

Soil and Water Conservation Study Group Named by USDA

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson has announced appointment of a group to make a study of the soil and water conservation activities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The group's studies will include evaluation of the soil and water conservation activities, clarity and adequacy of applicable policies, program-inter-relationships, administrative organizations, and other matters.

In announcing formation of the group, Secretary Benson said "We believe the evaluations of the group will help us toward our goal, which is to achieve the maximum contribution to conservation of the Nation's soil and water resources from the

operation of the soil and water conservation programs administered by the Department of Agriculture."

The group met first on November 25 and 26. Members are:

• Dean D. W. Colvard of the School of Agriculture, University of North Carolina, Raleigh, N. C.

William Irwin, farmer, of Bourbon, Ind. (Mr. Irwin has been honored as an "Outstanding Young Farmer.")

John Scott, farmer and president of the Valley Bank of Grand Forks, Grand Forks, N. D.

Ralph Taylor, former executive secretary of the Agricultural Council of California, now of Colfax, Calif.

Roderick Turnbull, editor, Weekly Star Farmer, Kansas City, Mo

Staff director of the group will be Miles Horst, Staff assistant to Secretary Benson in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

GATHER EGGS OFTEN

Eggs should be gathered in cold weather just as often as during the summer, reminds Carl Dossin, Penn State extension poultry specialist. A small room partitioned off in a corner of the house cellar makes it possible to provide excellent conditions for keeping these eggs at top quality.

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cles averaged 11,566 lbs. of milk and 585 lbs. of butterfat per cow during the test period.

Melvin Stolfus, Ronks, was recognized for having entered the high-score Guernsey milk sample during the 1958 State Farm Show competition.

Principal speaker for the program was Prof. William J. Frey, Franklin and Marshall College; who discussed the Pennsylvania Dutch.

William Jusi, Penna. Guernsey Cattle Club representative, reported to the group on state activities.

Small Tree Stands Are Big Item

The small tree farmer is a pretty important person in the timber industry. In fact, he makes up a dominant part of the total number of farm and other private ownerships of commercial forest lands.

Robert A. Powers, Jr., Chester County Agent says a review of the Nation's timber resources by the USDA's Forest Service holdings of less than 100 acres account for 86 percent of all private holdings.

These small holdings include about 121 million acres, representing one-fourth of all commercial forest lands — approximately as much as all public holdings combined.

The study shows 64 percent of the holdings of less than 100 acres are found in the Northern States. Only 14



PAUL MAST, Morgantown, is congratulated by Adam McWilliam on his winning of Reserve Champion honors in the junior Hereford steer class competition during the Eastern National Livestock Show at Timonium, Md. recently. Paul won Reserve Champion of the Junior Steer show with this steer at the Keystone National the week before.

per cent of the small farms are found in the West.

Medium and large farm forest holdings of more than 5,000 acres are concentrated in the West.

Of the 28,828,800 acres that constitute Pennsylvania, 15,188,600 are forested. Of this the Pennsylvania State Department of Forests and Waters and Game Commission own 2,752,405 acres. Lumber and paper companies own about 800,000 acres and the rest is owned by farmers and other small ownerships.

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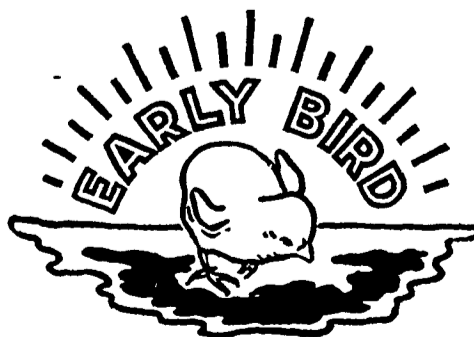
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