



AGRICULTURAL NEWS OF THE WEEK

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

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W I N T E R W H E A T

The 1966 national winter wheat crop is estimated at 1,110 million bushels, according to the Statistical Reporting Service. An output of this size would be 8% larger than the 1965 production and 12% above the 1960-64 average. The expected yield per seeded acre of 26.3 bushels compares with 22.8 bushels last year and the average of 23.5 bushels.

The table below shows the indicated outturn of winter wheat in 1966 for the states of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District, together with comparisons with 1965 and the 1960-64 average.

WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION

Five Southwestern States

(In thousands of bushels)

<u>Area</u>	<u>1966</u> <u>Indicated</u> <u>April 1</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>1960-64</u>
Arizona.....	1,216	1,196	1,145
Louisiana.....	1,222	1,050	1,128
New Mexico.....	3,848	4,924	4,703
Oklahoma.....	119,945	132,916	95,047
Texas.....	63,936	72,630	62,436
Five states.....	190,167	212,716	164,459

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

S O Y B E A N F L O U R A S P R O T E I N S O U R C E

U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists are testing a new process for making soybean flour which could supply protein to people who are on the borderline of starvation in many areas of the world. The end product - which contains 40% protein and 20% fat - might be used in beverages, soups, and various cooked dishes. In order to produce the flour by hand, soybeans are soaked overnight, boiled 10 to 15 minutes, air-dried, cracked, dehulled, and ground. An open fire can be used in the processing of soybean flour.

S H E E P P A R A S I T E C A N M U L T I P L Y O N R A B B I T S

William P. Meleney of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service may have an explanation for why sheep scabies is so difficult to eradicate. He has found that the mite which carries this disease can grow and multiply in the ears of rabbits, as well as live on the bodies of sheep and cattle. Research shows that

individuals of usually nonsusceptible animal species may become carriers of the sheep scab mite and thus provide reservoirs for future spread of the pest. Scabies, the disease caused by this parasitic mite, is the target of an intensive Federal-state eradication campaign.

TEXAS BROILERS GROSS \$72.0 MILLION

Gross income from broilers in Texas during 1965 amounted to \$72.0 million, or \$5.8 million above the previous year, points out the Texas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. During 1965, more than 142 million commercial broilers were produced in the State. This total reflects a 2% gain over 1964. Texas broiler growers received an average price of 14.9¢ per lb., compared with 14.0¢ in the preceding year. Among the 23 major broiler-producing states, Texas ranked seventh in both the number of birds produced and gross income from broilers.

	Area	Week ended April 23, 1966	Percent change from	
			Previous week	Comparable week, 1965
BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS				
	Texas.....	3,425,000	-1	9
	Louisiana..	728,000	1	9
	23 states..	53,798,000	1	9