

50% of State Awards

To County Growers

History was recorded Wednesday during the Lancaster Vegetable Growers' meeting in the Guernsey Pavilion.

For the first time in Penna. Cannery's assn. awards, growers from a single county swept both quality and yield honors in a single division of the state tomato growing contest, as a pair of Lancaster County 4-H Club members topped Class III, one to three acre plots.

Dale R. Clymer, 1858 Hempstead Rd., Lancaster, with a yield of 31.32 tons per acre, grading 70.8 per cent U. S. No. 1's, produced the highest per acre yield for his division and for the entire state.

John E. Hess, Mount Joy RD 1, with 85.2 per cent U. S. No. 1's in his 20.48 tons of production dominated this division by nearly 10 percentage points.

Large Acreage

In Class 1, growers with eight acres or more; Elam K. Petersheim, Elverson, RD 2, had the high average yield with 29.44 tons per acre, grading 10.8 per cent.

The victories gave Lancaster county exactly half of the state canners' awards.

Jack R. Grey, Cannery's president, emphasized 1950's record tomato production in

Pennsylvania was achieved with a 12.5 ton per acre average. The total 243,800 tons was grown on 19,500 acres. "In 1956, the average was 9.2 tons per acre" he said.

County Awards

The County Vegetable Growers' recognized production records in other crops with the following growers being honored:

Ross N. Huber, Lancaster RD 7, Gross Returns for a two-crop succession, with \$527.10 for peas and lima beans.

Rubin N. Harnish, Lancaster RD 4, averaged 3,600 lbs. of Baby Limas per acre, on five acres, selling for \$131.20 per ton.

Richard Breckbill, Manheim RD 1, averaged 5,325 lbs. per acre of peas, on 4 1/2 acres, selling at \$110.60 per

ton. J. Mowery Fry, Lancaster RD 7, averaging 17.3 tons of pumpkins per acre.

Omar Zook, Manatawny, in nearby Berks County, won high yield honors in Class 1 of the Tomato Growers' awards. Zook had 27.16 tons per acre on 23.3 acres and 76.3 per cent U. S. No. 1's.

Urge Planning

In the all-day program were a number of Penn State extension specialists, who joined in urging vegetable growers to plan their operations for 1959.

J. O. Pepper, extension entomologist, reported there will be no great changes in insect controls this year. "Most growers wait too long before doing anything about their insect problem. They must use the right material, at the right time, with the right methods."

"The cold weather we had continuing for so long, has not had as much damaging effect on insects as rising and falling temperatures would. Growers' needn't look for any let-up in insect problems for 1959," he added.

"LOOK"

J. O. Dutt, gardening specialist, advised farmers to "Look at your operation, identify your problems and plan your 1959 vegetable operation."

"Hit-or-miss won't work anymore. This is a business and it must be well managed."

Carlton Taylor, plant pathologist, stated, "Know what, when and how—then proceed accordingly. All basic recommendations as arrived at from extension research and experiment station work are available through every county extension office."

George Berggren, agronomist, reported weed control recommendations are basically the same, "Dalapon for quack grass, Amino-Trazole for Canadian Thistle."

Following a question and answer period the meeting was adjourned by Amos H. Funk, Millersville, county

and state president of the Vegetable Growers. Funk noted that the size of the audience, plus interest provided what he termed a very successful meeting.

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