

Lancaster Farming

Hybrid Poplars Grown Here

At about the same time research started with hybridization of corn; resulting in profound changes for American agriculture; Dr. E. J. Shreiner, with the U. S. Forest Service at Upper Darby, began work with the hybridization of trees.

Dr. Shreiner's research resulted in hybrid poplar trees growing to 40 feet in height in seven years at the Upper Darby station — production of timber, shade and beauty at more than twice the rate of normal poplar growth.

The first distribution of propagation slips from the Upper Darby poplars came in 1956, when farmers were offered the chance to purchase eight slips each, with the agreement to file annual reports on the growth of their groups of hybrids.

Miles Fry, Ephrata RD 3, made one of the 1956 purchases of hybrid planting slips.

Today Fry is preparing to transplant seven of the original eight trees — plus, he plans to plant several acres to the fast growing trees, as well as offer several thousand slips for sale.

This in three years from eight short slips.

The veteran northeast County farmer is enthusiastic about possibilities for the hybridized trees to produce timber on his farm.

"This means that a fellow like me, already a grandpa, can plant a forest and enjoy the results. These trees will grow at least twice as tall in the first seven years as normal poplars," he comments.

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MILES FRY, Ephrata RD 3, holds a board marked in one-foot units in a row of hybrid-poplars growing on his farm. These trees were pruned back to from six inches to one foot of the ground just 12 months ago. Fry is now taking several thousand cuttings from these two-year-old poplars and a large planting of "yearling" trees behind them. He is transplanting his original trees (3-year-olds) this year and expects to see them reach a height of 40-feet within seven - ten years, despite the transplanting and heavy pruning for three years

—LF PHOTO



AT LEFT, is shown a two-year-old hybrid tree's root system. At right, a yearling tree. Fry's four strains he received from the U. S. Forest Service are alike in resistance to disease. They are very resistant to cold; even the young trees resist breakage.

—LF PHOTO

Urges Growers To -- Potato Seed Now

Sloat, associate county agent, recommends liquid formulations are most effective in controlling the potato problem above infections, Sloat said. Use at the rate of 100 parts per million in a water bath solution.

Other seed piece diseases can be reduced by adding one pound of Chlorol to the solution at the rate of 96 W. P. to 20 gallons of water—with the Streptomycin.

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NEPPCO School to Focus On 'Egg Quality Slip'

TRENTON, N. J.—More and more northeastern poultrymen have found their "egg quality slip is showing" Recognizing the industry's shortcomings and doing something about them is the goal of the annual Egg Quality School of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council.

The four-day "egg quality college" will be held this year at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, on June 9-10-11-12.

Dr Alfred Van Wagenen, NEPPCO's managing director and supervisor of the school, reports that more pressure than ever will be placed this year upon what the producer, breeder, and marketer needs to know about egg quality.

To carry out this plan, he's in the process of lining up an all-star cast of instructors. They'll come from all sections of the Northeast—each a specialist in a particular phase of the quality, grading and marketing picture.

"Poultrymen and their marketing organizations in the Northeast must buckle down to the task of producing a better quality egg and marketing it more effectively," Dr. Van Wagenen declared.

"With diminished profit margins for the industry, it is more important than ever to get every penny possible—whether through more efficient marketing, a higher quality egg, or both!"

As in the past, the NEPPCO egg quality conclave will

concentrate upon 'doing' not just "talking". The experts will work with one student after another—demonstrating checking and explaining the application of the key elements underscored in short lecture periods.

This year's school will be the 28th conducted by the Council. Last year's event drew a turnout from 12 states and the District of Columbia. Registration forms and other details may be obtained from the NEPPCO office, 10 Rutgers Place, Trenton 8, N. J.

FIVE - DAY WEATHER FORECAST
Saturday - Wednesday
U. S. Weather Bureau, Lancaster Office

Temperatures will average near or slightly above normal range of 39 - 59. Clearing skies Sat.; fair and warmer Sun. and on Mon.; Cooler Tues. and Wed., rain Tues.



ABOVE ARE THE winners of the Lancaster County 4-H Electric Club competition with their winning exhibits, made by the club members as per From left are, Robert Armstrong, Drumore RD 1, second prize in first with a wooden-block lamp; Leslie Kreider, 690 Harman Station Rd., Lancaster in first year project with a ceramic lamp; J. David Lapp, Bareville R. place in second year work with an FM-radio tuner, and Elsianna Hess, 1749 Ohio Pike, Lancaster, second year project with a work lamp and stand. Lapp and Hess were selected to represent the county in the State 4-H Electric Team

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