

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

1958 Lancaster Farming Year-End Report

Striking a clear note to round out 1958 Lancaster Farming, we have asked a number of county farm leaders, technical advisors and outstanding farmers to summarize in their own words the results of 1958 and what they look for in 1959.

One of the first things the reader will note in the following statements is the constant brevity of 1958 summaries and the concentration on the future. It is as though to say, "The past is over and done with, let's look to next year and what it may bring and — What we may offer it."

Here then is our year's-end analysis of Lancaster Farming.

Henry Hackman



If the farmer had steers in 1958, he was on the right side of the fence.

1959 will not bring much improvement. Agriculture might hold its own but in many areas it may drop.

Amos H. Funk
Conservation District Chrm.
"The watershed meetings with their attendance and the interest of farmers in organizing them mark a point when other folks start to help our Soil Conservation

Turn to pages 8 and 9 to see how a good farm shop pays.

District directors in getting the job of conservation done.

The watershed system helps to concentrate conservation efforts in one small region rather than covering the entire county all at one time. We hope the growing interest among our Amish farmers will continue and we certainly welcome all farmers in the county as cooperators.



The Conestoga Valley Association has aided in promoting interest of non-farmers in conservation. With a possibility of a future water shortage in the country, industry and service clubs are getting more interested.

In 1959, as a result of our work this year, more watershed meetings may be expected to result in the highest number of district cooperators ever. Conestoga Val-

ley Association may be expected to have its highest membership.

Especially important, the various service clubs could lend a great deal of assistance.

Max Smith



The big news was the contrast in '57 and '58 growing seasons. I would say this year had an ideal growing season. March snow gave us ground water needed to carry our crops.

For '59 I don't expect any great change for county farming. I'd like to see more attention to building up more soil organic matter. We could benefit by more pasture fertilization, using more nitrogen on straight grasses and complete fertilizer on grass-legume mixtures.

Willis Esbenshade

The Lancaster County farmer enjoyed one of the best years ever in 1958. But he must still increase efficiency and he must adjust to the narrow margin for what he gets for what it costs to produce it.

For 1959, I look for the price of dairy feed to be higher than the past year,

Farm Calendar

- Jan. 5—7:30 p.m. Southern Lancaster County 4-H Tractor club, 1959 organization meeting. Conestoga Farm Supply, Quarryville.
- Jan. 6 or 7—County Tobacco Show, full details later.
- Jan. 7—7:30 p.m., 4-H Electric Club meeting, PP&L Building, Lancaster, first of eight regular meetings.
- Jan. 8—7:30 p.m., Northern Lancaster County 4-H Tractor club, 1959 organization meeting. Landis Bros. Farm Equipment store, Manheim pike.
- Jan. 21—Vegetable Growers Field Day, Guernsey Pavilion.
- Jan. 31—Producers' Livestock Cooperative annual meeting.
- Feb. 6—4-H Baby Beef Club Annual Banquet.
- Feb. 12—County Extension Assoc. Annual Banquet, Hostetter's, Mt. Joy.
- Feb. 18—Farm Bureau Annual Banquet.
- Feb. 19—SPABC Annual Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 21—Annual Bred gilt sale.
- March 3—Market Hog Show
- March 11—Dairy Day.
- March 19—Swine Producers Assoc annual banquet.

with milk prices about the same. The dairyman must use DHIA tests and cull his herd.



Poultry feed likewise will be up and egg and broiler prices down. Broilers much lower.

Adoption of new methods is a must. Some to consider are:

Spraying of tobacco for suckers, to reduce labor costs.

Taking advantage of early order discounts in buying supplies and machinery.

Testing soil to make sure what fertilizer buy is right.

Wayne B. Rentschler



The farmer who planned and managed his program, continued to get ahead. For 1959, we should stress even better management for greater economy.

4-H Crop Meet Tuesday

The Lancaster County 4-H tobacco and corn roundup will be Tuesday afternoon at the Bayuk Cigar company warehouse, 850 N. Water Street, Lancaster, Winthrop Merriam, assistant county agent reports.

State Crop Round-Up

Stocks of potatoes in the hands of state growers and local dealers on Dec. 1, were estimated at 5,300,000 cwt. or 36 per cent above last year. Stocks on hand were for all purposes 68 per cent of production, slightly below the average.

In the U S total storage stocks on Dec 1 were 128 3 million cwt, largest since the 129 3 million cwt in storage on Dec 1, 1950. This year's holdings were 18 per cent above the 108.4 million cwt held last year and 19 per cent above the 49 - 57 average of 108.1.

Indicated placement of pullet chicks for U. S. broiler

(Turn to page 5)

Martin W. Muth



I was very well pleased with the increased interest in conservation, especially in water conservation.

This watershed approach will probably be developed more in the coming year. As a government service we feel this is a real approach.

John E. Melhorn



For me as an egg producer, 1958 brought the start of a large-scale, state-wide egg marketing cooperative federation by the five major state marketing co-ops. This offers more sure and profitable outlets, state-wide quality control and uniform prices, and better management for greater economy.

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Ranck Herd Tops County

The Red Rose D.H.I.A. September testing results were reported today by the association. The two highest 305 day lactations were completed by Registered Holsteins, both owned by Parke H. Ranck, Ronks R D 1.

First was "Maggie" with the record of 18,521 lbs. of milk and 819 lbs. of butterfat. Second was "Joyce 2", with the record of 19,894 lbs. of milk and 809 lbs. of butterfat.

Two herds tied for first place among the monthly herd averages. They were the

herd of Elvin Hess Jr., Strasburg RD1, with an average of 1072 lbs. of milk and 46 lbs of butterfat and the herd of Paul S. Wyble, New Holland RD #2, with an average of 1295 lbs. of milk and 46 lbs of butterfat.

Two herds also tied for second place. They were the herds of J. Lester Charles, Landisville, with an average of 1246 lbs. milk and 45 lbs. of butterfat and the herd of Willis M. Groff, New Providence RD1, with an average of 861 lbs. of milk and 45 lbs of butterfat.

Masonic Farm Herd Completes 32nd Test

The purebred dairy herd of Masonic Homes Farms, Elizabethtown, Penn. has recently completed its 32nd year of Ayrshire Herd Testing with 105 cows making an average of 9,592 pounds of milk and 412 pounds of butterfat on twice-a-day milking, actual production.

Masonic Homes Mary Bell

was high milk producer in the herd with 14,540 pounds of milk and 538 pounds of butterfat.

The announcement was made by the National Ayrshire Breeders' Association. The Ayrshire breed holds the record for having the highest percentage of its cows enrolled in HIR testing.