

Tomato Loss Overcome to Some Degree

Although many Lancaster County tomato producers reported extensive losses in their plantings - through unseasonal frosts late last week, most have been replanted and there will be more of a time loss than an acreage loss, the county agricultural agent's office advises today.

Some producers reported small acreages to 40 to 60-acre losses from frost, but warm weather and moisture has made that outlook more encouraging at the moment.

Things Looking Better

"Things are looking better," was M M Smith's optimistic report today, and "crops are advancing at Garden Spot rates."

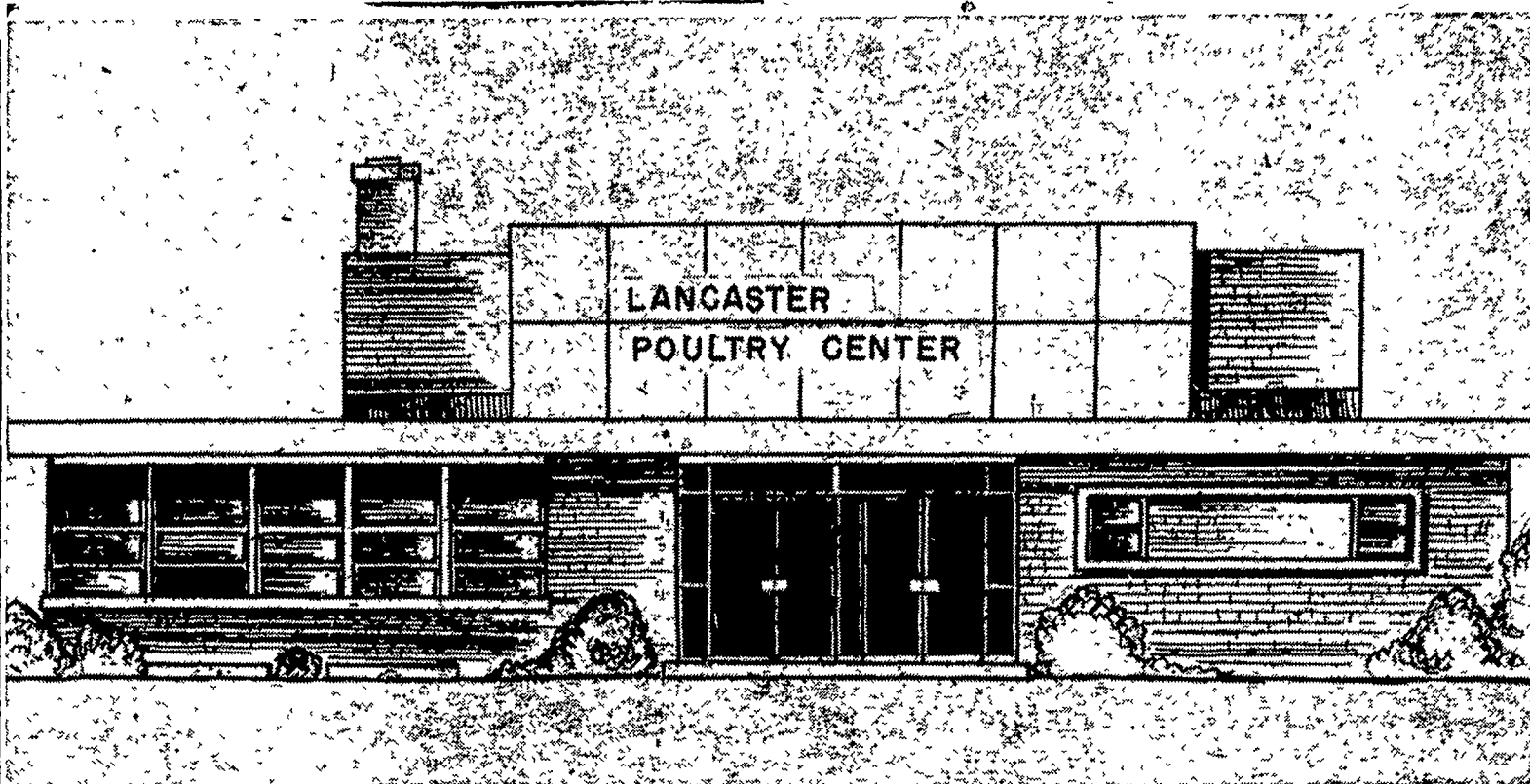
Much mowing has been done to make hay Tobacco planting is underway in Lancaster County and should be in full swing next week.

