

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

Farm Activities Show Increase After Rains

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania farm activities for the week ended Monday picked up as tomatoes, sweet corn and other garden vegetables along with early peaches and apples moved to market, the State Department of Agriculture reported.

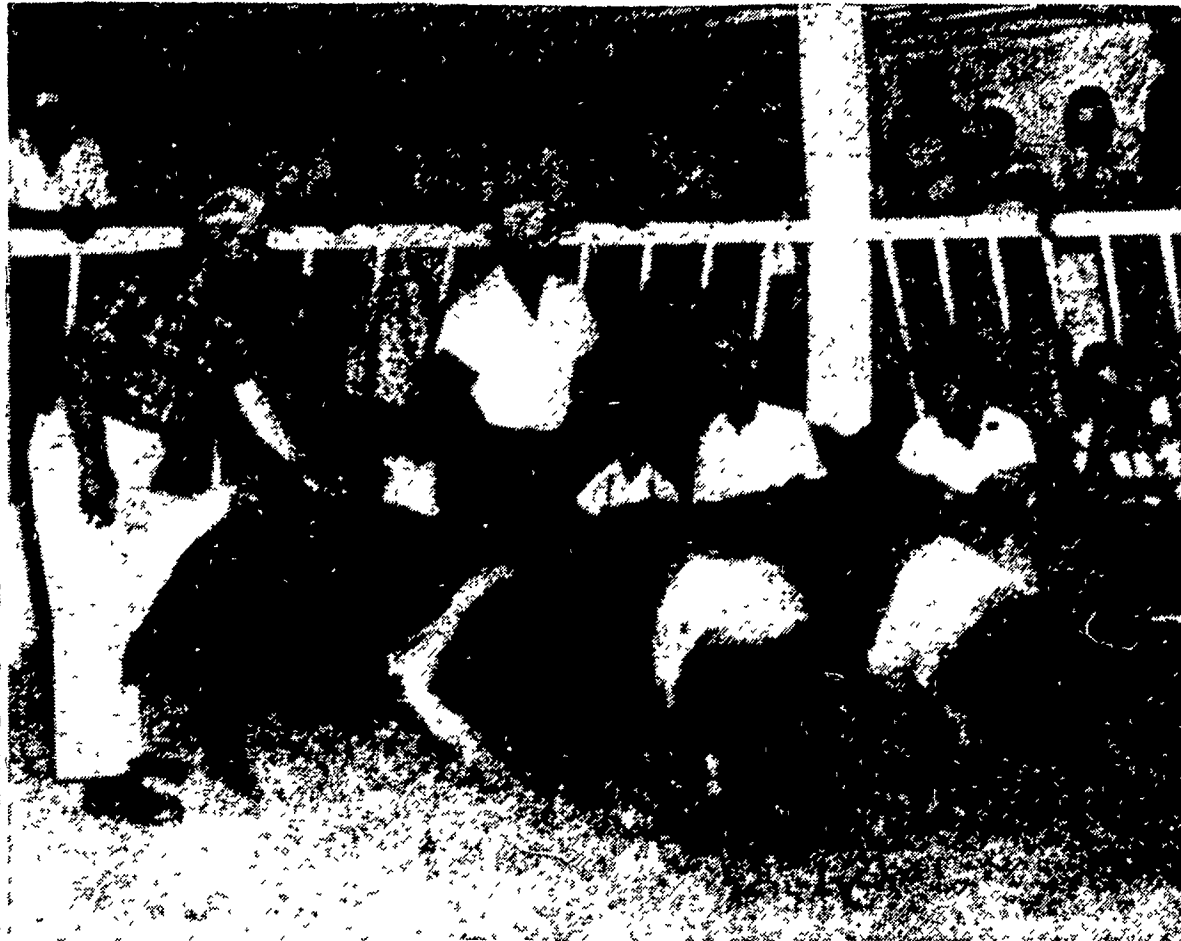
According to the weekly Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, all crops in southern counties were in need of moisture while good crop growth was reported in northern areas. The survey shows some plowing as being done in the south.

A general rainfall a week ago returned crops to near normal. However, additional moisture is required for small grains to reach their expected yields.

Most farmers in southern and central Pennsylvania counties reported harvesting a second cutting of hay, slightly behind schedule because of dry conditions. Pastures in this area were reported poor. Northern counties, with adequate rainfall during the growing season, indicate good pastures and normal growth of crops.

The heaviest rainfall for the crop which began April 2, 1957, has been in the western sections of the state with Erie showing 17.56 inches of rain and Altoona 16.31 inches. Philadelphia, with 8.06 inches, reports the smallest amount of rain.

For the remainder of the week



GIVING REASONS FOR HIS PLACINGS in a class of sows Saturday at the Lancaster County Swine Producers' Field Day at Stauffer Homestead Farms, R1 East Earl, is Dwight Younkin (left), Penn State live-

stock specialist. Keeping the sows grouped is Earl Fisher, manager of Stauffer Homestead Farms. More than 80 persons attended the event, held this year for the first time. (LF Photo)

Pennsylvania farmers can expect near normal temperatures with scattered thundershowers near the end of the week, the U. S. Weather Bureau reports.

