

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

Remodded Dairy Barns on Tour At West Chester

Seventeen Southern Chester County dairy farms were included in a tour Tuesday and Wednesday to give dairymen a chance to see how neighbors solved their barn remodeling problems.

Joe Nageotte, extension dairy specialist from Penn State, was on hand to describe remodeling at each farm and to answer questions.

Chester County Agent Robert A. Powers, Jr., advised Lancaster Farming 45 turned out for the Tuesday tour, and throughout the meetings were of great value to those participating.

On the schedule were the Charles T. Wollaston Farm on the Toughkenamon-Landenberg Road, a remodeled bank farm for a herd of 30 cows; the Edwin Paschall Farm, just northeast of Toughkenamon, expanded floor space in bank barn, with future plans discussed; the Lawrence Waltman Farm at Jennerville, a new 60-stanchion barn where 15 cows may be released with the flip of one lever, where silage is fed from a self-unloading wagon driven through the feed alley.

Norman Bentley Farm

Another remodeled barn on the Norman Bentley Farm a quarter mile southeast of Lincoln University was the last stop before noon Tuesday. It featured a remodeled barn, 54-inch comfort stalls, chain type gutter cleaner and a 38-cow herd.

These farms were visited in the afternoon: Walter Shepherd, south of Route 1 at Post House, milking parlor, barn remodeled into loafing area for 40 cows; Mason Brothers Farm, just south of Chrome, milking parlor, new pole-type loafing barn, trench silos; Joe Beckenstrater Farm, mile and a half south of Oxford, remodeled barn and chain tie stalls for 40 cows.

Inverted V-Comfort Stalls

Robert Crowl Farm, half mile southwest of Maple Grove, bank barn being remodeled by stages, new type comfort stalls, for 30 cows, William A. Reid Farm, quarter mile north of Oxford, inverted V-comfort stalls being added on old stanchion frames for added cow comfort.

Wednesday the group toured eight more farms, the Harvey C. Worthington Farm a half mile north of West Chester, hydraulic gutter cleaner, 50 stanchions, loafing pen for dry cows and heifers, sky light in roof; William Balterston Farm, half mile north of Whitford, pen stable, milking parlor system; Spring Mill Farm, on 401 quarter mile east of Route 29, comfort

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Quick Clean-Up on Glick Farm



It took the wind but a few seconds to level this tobacco barn as shown by pictures in last week's Lancaster Farming. Here is the same barn, three hours or so after 100 friends and neighbors poured in, responding to announcements in three churches Sunday morning. It took less than five hours to clear and stack the lumber, with a bountiful meal served in between. (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).

Spring Is Near Grass and Brush Fires Indicate

Grass and brush fires — reported in all sections of Lancaster County this week — gave proof that spring is near, and that spring cleanup can be downright dangerous.

Here are the net results of major blazes this week.

Approximately 50 acres of grass and timber near Nine Points burned over;

Twenty-five acres of scrub cover near Pequea burned in a stubborn, four and one-half hour blaze.

A grass fire was extinguished on a field near Zion Home south of Lititz;

About 250 young spruce trees were destroyed when fire swept the Ray Reese property on the north edge of Quarryville Friday.

Sparks From Brush Fire

Often the cause was listed as "sparks from a brush fire." Until Tuesday's showers, many grassy areas were tinder dry, and a spark, a tossed cigaret, or a fire out of control swept wide areas.

Dry grass proved flammable as gunpowder in many sections of the Garden Spot, and a drive through the County shows scores of burned-over patches.

The Nine Points Fire started on a farm owned by Nevin McClure and James DeEugeno, then crossed over into the Dr. Michael Margolies farm. Even on the Main Street of Mount Joy, firemen were called out to douse a grass fire Tuesday afternoon.

Other Farm Fires

At Pequea, the fire was between the farm of John Clark and the right-of-way of the Reading Railroad, starting on railroad property and extending into land of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. as well.

