

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

Nov. 25 Set For Nation's Corn Referendum Vote

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced a referendum among corn producers in the 1932-county commercial corn-producing area will be held, Nov. 25.

A simple majority of all producers in the 1958 commercial area voting in the referendum will determine which of two alternative corn programs will be in effect in 1959 and subsequent years, as authorized by the Agricultural Act of 1958.

Provisions of the alternative programs on which producers will vote are.

Number One — Under this new program, there would be no acreage allotments or designated commercial corn-producing area.

All corn producers would be eligible for price support without any restrictions on acreages.

The level of price support would be 90 per cent of the average corn price received by farmers during the three preceding years, but not less than 65 per cent of parity.

Number Two — A continuation of the present program. Under this program, acreage allotments and the commercial corn-producing area would continue in effect as in the past.

Producers in the commercial area, to be eligible for price support, would be required to plant within acreage allotments set for their farms.

Price support would be from 75 to 90 per cent of parity, with prospective record corn supplies indicating a level at or near the minimum.

Because of heavy corn supplies, the allotment for 1959 would probably be about 33,000,000 acres, or approximately 15 per cent below the 38,818,381-acre allotment for the 1958 crop.

Producers in the non-commercial area would be eligible for support at 75 per cent of the commercial rate.

Polling places will be at convenient locations within commercial corn-producing counties. County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Offices will announce referendum details.

Dealer Meetings Slated By Pa. State Scientists

Recommendations on seeds, lime and fertilizer, and the like, for Pennsylvania farmers in 1959 will be explained to local dealers in these farm supplies at eleven district meetings across the state by extension agronomists of Penn State University.

Subjects for discussion will include new field crop varieties, lawn management, new herbicides, proper use of lime and fertilizer, Dr. C. S. Bryner, who will be in charge, said copies of the new edition of the Agronomy Guide for 1959 will be distributed.

The schedule of meetings includes one November 12, at Lancaster County Farm Bureau, for Lancaster, southern Berks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lebanon, Philadelphia and York Counties.



LANCASTER UNION STOCKYARDS WERE PACKED Monday as the market hit its biggest day since the mid-1940's with an estimated 7,000 cattle involved in sales. Monday's arrivals totaled 3,517 cattle and calves, with a

very large volume of hold-overs and weekend shipments building the total to a 12-year high. Many lots of the offerings are typified by the groups of top-quality Hereford steers in the foreground. LF PHOTO

Gas Tax Refunds To State Farmers Setting New Mark

HARRISBURG, Sept. — The State Board of Finance and Revenue said today it expects to establish a new record for prompt payment of gasoline tax refunds to Pennsylvania farmers.

W. Ken Duffy, Secretary of the Board, said more than 35,000 farmers are expected to file applications for reimbursement prior to the Sept. 30 deadline.

The refunds, he explained, cover gasoline taxes paid on fuel used exclusively in the production of agricultural products.

"With the progress we are presently making, we will have actually paid between 25,000 and 30,000 farmers by the end of October," reported Duffy.

"If we accomplish this anticipated goal, the entire program will be at least seven months or more ahead of any previous year."

Three-fourths of the farmers seeking refunds will receive checks within one month after the Sept. 30 cut-off date, according to Duffy.

He reported 43,500 farmers are presently carried on the reimbursement roster. Requests for approximately 100 applications are being received daily.

Duffy pointed out that as of this date, 17,000 claim forms have been returned to the Board and checks have been issued to 12,000 eligible farmers.

"We are virtually paying claims as fast as we receive the forms from the farmers," stated Duffy.

Last year, the board paid a total of \$2,582,697 to some 25,600 farmers who returned applications to the Board.

Break-Through at Mid-Week

Tobacco Sales Booming With Buyers Going to 32-18 For Sorted Leaf

The "break-through" in the tobacco market Lancaster county farmers had waited out for a full week came Wednesday, when buyers from American and General began offering 32-18 for top-quality sorted-unsized tobacco.

A top of 27 through remained on the market however, as farmers displayed continued resistance to disposing of their crops, when the extra pay apparently more than compensated them for their added labor in sorting. A rock-bottom of 26 through was noted throughout the area.

Lorrillard reported some buys at 27 through and American reported taking some top-quality leaf at the 32-18 top. Gemmill Tobacco company, Red Lion also was finding takers for its 32-18 offers.

Bayuk had reported receiving some choice, sorted tobacco at 32. A Bayuk spokesman reported "Sales are not too fast, we have no idea of the percentage of the crop sold so far."

Farmers around the county reported the break-through had been felt and "buying season" was a reality. Apparently Wednesday's marketing accounted for the majority of sales.

One of the county's larger growers estimated more than 50 per cent of the county's crop had been sold by 5 p.m. Wednesday. "The 32-18 price made the difference," he stated. "The difference in that and 27-through gave farmers enough for their crop and the sorting labor."

General indications are that a major share of the marketing will be concluded by weekend, leaving buyers attempting to reach agreement with the remaining hold-outs of the best quality and highest yielding crop the county has enjoyed for several years.

State Crop Round-up

Warm wet weather in most parts of Pennsylvania has provided lush aftermath growth in sorghum and sudan-grass fields. The first frost or two may turn these lush pastures into death traps for livestock warns Dr. Samuel Guss, Extension Veterinarian.

Frost damage changes harmless compounds in the leaves of these plants into deadly hydrocyanic acid, he says. When the plants are frosted, but not completely killed they are most dangerous. Frost-blackened sorghum aftermath is particularly deadly: it may contain enough poison to kill animals in a very short time. The poison acts by blocking-out the oxygen-carrying capacity of the red blood cells. Severely affected animals die of suffocation. Emergency veterinary treatment is possible in many cases, treatment must be administered promptly.

After several frosts have completely yellowed sudan grass stands they are safe again for pasture. Sorghums may be deadly as

Pa. Farm Income Up Six Per Cent For Jan.-July

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania farmers' cash income from farm products sold advanced \$23,368,000 or six per cent during the first six months of this year compared with the first half of 1957, the State Department of Agriculture reported today.

During the first half of 1958, cash receipts from farm marketings totaled \$447,203,000. All the increase is from the sale of livestock and livestock products, including milk, poultry and eggs. These sales totaled \$354,103,000, up \$30,035,000 or nine per cent from the same period last year.

January-July crop receipts this year declined \$6,667,000 or seven per cent to a total of \$93,100,000.

Prices received by farmers of the United States during the first eight months of this year have averaged six per cent above the same months last year and the volume of sales has been about 4 per cent greater.

In the first half of 1958, realized farm net income nationally was at an annual rate of \$13.2 billion, up 22 per cent from the first half of 1957.

Farm operating costs are running above a year ago, with prices paid by farmers higher than in the third quarter of 1957 for all production items except seed and motor supplies. However, the increase in expenses is less than five per cent compared with approximately eight per cent in realized gross income.

long as they show any greenness. Dr. Guss says the best way to handle frosted sorghum aftermath is to put it in the silo. A few weeks of fermentation in the silo will remove the toxic material from either of these plants.