'Dual' Wheat Makes Good Showing; English Hybrid 46 Yields Only Fair

A new wheat variety, Dual, developed by Indiana's Purdue University and on test here in Pennsylvania for the past two years, now seem to be one of the best of the new wheat varieties for Pennsylvania farmers.

In tests in Lancaster and Centre counties the past two years the wheat has averaged 52.8 bushels an acre. It is Hessian fly, rust and winter kill resistant.

However there is one precaution that must be taken with Dual. It is susceptible to loose smut. Therefore to avoid this hazard, certified seed or seed that has been hot water treated should be used. Mercuric seed treatments or other types of smut do not affect loose smut which is in the rain.

However of all the wheats on test this year, none, because of various failings seems to be much better than Pennoll, Seneca and Thorne, standards now for some years.

The English wheat, Hybrid 46, was not shown up too well in tests made by Beltsville, Penn State and by individual farmers throughout the county.

According to Dr. L. P. Wright of the Beltsville USDA Research Center, tests in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Texas have failed to prove any great value of the English wheat over native varieties.

Here in Pennsylvania the variety has been on test since 1954. It has had the lowest average yield of any variety when the tests were averaged over the years and compared with Dual, Pennoll, Seneca and Thorne.

In independent field trials run the past season by several county farmers, the wheat averaged between 35 and 40 bushels an acre. The grain was not well filled and the variety seems to be affected by rust and insects, notably Hessian Fly and corn borer.

According to Dr. Wright, results of an imported wheat are often similar to this. The north countries of Europe have an ideal wheat growing climate with mild winters, long cool moist summers, and are without some of the diseases that affect wheat and other small grains here.

Yields of 100 bushels per acre of most of the small grains are not uncommon in that part of the world.

Plant breeders at experiment stations throughout the nation are now using the Hybrid 46 variety to try to breed the stiff strawed characteristic into new wheat being developed.

In tests of other small grains made this year at the Southeast Field Research Laboratories near

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Progressive DHIA Votes to Join Red Rose DHIA

With the coming conversion of DHIA records in Chester County to the machine system, the directors of Progressive DHIA are met with the problem of which county they shall be affiliated with, but have voted to join Lancaster County's Red Rose DHIA.

The Progressive association was formed ten years ago to serve dairymen in the southern parts of Lancaster and Chester County. Under an agreement proposed by former County Agent Floyd (Dutch) Bucher, the administration of the bi-county group was to be by the Chester County Agent.

However during the past ten years the composition of the group has changed so that now there are enough Lancaster County farms in the association to give one tester a full month of work.

At a meeting of Lancaster County members held Monday night at the Chestnut Level Church, Paul Ankrum, R2 Peach Bottom, said that among the other problems facing Chester County is that there are now seven DHIA organizations in that county. Under the machine system the county must be tested as a whole.

Costs of testing, however, seems to be the big issue. Chester County has proposed a price schedule that calls for a charge of \$12 for the first 25 cows tested, 25 cents a cow for all over 25, 10 cents a cow record costs and 5 cents a cow for association fees.

This would amount to a charge of \$23.75 for a 40 cow herd. Prior to this time the Progressive association had been making a charge that amounted to \$15.50 for a 40 cow herd.

Red Rose DHIA President Rohrer Witmer told the dairymen that the charges for a 40 cow herd in that association are \$18.

But another problem is that the fee to the tester will be dropped, by \$2 on a 40 cow herd under the Red Rose system.

However the dairymen moved that they apply for group membership in the Red Rose DHIA, bringing with them their tester and equipment.

The directors of Red Rose will meet Aug. 6 at the Lancaster Post Office Building to discuss this proposal.



IN A BACKFAT probing demonstration at the Swine Producers Field Day Saturday, Frank Sherritt of Penn State swabs a barrows back with iodine in preparation for the incision. Dwight Younkin, livestock specialist, holds the knife ready to make the incision. The hog is probed in three areas for the fat measurement. (LF photo)

Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH, County Agriculture Agent

TO RENOVATE OLD PASTURES — The dry hot weather of August is the best time to destroy old sods by discing Lime and fertilizer should be worked into the ground as the sods are destroyed. Early September is the best time for starting a new seeding.

TO CHECK SILOS — Corn silage making time will soon be at hand. Be sure your silo is in good condition to preserve this valuable feed crop.

TO CONSIDER A TRENCH SILO — Upright silos are not required to have silage. The value of trench silos is being recognized more each year. Plans and assistance are available at the Extension Service Office in the Post Office Building, Lancaster.

TO KILL MILLIPEDES — These hard shelled, many-legged insects are quiet common about homes and lawns. A lindane spray will kill them or you can sweep them up and burn them. No apparent damage is expected.