Mr Smith reiterates that farmers should make part or all of the first cutting of hay crops into grass silage. "This is especially true in the base of the dairyman," he told "Be certain to use a preservative," he added, such as sodium bisulphite at the rate of eight pounds per ton.

Hay, Silage Making

Hay and grass silage making is in full swing. It must be cut the proper time, Mr Smith warns; timothy, brome and orchardgrass should be mowed just after heading. Alfalfa should be cut when in 10 to 20 per cent blossom; red clover when one-third in bloom, to provide the best feed value.

Although today's June weather is typically June, May turned out to be the coldest and driest in 21 years here. Temperatures averaged about 2½ degrees below normal. Rainfall, at 2.06 was about one inch under normal.



Ground was broken Thursday afternoon for construction of the new Lancaster Poultry Center, shown in the drawing above from architect's drawings. Construction will get underway immediately, and continued support to raise the north of Lancaster.

Killing Frosts Damage Crops Across the State

Harrisburg — Additional damage to Pennsylvania farm crops through killing frosts was reported by the State Department of Agriculture for the week ended Monday. Fruit, vegetables and some field crops were injured by freezing temperatures of last Thursday night and Friday morning, Federal-State survey showed.

The spring crops season is now as much as three weeks late in some areas.

There was further frost damage to apples but the full extent cannot be determined until the June drop takes place, the Department said.

Tomato Crop Damaged

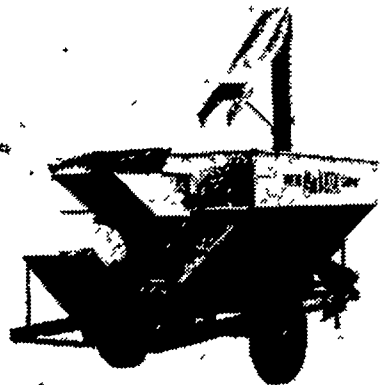
Repeated freezing of tomato plants has created a serious condition as to the final acreage of both the fresh market and canning crops, the survey disclosed. Some fields have been set with new plants as many as three times with no stand. Shortage of tomato plants is "very much of an item" at this time, the survey report said.

Starberries, early planted peas and beans, some alfalfa and clover, were damaged in some areas by last week's temperatures, record low or so late in the season in all sections of the State. Lowest reading was 22 degrees at Philipsburg and Emporium on Friday.

Harvest of strawberries, which usually starts the last week in

Farm Caterer

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May, will be delayed several weeks.

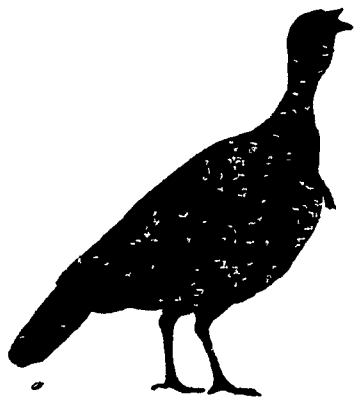
Warmer weather the first part of last week dried the ground so that field work went ahead rapidly in all areas of the State, the Department reported. Soil moisture generally is adequate but drying out in some sections.

Cool nights slowed growth of all field crops, especially the small grains which are heading on short straw. Corn planting is nearing completion in the southeast, in full swing in other southern counties and getting underway in the north.

Frost damage left some potato stands "spotty" in the southeast

and planting is started in the northwest area. Tobacco plants are small with none set to date.

The weather outlook for the remainder of this week is for slightly above normal temperatures, moderate Wednesday followed by a rising trend. Scattered showers are forecast.



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