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**IN WINTER TOO MUCH RAIN
NOW FARMERS FACE DROUGHT LOSSES**

After one month without rain, Britain's farmers said goodbye without regrets to the sunniest August for 50 years. Reports from every part of the country tell of burnt up pastures - failing wells - and dried up water courses. Here, on the Leicestershire-Rutland border the drought has already seriously handicapped farmers plans to reach the new feed-production targets. Meantime, while the drought lasts, men and animals learn that however mechanised modern life may grow, water is still an elemental need.

With their streams dried up - and pastures yellow from the heat - farmers haven't enough cattle feeding stuffs to balance poor grass feeding. By early September, the weekly milk yield is down by fourteen million gallons. Cattle may have to be slaughtered prematurely. Everywhere clouds of dust rise from the parched fields. A good ripening season did something to offset the snow and floods of winter but a too-dry autumn may gravely damage next year's prospects.