

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

Integration, Management Changes Are Coming, Swine Producers Told

Integration, larger operations, multiple farrowing and confinement rearing are coming to the swine industry and in a hurry, Dwight Younkin, Penn State Swine specialist, told the County Swine Producers Assn at a dinner Thursday night.

Younkin said that integration in the swine industry is already firmly established in some other parts of the nation and is starting in Pennsylvania. The farmer, he said, should be expecting such a trend and ready to meet it.

Figures on the size of operations in Indiana were cited to show how efficiency grows as the operation grows. A study by Purdue University was made on farms where the number of sows kept were 10 head, 40 head and 60 head.

A return of \$2 an hour was realized in the 10 sow operations. Where 40 sows were kept, the per hour figure jumped to \$6, an increase of 300 per cent.

The return per sow and two litters was even more dramatic, with the increase being some 420 per cent. In the 10 sow herds, the average was \$20 per sow and in the 40 sow herds, it was \$84 for each litter.

But in the 60 sow herds, a drop in both profits and labor were noted. This was because the operators had not changed their equipment enough to cope with the number of animals on the farm.

Packers are forcing the farmer into multiple farrowing, Younkin said. To keep their plants busy the year around, packers are demanding good quality slaughter hogs the year round. This will mean that the farmer now will start breeding his sows and gilts to farrow each two or three

months, rather than in the spring and fall as at present.

While this sort of farrowing arrangement will help the packer by allowing his equipment to be in use at all times, it will also help the farmer for the same reason. It will also tend to level off some of the peaks and valleys in the hog price cycle.

Feed research has come a long way in the past few years, Younkin said. This is allowing hogs to be raised on concrete safely with no need for pasture or supplemental roughage.

In the next few years, he said, the only hogs that will ever be on pasture will be breeding stock. All other hogs will be raised on concrete.

He announced that a feeder pig sale will be held May 20 at the Farm Show Building in Harrisburg. Anyone may consign pigs that they have raised to this sale. The feeder pigs will be sorted into uniform lots and will be sold disease free.

Iron Dextrin, a new drug being manufactured by the Armour and Anchor Companies, is a good, simple, inexpensive way to prevent anemia in spring pigs, Younkin said. The drug is injected into the ham in a 2 cc dose. Total cost per pig is about 27 cents.

A new feed additive, Hygromycin, was also recommended by the specialist. He gave it the nod for all pigs up to seven months of age and as a supplement to the diet of brood sows during the last month before farrowing.

Three directors of the association were re-elected for three year terms. They are C. Warren Leininger, Denver; Arlie Anderson, Elizabethtown, and Howard Siglin, Millersville.

The dinner was held at the Blue Ball Fire Hall.



THE THREE re-elected directors of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Assn. hold a brief discussion with Dwight Younkin, Penn State animal husbandry specialist after the association's annual meeting

Thursday. They are, left to right, Howard Siglin, Millersville; C. Warren Leininger, Denver; Arlie Anderson, Elizabethtown; and Younkin. (LF Photo)

March Prices Highest Since October 1953

HARRISBURG, Apr. 2 — Nearly all Pennsylvania farm products during the month ended March 15 averaged higher prices to farmers than month earlier, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Milk, the number one cash income of Pennsylvania agriculture, was 20 cents a hundred weight less at wholesale.

Despite the dairy price decrease, the Pennsylvania index of prices received stood at 257 per cent of the 1910-14 period and was the highest since October 1953. A year ago the price index was 237 per cent. In mid-February it was 255 per cent.

Food Industry Representatives Try New Foods, Find Some Delicious

Some 68 people in the food industries in Pennsylvania proved that some of the new food now in the research laboratories and on the market are just as good as the fresh version and that some taste even better.

The background for this fact finding session was a new foods luncheon held Thursday at the annual meeting of the Food Marketing Advisory Council.

Four new foods were offered at the luncheon with the standard version right beside it. Included were an apple juice concentrate, turkey steaks, frozen dessert and flake potatoes.

When a vote was taken, almost as many people thought that the recombined concentrated apple juice was the natural product. Most trying the steaks for the first time expressed a liking for them. They are turkey white meat compressed into steaks, rolled in bread crumbs and seasoned.

The flake potatoes, while undistinguishable from the natural product by most persons, failed to pass the taste test. Four times as many people preferred the natural mashed potato to the reconstituted product.

However in a taste and identi-

Community Meal Planning Meeting Re-scheduled

A meeting on "Planning and Organizing Community Meals" has been rescheduled, announces Mrs. Ruth K. Kreibich, extension home economist.

The meeting now will be held Friday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. basement auditorium, Griest Bldg., Lancaster.

Any woman who helps with dinners sponsored by churches, fire hall or any organization is invited to attend. Women who have not previously registered should contact the Agricultural and Home Economics Extension Office, Post Office Bldg., Lancaster, by Wednesday, April 9. The phone number is EXpress 4-6851.

Least Tobacco, Least Price Mark 1957 Crop Sales

Lancaster County tobacco farmers accomplished two leasts last year — they produced the least amount of tobacco since 1953 and they got paid the least for it since 1951.

The quarterly tobacco situation report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture shows that the total yield for Type 41-46 filler was 41.2 million pounds and that the average price was 22.2 cents a pound.

This was a drop of 9.8 million pounds from the 1956 crop, or about 19 per cent less than the year before. The price dropped by 7.5 per cent.

On the other hand, cigar manufacturers reported that sales were up by about 1.5 per cent the last year. Per capita consumption of cigars bears this out with the average American over 15 years old smoking nearly one additional cigar last year.

But the joker in the deck shows when you look at the weight figures. Although an extra cigar was smoked, the amount of tobacco smoked stayed the same at 1.11 pounds per person.

Consumption stood at 52 cigars per person with the 20 year consumption average being 53.4 cigars per person.

Supply and demand for farm sales of type 41 tobacco seem to have very little relationship to the price, according to the figures given.

Production has varied from 38.2 million pounds in 1953 to 51.0 million pounds in 1956. But the price has gone down steadily from the 27.5 cents a pound high established that year.

The most disastrous price for filler in recent years was the 19 cent average established for the 1951 crop. That year total supplies were at 182.4 million pounds including a 56.2 million pound crop.

The total supply of tobacco has never again reached such a figure.

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THE EASE WITH which the new flaked potatoes may be prepared was demonstrated Thursday by Mrs. Ada B. Konhaus, Cumberland County Home Economist. The demonstration was made at the new foods luncheon of the Food Marketing Advisory Council. (LF Photo)