

# Lancaster Farming

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## Benson to Be Main Speaker At Plow Contest

HERSHEY — United States Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson will be guest speaker on the second day of the 16th National Plowing Contest and Conservation Exposition to be held here Aug. 21-22 the exposition committee announced today.

Gov. George M. Leader is the speaker for the opening day when contour plowing matches will be run and tribute paid to "Pennsylvania Agriculture."

Secretary Benson will participate in the exposition's salute to "National Agriculture" on Friday, Aug. 22, following the level land plowing match, according to Leland H. Bull, general chairman for the exposition. He said there will be no speakers other than Leader and Benson on either day.

The Pennsylvania State Police will stage a half-hour rodeo and horsemanship exhibition on both days in the 15,000-seat Hershey Stadium, Bull announced. This feature was arranged through the courtesy of Col. E. J. Henry, State Police Commissioner, and Major C. C. Keller, superintendent of the State Police Training School.

Riders will open the program each afternoon followed by a "tractor tipping" safety demonstration to show various ways that farm tractors can upset, using a specially built tractor loaned by Cornell University.

Following his address Leader will participate in making awards to the champion and runner-up in the contour plowing matches. Similarly, Benson will assist in awards to level land plowing contest winners the following day.

Bull said state Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning will present special certificates to first and second place winners in the Pennsylvania State Plowing Championships to be run off Tuesday, Aug. 19. State winners will enter the national matches in level land and contour plowing.

## SPABC Show To Be Aug. 7

The annual Southeastern Pennsylvania Artificial Breeding Cooperative dairy show will be held Aug. 6 and 7 at the SPABC headquarters on Route 230, Lancaster.

On Wednesday evening, Aug. 6, there will be a type demonstration headed by L. O. Colebank, official classifier for the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Judging of all breeds will start at 10 a. m. on Thursday.

At Hershey Saturday—

## Area Queen to Be Picked

Lancaster County's two contestants for Queen of the Furrow will meet contestants from Lebanon, Schuylkill, Dauphin and York Counties Saturday at Hershey to decide the district title.

The two contestants from Lancaster County are Misses Ruth Ann Carroll, Peach Bottom, and Rosemary Andrews, Willow Street. They were selected June 23 in a contest held at Millersville State Teachers College.

The area contest at Hershey



ONE OF THE newest phases of the highly specialized poultry industry is the raising of started pullets. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a report on this new business,

some of the advantages and some of the drawbacks. This picture was taken at the farm of James Garber, R2 Elizabethtown. (LF Photo)

## Ohio Farm Editor Sees Ending Of Leaf Surplus

The tobacco surplus problem may soon be a thing of the past, writes Bill Zipf, farm editor of the Columbus, Ohio, Dispatch.

He says, "In Fairfield County last week a farmer pulled a package of chewing tobacco out of his hip pocket . . . Noticed the package appeared strange . . . Asked him . . . He passed it to me . . . It was mint-flavored chewing tobacco.

"Every time I've thought about it since, I've been a trifle nauseated.

"But I predict this new development will boost the morale of farm workers throughout the land.

"What's more, if this means women start chewing, we may have our tobacco surplus—of all kinds and types—cared for in short order.

"Co-workers and I are studying the possibilities of selling kits for ladies—tobacco with mint tinge, plus individual jeweled cupidors."

## County Poultrymen Staying Home for Annual Tour

Lancaster County poultrymen will stay at home this year while going on the Lancaster County Poultry Assn's annual tour.

A six stop family tour has been arranged by Mark E. Myer, Richard Kreider, Arthur Graybill and Harry S. Sloat. Beginning at 8:30 a. m., the tour is expected to end at about 4 p. m. A picnic lunch will be held at noon.

The tour will assemble at the New Holland Machine Co., New Holland. Here guided tours will show the construction and assembly of farm machinery.

The next stop at 10 a. m. will be at Victor F. Weaver Inc., plant in New Holland. The group will observe a poultry dressing plant with a 45,000 bird per day capacity, and egg grading, candling and packing facilities.

At 1:15 p. m. the tour will stop at the farm of George Weaver, R1 New Holland. Weaver has 4,000 Leghorn layers, 16,000

broilers, and 40 milk cows. He uses a concrete block house, bulk feed bins, automatic feeders and no roosts. The 36 by 200 foot block broiler house has a built-up roof, exhaust fans, radiant heat, a feed mixer, automatic feeders and waterers.

David G. Musselman, R1 New Holland will be host at the 2 p. m. stop. He has 9,000 Leghorn layers in several houses and a remodeled barn. The main house is two story concrete block with bulk feed bins, automatic feeders and waterers, no roosts, and with nests in the center of the house. The farm has a humidifier and cooler operating in an egg cellar.

Another New Holland farm, this one belonging to Mervin Hooper, R1 New Holland will be the 2:45 p. m. stop. Hooper has 3,000 Leghorn layers. However he is using a pole type house with a pit in the center. There are double decker roosts above the pit and a litter cleaner to remove droppings. In addition he has 18 cows and 10 acres of tobacco.

The pre-cut Homesote broiler house will be observed at the

farm of James Hih, R1 Gordonville when the tour arrives at 3:15 p. m. This house measures 36 by 450 feet. There is fine type heat with a hot water pipe running down at the center of the house. Four rows of hanging tube feeders are serviced by a feed cart on a track. The house has a dirt floor and cellopane windows.

All interested poultrymen are invited to participate in any part of the tour.

The contest is sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Pennsylvania, vocational agriculture departments and local

## Wheat Harvest Still Delayed By Wet Weather

The 1958 wheat harvest here may go down in history as one of the most prolonged in recent years. At the beginning of this week, an estimated half to two thirds of the County acreage remains to be harvested.

Combining has been stopped by frequent rains which have kept the crop too tough to be harvested. An exceptionally heavy straw growth this year aggravated the situation.

Many farmers are starting to head the wheat to get the grain off before shattering begins. They then mow the straw for baling. Actually this practice is best if there is a hay or cover crop planted with the wheat.

By mowing off the straw short, the new crop will have a better chance than if it has to compete with some four to six inches of stubble.

SECOND CUTTINGS of hay are also behind schedule in most areas. Many farmers have been unable to get good quality hay in the barn. Pastures continue to remain in generally good condition with very little insect damage.

The state Crop Reporting Service says that picking of early peaches has started in the Berks-Lehigh fruit belt and is continuing in the Adams-Franklin-York area. Apples and peaches are sizing nicely and have good color.

Tomatoes and sweet corn are moving to fresh markets in small volumes in the Southern tier of counties and limited quantities of potatoes are being dug.

SHOWERS AND thunderstorms (the early part of last week provided rainfall totaling one-half inch to 1½ inches in most sections of the state. Exceptions were the extreme northwest part of the state where amounts were light and the south-central and south-east where more than two inches fell. Temperatures averaged about normal, but humidity remained high and oppressive throughout the period.

The Safe Harbor weather reporting station registered 91 degrees on July 27 as the high temperature for the week just ended. The average high was 84 and the average low was 70 degrees.

A total of 83 inches of rain were reported at Safe Harbor during the week ending July 28. The total this crop season is now 13.62 inches. In Reading during the same period a total of 1.47 inches fell swelling the total rainfall to 14.76 inches, which is about normal for the period.

Reading's average high temperature was 82 degrees and the average low was 69 degrees.

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