There were other fires in the County too. A chicken house owned by Marlin Mumma, R2 Manheim, was threatened when gasoline set fire to shavings on the floor. There was no damage. A brooder house on the Henry Stover Farm near Halfville was damaged an estimated \$100 by an overheated stove.

There were more, many major, many minor — all pointing to the need for extreme care this season.

Farm Income Off \$1-Billion, USDA Advises

Total farm income dropped nearly a billion dollars last year to \$19,045,000,000, the United States Department of Agriculture reported this week. Per capita farm income, at \$860, was less than 50 per cent of the \$1922 individual average for nonfarm individuals.

Thursday the Senate started voting on the soil bank-rigid high support combination bill, which indicate Congress is determined to do "something for the farmer."

WHAT IS CANCER?

Cancer is defined as an "uncontrolled growth of cells." If detected early, cancer can often be removed by surgery or destroyed by radiation, the American Cancer Society says.

Raymond Witmer Named Lancaster County's Outstanding Young Farmer

By ERNEST J. NEILL

Increased milk production, full utilization of irrigation and forced air hay drying are but some of the items implemented by Raymond F. Witmer which helped him win the title of Lancaster County's Outstanding Young Farmer Friday night.

Receiving the Lancaster Junior Chamber of Commerce award in a field of five, Mr. Witmer will now compete in state finals at Palmyra in April. His citation came but 11 years after the Pennsylvania Future Farmers of America named him the outstanding Future Farmer of the state. That was 1945, the year he received his American Farmer degree.

At Pequea Creek Bridge

Those traveling Highway 222 north of Refton skirt the Witmer Farm—Penn Del Farm property—where a new concrete bridge is being constructed to replace the treacherous, accident-prone Pequea Creek bridge.

But it was Pequea Creek that last summer provided Penn Del with adequate moisture, by the thousands and thousands of gallons, to keep pastures green while the remainder of the county burned in drought. Scores of people saw the sprinkler system revive pasture and alfalfa, providing green grass silage for the 48 head of registered Guernseys.

"The irrigation system represented an investment of around \$8,000 but it more than paid for itself," Mr. Witmer, 31, told Lancaster Farming.

Graduating from the vocational agriculture course at West Lampeter Township High School, he was born and raised on the farm he now operates. His father, Clair H. Witmer, lives a mile away. That was before the day of field choppers, hay driers, irrigation.

His herd, headed by the bull Golden Harvest King Cole, purchased from Golden Harvest Farm, Bridgewater, Conn., is supported by the 133-acre farm that "is nearly all grass." Ordinarily he runs five acres of wheat, three acres of corn 20 acres of irrigated pasture. The balance is grass, grassland farming.

Ladino-brome grass are combined; pastured five acres at a

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Wolgemuth Named By New Holland 4-H

James Wolgemuth, R1 Bareville, has been elected president of the New Holland 4-H Community Club. The club met this week in the bank building at New Holland.

Other officers are: David Lapp, Bareville 1, vice president; Joyce Weaver, R1 New Holland, secretary; Edgar Sheaffer, R2 New Holland, treasurer; Barbara Martin, R2 New Holland, song leader; Mary Jane Hoover, R1 New Holland, Howard Rineer, R2 New Holland, game leaders; Louis Lapp, R1 Bareville, news reporter.

Club leaders are: John B. Lapp, R1 Bareville; David Hoover, R1 New Holland; James Martin and Ruth Sheaffer, both of New Holland. The next meeting will be April 2.

Outstanding Young Farmer



Named Lancaster County's Outstanding Young Farmer by the Lancaster Junior Chamber of Commerce was Raymond F. Witmer, shown here with his family before a Dutch hutch in the dining room of their Penn-Del Farm home near Refton. Mrs. Witmer is holding Mark, one year old, while Mark, 3 plus, is perched between his dad and mom. (See accompanying story) (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).