

Lancaster Farming

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Rains Flatten Some Grain in County Monday

By LF Staff Reporter

Heavy rains, welcomed as moisture, but damaging to some crops, swept across Lancaster County Monday night in varying amounts. Power disruptions were frequent.

One R1 New Holland farmer describes the storm "two miles north of New Holland. From 9 to 10:30 p.m. about three thundershowers brought us four inches of rain and a little hail. Later in the night another half inch of rain fell. All showers came from the northwest."

"Our wheat is down — nearly flat — over the whole field. I'd say more ground hasn't been moved since the 1942 floods," he concluded.

1.80 Inches at Ephrata

Rainfall of 1.80 inches was recorded at the Ephrata weather station, while the Lancaster Water Works reported 1.14 inches. Temperatures fell quickly, sliding down to 62 degrees after the storm which carried heavy amounts of lightning.

Roads Tuesday showed effects of the storm, in the Lititz, Manheim, Millersville, Washington Boro area where creeks had overflowed or drainage from fields flooded roads. Heavy deposits of mud were still much in evidence. Creeks and rivers were running muddy brown, like the Conestoga.

New Holland seemed to bear the brunt of the storms, for there some 3000 customers were without electricity. Throughout the county, it is estimated 4250 persons were affected by the power failures.

Harvest In Full Swing

First torrents of rain fell around 10 p.m. At Lititz one scene of the pageant was eliminated to speed up the program before the storm struck. At the close, however, hundreds stood during the final scene and the National Anthem despite the heavy rains.

Field work was in full progress and some delays are anticipated. Good yields of small grains are reported as the harvest gets underway, but combining will be hampered by tangled straw.

At Washington Boro, the harvest and packing of green-pack tomatoes is well underway, and little damage from the storm was reported Tuesday evening. Early packs are being shipped to York, Reading and Lancaster markets, while later truckloads will be sent to upper and western Pennsylvania, and New York State.

Tomato Yields Good

Yields totaling 12,000 to 15,000 bushels are expected this year, and refrigerated trucks will be moved into Washington

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Landis Valley Farm Museum



One of the nation's finest collections of farm history is contained in the Landis Valley Farm Museum, just north of Lancaster off Route 222. In the immediate foreground is the office, which has been restored and furnished authentically to reproduce home living of the pioneer days.

In the center is the barn, which houses many farm equipment displays, and in the far background a building containing shops and other relics. As Cooperstown is to baseball, Landis Valley is to farming. (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).

Third of July's Rain Received In Four Days

During the first four days of July, more than one-third of the normal July precipitation was received in Lancaster County, according to Bernard N. White, in charge of the Lancaster Weather Bureau office.

July 4 was rainy and cool, a change from the 96 degree July 2. Temperatures for the holiday reached but 80 degrees Tuesday day had a high of 90.

Rain has fallen thus far every day in July, totaling about 1.6 inches, against a normal July total of 4.37 inches.

Friday promises warmer temperatures, ranging into the middle or upper 80s.

Abe Bucher Reports

On Trip Out West

A G (Abe) Bucher, one of the best known Lancaster farming personalities, writes Lancaster Farming from Seattle, Wash., of his trip west.

"Pleasant, interesting and restful trip — Yellowstone, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Canadian Rockies, up to Jasper."

Holsteins Leave County for Latin American Farms

By LF Staff Reporter

Fifteen registered Holsteins from Lancaster County this week are finding a new home in Guatemala, purchased along very strict weight standards by Senor Rene Arqueta Diaz.

Senor Arqueta restricted his buying to poundage, since the animals were trucked to Miami and flown by commercial airlines into Central America across the Gulf of Mexico. Load limit per plane was 16,000 lbs., which explains his care in selection.

Through this purchase, Elvin Hess, Jr., R1 Strasburg, president of the Lancaster County Holstein Breeders Association, explains, a new market for Lancaster County Holsteins may be opened. This, to the knowledge of those concerned, is the first export shipment made from the Garden Spot.

Within the year, Senor Arqueta hopes to purchase 50 head more to help stock his dairy farms.

Careful selections were made for Senor Arqueta, who spoke no English. His wife served as interpreter during the Lancaster County tour made with Lloyd A. Derr, Mount Joy, from the Keystone Holstein Sales Co. Although the Lancaster County men had several animals they would have liked to see go to

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County Host to Vegetable Tour Next Wednesday

Lancaster County vegetable growers will be hosts to the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers tour through Lancaster County next Wednesday, July 11. Local growers are invited, and urged, to join the tour, to lend a helping hand and make growers from other parts of the State feel at home.

This tour, Harry S. Sloat, associate county agricultural agent, advises, is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association and the Agricultural Extension Service of the Pennsylvania State University. Itinerary for the day is as follows:

Registration 9:30 A.M.

9:00-9:30 a.m. Registration: Assemble at the Amos Funk Farm, R1 Millersville, approximately 4 miles southwest of Lancaster on Highway Route 999. Go left at fork in Millersville, pass Millersville State Teachers College and take second road to left (Slackwater Pike — road to Safe Harbor). Funk Farm is on edge of Millersville Watch for signs.

9:30 a.m. Tour of Funk Farm. About 60 acres planted to vegetables and small fruits. Seventy-five per cent of produce sold retail on Lancaster markets. Plant growing house, irrigation systems and pack house. Main crops — staked tomatoes, celery, lettuce, sweet potatoes, asparagus, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, etc. A one hundred per cent Vegetable Grower.

Manor View Farms

10:00 a.m. Leave Funk Farm

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Tomato Time



Up around Washington Boro, it's tomato time, as the 1956 crop of green-pack moves into surrounding market areas. Here Paul Habecker weighs in a box received from a nearby grower, who trucks his tomato produce into the Washington Boro Tomato Growers Cooperative Association. (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).