

Lancaster Farming

Vol. II. No. 49

Quarryville (Lancaster County) Pa., Friday, Oct. 18, 1957

\$2 Per Year

North Carolina Youth Receives FFA 'Star Farmer of America' Title

By Ralph Bitler

KANSAS CITY, MO., (Special) Clarence C. Chappell, Jr., 21, R1 Belvidere, North Carolina, received the nation's most coveted farm youth award in Kansas City Tuesday night when the Future Farmers of America conferred their "Star Farmer of America" title.

The award, carrying with it a \$1,000 check from the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., was made during colorful ceremonies at the Tuesday evening session of the 30th annual national FFA convention in Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium.

Young Chappell shared the spotlight with three other FFA members who were named Regional Star Farmers and received checks of \$500 each. They are Charles F. Cole, 20, R2 New Hartford, New York; Bryan Haf-n, 19, Mesquite, Nevada, and Billie D. Parsons, 21, Milesville, South Dakota.

Earlier in the day the Star Farmers had been among the 363 FFA members who received the organization's top achievement degree, that of American Farmer. Only one FFA member in a thousand is eligible to become an American Farmer, and the Star Farmers were selected from that group.

American Farmers are considered to be the "cream of the crop." The degree is given only by the national organization, and State Associations are permitted to submit only one candidate for each 1,000 or major fraction, of members in the state.

Each American Farmer Degree winner received a gold key and certificate from the FFA.

Among the 11 Pennsylvania American Farmers honored were Lester J. Wiker, R2, Quarryville, Solanco Chapter; Harry L. Griest, R3 Coatesville, Octorara Area Chapter; and David L. Shaub, R2 Hershey, M. S. Hershey Chapter.

Named honorary American Farmer was V. A. Martin, Camp

Hill, former assistant state supervisor of agricultural education.

Other dignitaries so honored include the fathers of the Star Farmers, fathers of National Officers, Harry S. Truman, former president of the United States, Mayor Bartle of Kansas City, Senator E. J. Thye of Minnesota, Gov. Cecil Underwood of West Virginia, and Toraichi Kurisaki, secretary general, Future Farmers of Japan, Tokyo.

Two Lancaster County FFA boys members of the national chorus. They are Gerald Greiner, R4 Mannheim, and A. Clyde Kreider J., R1 Quarryville. Both sing first tenor.

The chorus will participate in the American Royal Ball tonight and will march in the American Royal Parade tomorrow morning.

The chorus members arrived in Kansas City Oct 11 to begin practice sessions.

Judging for Star Farmer awards was done by a group of nationally known business and professional men in a meeting held at national FFA headquarters in Washington, D. C., July 29. Names of the winners were kept secret until the presentation.

The judges were Raymond C. Firestone, President, Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio; Kenneth C. Towe, President, American Cyanamid Co., New York, N. Y.; Clark W. Davis, General Manager of the Grasselli Chemicals Department, E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, Del.; Frank W. Jenks, Executive Vice President, International Harvester Co., Chicago, Ill.; Edward Foss Wilson, Assistant Secretary, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, D. C.; Wheeler McMillen, Vice President, Farm Journal, Inc., Philadelphia, Penna; Roderick Turnbull, Editor, The Weekly Star Farmer, Kansas City Mo., and Hugo Riemer, President of the Nitrogen Division, Allied Chemical and Dye Corp., New York, N. Y.



A PERFECT CRISP FALL DAY brought out a crowd of hundreds to watch the annual Lancaster County Plowing contest held in conjunction with the Mt. Joy Com-

munity Farm Show. Sixteen contestants entered. Winner was Martin Witman, R1 Marietta. (LF Photo)

Penna. Completely Area Tested; To Be Certified Bang's Free In March

A 23-year dream has come true from Dr. Howard A. Milo, director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, State Department of Agriculture.

This month Dr. Milo signed the final papers to designate Pennsylvania as completely tested under the brucellosis eradication program. His next goal—by March 1, 1958—is to receive U. S. Department of Agriculture certification as a brucellosis-free State.

October 4 was the historic day for the livestock industry in Pennsylvania when Lebanon County dairy and beef breeding farmers submitted the last herds in the State for area testing by a special team of Department and practicing veterinarians.

Pennsylvania becomes the tenth State in the nation to complete testing. There are now 59 counties in the Keystone State certified by USDA as brucellosis-free. For statewide certification, eight other counties must be retested to bring the percentage of disease below five per cent in the number of herds and one per cent in the total cattle in the county.

