

241 Corn Agreements Signed by Countians

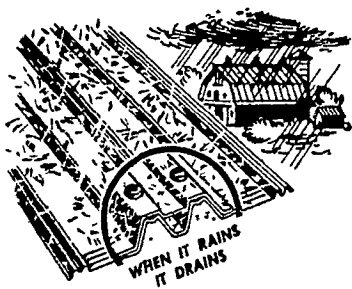
A total of 241 corn acreage reserve agreements have been signed by Lancaster County farmers, according to the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office.

These agreements cover 2,172.4 acres and have a maximum value of \$120,878.90.

Farmers with allotments of over 20 acres have until April 1 to sign revised agreements if they have requested to enroll additional acres in the soil bank program.



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Holstein from John S. Shelly Herd Top Butterfat Producer in Red Rose

The highest monthly butterfat producer in the Red Rose Dairy Herd Improvement Assn. in February was Lass, a registered Holstein owned by John S. Shelly, R1 Manheim. She produced 2,064 lbs. milk and 121.8 lbs. butterfat. Second was another registered Holstein owned by Mary B. Stoltzfus, Morgantown. She made a record of 2,302 lbs. of milk and 115.1 lbs. butterfat.

The high herd for the month belonged to Harry H. Ranck, R1 Ronks, with an average of 1,653 lbs. of milk and 61.6 lbs. of butterfat. Second was the Marvin A. Eshleman, Strasburg, herd with an average of 1,309 lbs. of milk and 47.3 lbs. of butterfat.

In the 305 day lactation division, a registered Holstein from the J. Lester Stauffer, R3 Manheim, herd took the honors with a record of 19,422 lbs. of milk and 679.6 lbs. of butterfat.

There was a tie for second place with a registered Holstein for the Job Stoltzfus, R2 Elverson, herd and a registered Guernsey from the Raymond Witmer, R1 Willow Street, herd tying with 677.4 lbs. of butterfat each. The Holstein produced 16,732 lbs. of milk while the Guernsey produced 14,572 pounds.

The top 15 herds with their milk and butterfat average are: Harry H. Ranck, R1 Ronks, 1,653 lbs. milk, 61.6 lbs. butterfat, Marvin A. Eshleman, Strasburg,

1,309 lbs. milk, 47.3 lbs. butterfat; Jacob L. Kurtz, R2 Elizabethtown, 1,219 lbs. milk, 45.8 lbs. butterfat; Jay E. Landis, 1,264 lbs. milk, 45.5 lbs. butterfat; Job Stoltzfus, R2 Elverson, 1,087 lbs. milk, 44.8 lbs. butterfat.

Allen K. Risser, R1 Bareville, 1,085 lbs. milk, 44.6 lbs. butterfat; C. J. Kurtz, 1,144 lbs. milk, 44.5 lbs. butterfat; Raymond F. Witmer, R1 Willow Street, 847 lbs. milk, 43.8 lbs. butterfat; J. Rohrer Witmer, R1 Willow Street, 882 lbs. milk, 43.4 lbs. butterfat; John S. Shelly, R1 Manheim, 1,038 lbs. milk, 42.9 lbs. butterfat.

Ezra M. Martin, 1,107 lbs. milk, 42.8 lbs. butterfat, Robert H. Kauffman, R1 Manheim, 1,064 lbs. milk, 42.7 lbs. butterfat; Tobias D. Leaman, 1,092 lbs. milk, 42.5 lbs. butterfat, George A. Rutt, R1 Stevens, 1,053 lbs. milk, 42.5 lbs. butterfat, Albert R. Fry, 1,059 lbs. milk, 41.4 lbs. butterfat.

Testers for the association last month were David Miller, Robert Probst, Jay Risser, James Herr, Walter Ely, Clarence Crider, Wilber Houser, Joe Hinish, Ross Mast, Clair Griffith and Arland Powell.

Egg Buying Policy Changed By Government

Beginning this week the USDA will offer to buy a new-type of "stabilized" dried whole egg solids and will discontinue buying shell eggs because sufficient quantities have now been purchased to meet school lunch requirements for the remainder of the school year.

As a result of cooperative research by the egg drying industry and the USDA in recent years, the new "stabilized" dried whole egg solids are much more palatable and have far better keeping qualities than dried egg products of earlier years.

Thus, any purchases of whole egg solids under the modified purchase program will be held in reserve for use in the school lunch program next fall. The purchase of 50,050 cases of shell eggs last week bring to 313,714 the number of cases of shell eggs purchased since the program was resumed in February.

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County PFA Backing Quality Control Bills

The Lancaster County Farmers' Association has thrown its support behind a legislative move to help producers of high quality eggs, it was announced this week by President, William B. Jacobs R2, Narvon.

The organization has asked members of the Commonwealth's General Assembly for an egg quality control law, which would guarantee that the quality of eggs sold would conform to the label on the egg carton.

At the present time Pennsylvania egg producers are losing their market to out-of-state producers who can guarantee the quality of their eggs. The quality of eggs produced on Pennsylvania farms usually is just as high as in other states, according to Jacobs.

But because of laxity in the grading and enforcement of the quality standards, there is considerable variation between dealers as to what constitutes a specific grade of egg.

"In other words the label on eggs from out-of-state is an absolute guarantee as to the quality, whereas the label in Pennsylvania does not always mean what it says," he says.

The proposed legislation would require all dealers to have certificates, and would require them to adhere strictly to the truth in the sale of eggs.

Farmers who sell directly to the consumer would be required to grade their eggs and to label them according to grade. It is felt the control law would help to standardize the quality of eggs, and that the producers of high quality eggs would benefit from a relatively higher price.

Poor quality eggs would be labeled as to their grade, and as a result would sell at a lower price.

The proposal does not necessarily force the "small egg producer" out of business, but it would force him to gather his eggs more often and more regularly, keep them clean and in good condition, or he would have to take a lower price.

The benefits would come to the egg producers who are doing a first rate job of producing and

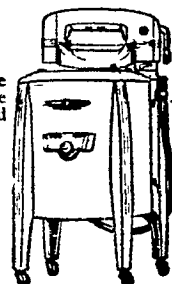
marketing their eggs. Fifty-eight per cent of the eggs produced in the state now are classified as Grade A or better. But because of the inferior eggs that are placed on the market, the consumer often turns to out-of-state eggs because of the quality guarantee.

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