathing began June 27 and combining commenced about July 6. Combining should be completed by mid-July. In the Garfield-Columbia County area crop prospects are good with expected yields average or better. Swathing began the latter part of June but was interrupted by rain. Little damage occurred and all was in the swath by July 10. Combining will take about 10 days. Crop conditions vary from fair to good in the Columbia Basin with yields expected to equal or exceed last year. Swathing began June 20 and combining started July 10. Overall condition for Oregon is generally for a normal crop. In Western Oregon good moisture and cool spring weather were conducive to plant growth. However, rust is reported in many fields throughout the Willamette Valley. Some fields may not be harvested due to rust. Combining started the first week of July and will continue until the latter part of the month. In Central Oregon spring weather promoted good early season development. Rain and wind during the first week of July caused only minor damage. Swathing was nearly complete the first week of July. Combining began July 3 and will continue throughout the month. Yield prospects are average. In Union County prospects are for an above average crop. No serious weather or disease damage is apparent. Conditions for pollination were good. Swathing started the first week of July. Some combining is expected to start around July 15.

In the North Central District crop conditions were generally below normal. Dry weather early in the spring and late frosts prevented grass from making good growth. Seed set was generally poor. In South Dakota, condition of bluegrass seed

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crop varies considerably this year. The fall of 1966 was favorable for the growth of grass and early spring months were reasonably favorable. Drought together with frost during May in Southern and Northeastern counties severely damaged the crop in most of this area. Favorable moisture conditions in the Northern portion of the State benefited the crop. In Edmond and Faulk Counties a good crop is in evidence. Seed is heavy and will probably have a good germination percentage. Several factors have combined that will make this year's Missouri crop one of the smallest of record. Much of the better grass land has been plowed for soybeans and corn, grazing has been heavy and adverse weather factors caused a poor seed set. Iowa and Kansas will have very little seed production. A relatively small crop is expected for North Dakota. In Kentucky production of common bluegrass is expected to be very small, perhaps the smallest crop in the past 25 years. Stripping began the first few days in July, a little later than normal. Cold weather and rain early in the season have hurt the crop. In Minnesota yields of common Kentucky bluegrass were fair. However, little acreage of common will be harvested. Production of Park Kentucky bluegrass is expected to be at least as large as last year's crop. The crop appeared poor until June when rains sharply improved crop prospects. However, cool weather has retarded growth and harvest is a week to 10 days later than normal. Swathing has started on mineral soils.

Merion Kentucky Bluegrass

Merion Kentucky bluegrass shows a wider than normal variation in condition in Idaho this year. Conditions on the Rathdrum Prairie ranged from poor to very good while conditions in Lewis County are rated as good to very good. Drought conditions in the fall of 1966 caused several growers to get heavy burns and as a result many fields did not come back as well as they should. The mild winter weather and above normal spring rainfall permitted heavy growth on fields where good burns were obtained but has resulted in above normal weed growth in the poorer fields. Lodging is evident throughout the area but yields are not expected to be seriously affected since most fields went down after pollination. About 4 days of unseasonable hot weather may have caused some shrinkage from forced maturity. Swathing began on July 3 on early fields and is progressing under favorable weather. Combining is expected to start about July 14. Overall crop conditions in Washington's Spokane Valley are fair as there is considerable variation from field to field. Cool wet spring weather combined with lack of vigorous regrowth has resulted in more than normal weed growth. Swathing started July 3 and combining will begin about mid-July. In Garfield County conditions are good and above average yields are expected. Swathing started in June and combining is underway. In the Columbia Basin the Merion crop is in good condition. Yields are expected to be about the same as last year and near average. Swathing began June 24 and combining July 10.

In Oregon prospects vary by areas but are generally good. Conditions are about normal in Central Oregon, slightly below normal in the West due to rust and above normal in Union County where conditions for pollination were good. Swathing started in late June in the western and central areas and the first week of July in Union County.

The growing season in California was near normal except for late frosts. Swathing was underway by July 10. Threshing is expected to start about July 17. An acreage decrease is indicated for the State.

A forecast report on Merion and Kentucky Bluegrass Other Than Merion will be released at 3:00 PM, E.D.T. on September 22, 1967.