According to figures released by the Bureau of Animal Industry, initial testing was completed on an 1,362,863 cattle in 99,385 herds. All are under supervision of Bureau agents and will be retested at periodic intervals to assure checking of the infection.

Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning commended the Bureau of Animal Industry for "diligent service in completing the initial testing program in Pennsylvania." He said in the last year and a half 26 counties have been certified under the intensive program. Between 1940 and 1955 only 33 counties were certified.

"Our program must continue

until we have the entire State certified . . . and then some," Secretary Henning declared. He cited the cooperative efforts of practicing veterinarians, the county and State brucellosis committees, cattle breed organizations, individual farmers, county agents, agricultural extension specialists and others.

The completion of testing in Lebanon County was spearheaded last month with the assignment of a team of veterinarians to the county in an all-out drive.

Dr. Milo said the prompt clean-up campaign in Lebanon County necessitated a revision in certification plans. He now anticipates that the State will be several months ahead of the July 1, 1958 goal set two years ago for statewide certification.

According to Department records, the first brucellosis test was conducted in 1934 in Crawford County, where a program was begun on a small scale. According to Dr. Milo, that program progressed slowly during the early years because of the lack of personnel and adequate funds.

In 1950 a statewide calfhood vaccination program was adopted as an adjunct to the eradication efforts. Under the plan, cattle between four and eight months of age are vaccinated to build up an immunity to brucellosis.

In 1953 the mobile ring test was introduced for dairy cattle enabling technicians in mobile laboratories to read composite milk samples for brucellosis suspects. Dr. Milo estimated that the Bureau's diagnostic laboratory at Summerdale, Cumberland County, last year tested a record 800,000 blood samples under the program.

Now that the State has com-

Even Dairy Cows Are Subject To 'Stress'

Even cows are subject to "stress" disease problems.

Dr. Samuel B. Guss, extension veterinary specialist, says many high-producing dairy cows are stricken with "ketosis" within 10 to 90 days after their calves are born. Many farmers do not recognize the great amount of energy used by the highly-productive cow at the peak of milk output, and many do not understand the great amount of feed a cow requires if she is to produce at her maximum.

Ketosis usually is caused when the cow does not receive balanced nutrition to maintain both her weight and full milk production, Dr. Guss continues. It could also be a secondary condition resulting from a disease which suppressed the appetite and reduced feed consumption. Symptoms include loss of appetite, constipation, depressed appearance, a staring expression, rapid loss of body weight, and a drop in milk production. The sick animal also may show signs of incoordination. Some cows may become lethargic; others may be excitable.

Method of treating the disease depends upon whether the veterinarian's diagnosis shows that the ketosis condition is primary, or is secondary result of another disease.

pleted the testing program for bovine brucellosis, veterinarians will concentrate on additional livestock disease eradication work, including a voluntary swine brucellosis campaign in slaughterhouses.

Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH

County Agricultural Agent



Max Smith

TO PROTECT FARM PONDS — Due to the recent drouth many farm ponds remain below normal water level; muskrats are becoming more active now at these lower water levels. Holes and dens at these levels may weaken or drain the pond. A continuous control program is urged before infestation gets too high.

TO RECOGNIZE VALUE OF CORN FODDER — The fertilizer value of corn fodder is just as good after it has been of use in the barn as a roughage feed or as bedding. With the shortage of both straw and hay in this area, it is possible to use corn fodder as a partial replacement especially with young stock and with steers.

TO PROTECT FARM MACHINERY — On many farms most of the crops have been harvested and the machinery is ready for winter storage. It is good management and efficient to check and repair machinery before storing it for winter. By all means it should be under roof during the winter months.

TO SPRAY FOR WINTERCRESS — Early fall is the best time to spray grasslands for control of wintercress; many farmers regard it as mustard in the alfalfa or clover fields next spring, but it is wintercress. Most effective spray to use, without damage to alfalfa or clover is MCP at the rate of one pint in not over seven gallons of water per acre. This weed is quite common throughout the county and should be checked.

TO TOP-DRESS FORAGE CROPS — For maximum yields of legumes and grasses next summer fall applications of phosphorus and potash are strongly recommended, applications of 300 to 400 pounds of 0-20-20, or the equivalent, here in mid-October should give good results next summer.