

# Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

## Gov. Leader Calls Crop Conditions In Southeast Counties 'Worst Ever'

HARRISBURG — As southeastern Pennsylvania entered the eighth week without substantial rains, growth of the majority of crops in the State came to a standstill due to lack of moisture, the State Department of Agriculture reported Wednesday.

Returning from a tour of four hard-hit southeastern counties with Gov. George M. Leader, Agriculture Secretary W. L. Henning declared drought conditions in many areas were reported by some farmers interviewed to be "the worst ever experienced." He said conditions were almost beyond belief in the areas toured over back roads.

The Montgomery County Disaster Committee Wednesday had its request for federal assistance in the hands of the Pennsylvania USDA Disaster Committee. Similar requests are expected within the next week from Berks, Bucks and Chester Counties. Montgomery estimated crop losses at \$3,600,000.

Meanwhile, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service pointed to growing season rainfall deficiencies in four representative areas. Philadelphia was 9.69 inches below normal; Reading, 6.20 inches; Harrisburg, 6.04 inches, and Allentown 5.06 inches.

Weather and crop surveys for the week ended Monday showed tobacco and potato yields and production declining steadily. Late peaches, apples, tomatoes and potatoes are not attaining their usual size in drought areas. Pastures are reported at only 61 per cent of normal and hay crops continue poor.

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## Guernsey, Jersey Cattle Club Ask USDA to Modify Milk Market Order

PETERBOROUGH, N. H. —The American Guernsey Cattle Club here has filed a request with the U. S. Department of Agriculture requesting the separate pooling of special milks under Federal milk marketing orders.

The American Guernsey Cattle Club has been joined in this request by American Jersey Cattle Club, Columbus, Ohio. The two purebred dairy cattle associations represent some 100,000 dairymen.

Both organizations sponsor national trademark milk programs — Golden Guernsey and All-Jersey — under which sales have increased steadily. However, the organizations pointed out that federal marketing orders are placing an unfair burden on their producers.

In a joint statement released by the two associations, they point out that under Federal Order regulations all dairymen are paid the same basic price for the milk they produce, regardless of the differences in quality and consequent marketability. This penalizes the producers of a special, premium milk, actually forcing them to subsidize the producers of regular milk.

Special milks, as defined by the two associations, need not be confined to just Guernsey and Jersey milks.

Here is how the separate milk pools, as advocated by the Guernsey and Jersey associations,

would operate

Producers of special milks would be paid the Class I price for that part of their milk sold as special fluid milk. For the rest, special milk producers would receive only the regular price for surplus milk.

In any market where a separate pool was adopted for special milks, the producers of regular milk would be paid by the regular pool as it is now operated, according to the utilization of the milk in that pool.

This type of pooling would permit special and regular milks to stand on their own feet, each to expand or contract on its own merits, according to the Guernsey and Jersey organizations.

These organizations point out that their proposal would not guarantee special milk producers a better price than that received by other dairymen. It would give them the opportunity to further increase the Class I sales of their special milk for their own benefit, which under the present market wide pools are shared by all producers in the market, regardless of the quality of the milk they produce.

The Guernsey and Jersey associations will welcome discussions of their proposal with any interested parties. "We are not asking for privileged treatment," they state, "only for equal opportunity."

## Liaison With Rural Churches Established by USDA to Help Leaders

In recognition of the importance of the rural church as a community institution in serving farm people, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced today that it is establishing a focal point for closer relationships with town-country church leaders, and with both denominational and interdenominational organizations.

This will provide a more direct

link with USDA to help these leaders stay abreast of the changing scene of rural life. They will be kept current on the Department's program, informational materials, and personnel.

Philip F. Aylesworth of the Federal Extension Service has been assigned on a Department-wide basis to work closely with USDA agencies in serving church leaders.



DISCUSSING DROUTH CONDITIONS in Lancaster County are, l to r, former County Agent Floyd (Dutch) Bucher, Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning, Governor George Leader, County Agent Max Smith and Willis Z. Esbenshade, Lancaster.

Smith told the officials that the northern tier of townships in the county are hardest hit by the dry weather. The Governor did not visit any Lancaster County farms in his drouth condition tour Monday. (LF Photo)

## \$75 Per Hundred Champion Brings At Garden Spot

The Grand Champion steer at the Garden Spot Baby Beef show Wednesday at the Lancaster Union Stock Yards sold to Acme Markets for \$75 per hundredweight. The 900 pound animal was shown and sold by Miss Connie Quesenberry, R1 Strinestown, York County.

The reserve champion animal was shown by Vernon Good, R1 East Earl. The 955 pound steer was purchased by H. F. Hildebrand, Strasburg, for \$46 a hundredweight.

The sale average was \$30.15 and the average weight per animal was 959.3 pounds. The 78 animals weighed in at 74,830 pounds.

Another sort of record was placed by the Elmer M. Hoover family of Bird-in-Hand. Seven Hoovers, Jay, Ella, Clyde, Glenn, Clair, Curvin and Nelson, had steers in the show and sale.

There was no single large buyer at the sale with sales being made generally throughout the area. Restaurant buyers included the Stockyards Inn, Lancaster, and the Crystal Inn and Berkshire Hotel of Reading.

Both the champion and reserve steer were bought by their youthful owners at the Stockyards Feeder Calf sale held last fall.

The Garden Spot Show and Sale is an annual event sponsored by the Stock Yards for children of patrons. All exhibitors were between the ages of 6 and 18.

## Only 12 Townships in State Untested for Brucellosis

HARRISBURG — With the addition of four townships in Bradford County to the State testing program for brucellosis, Dr. Howard A. Milo, director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, State Department of Agriculture, today revised estimates for completion of testing of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for brucellosis.

Dr. Milo said only three townships in Bradford County remain outside the testing program and nine townships in Lebanon County have yet to apply for testing. He added the entire State should be tested prior to his original estimate of an. 1, 1958.

The Bradford County townships completed include Athens, North Towanda, Ulster and Smithfield. Dr. Milo said the remaining three

townships probably would complete testing within 10 days.

Brucellosis is a communicable livestock disease which costs livestock farmers thousands of dollars annually.

According to Dr. Milo, there are only 12 townships of the 1,569 townships in the State without a brucellosis testing program. He said there are 55 counties certified as brucellosis-free and only two, Bradford and Lebanon Counties, that have not yet completed testing.

For a county to be considered brucellosis-free the infection cannot exceed one per cent in the county cattle population and five per cent of the herds in the county.

## Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH  
County Agricultural Agent

**TO SPRAY FENCE ROWS** — Post harvest time is highly recommended as a period when chemicals such as 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T may be used to spray on brush, briars or weeds. Details on the use of these chemicals are available through Penn State Extension bulletin "Chemical Weed Control."

**TO FLUSH EWE FLOCKS** — Many successful shippers continue the practice of providing additional grain or succulent pasture for the breeding flock several weeks in advance of breeding time. The objective is to increase the number of multiple births.

**TO MAINTAIN LIVESTOCK CONDITION** — Present drouth conditions make it difficult for all livestock to maintain body condition unless extra nutrients are provided. It is strongly recommended that livestock be fed hay, silage or additional grain in order to prevent thin condition when entering winter quarters.



Max Smith