

ASC Urges Wool Growers To File Payment Claims

Chairman Landis G. Becker of the Lancaster County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee today urged wool growers who marketed their clip between April 1, 1958 and March 31, 1959 to be prompt in filing applications for payment under the national wool program.

The deadline for applications is April 30, and the payment rate will be announced as soon as possible after that date.

Growers can speed the payment program by prompt filing of applications, the Chairman pointed out.

He explained that information contained in the applications is needed by the United States Department of Agriculture in computing the average wool price received by growers during the 1958 marketing year. That price must be calculated before the rate of payment to growers can be determined.

Under the wool program, payments are made to growers as an incentive to increase wool production. The payment rate is the percentage necessary to bring the national average price received by growers for wool up to 62 cents a pound.

The percentage method of payment encourages a good job of marketing, since the grower who receives the highest price for his wool also receives the largest payment.

James S. Nicholson, Municipality RD 2, Pa. has resigned his position as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Stabilization and Conservation Committee. His resignation was accepted effective as of Mar. 12, 1959.

Earl Groff, Strasburg RD1, Pa. will become acting chairman of the committee until a successor is appointed by the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. Nicholson served on the State Committee since January 1, 1956, having served as both a regular member and vice-chairman prior to his appointment as chairman on January 1, 1958.

Mr. Nicholson's resignation was tendered to afford him more time to pursue other interests.

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Natl. Grange Master Asks New Plan

University Park—A national farm program financed and operated by producers was advocated tonight by Herschel D. Newsom, Washington, master of the National Grange.

Such a program, he told the campus Grange at Penn State University, would give farmers "equitable income opportunities" and save taxpayers up to \$600 annually in wheat and dairy supports alone.

Price support programs that take off the market all farm commodities not absorbed by the market at some predetermined fixed price level, he charged, are actually "price fixing programs."

He called these fixed price support programs "inequitable, excessively expensive and unworkable."

Where farmers could not obtain equitable income for their products through their own marketing associations and cooperatives, Mr. Newsom proposed enabling legislation "to give producers the same control over their busi-

State Spring Farming On Schedule

HARRISBURG — Spring farming and planting activity in most parts of the Commonwealth is on schedule, the State Department of Agriculture reported today.

According to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service's first issue of the Crop and Weather Round-Up for the 1959 growing season, farmers were able to make good headway with spring plowing and sowing of oats and other early crops during the past two weeks. Soil moisture in most areas has been adequate.

Temperatures averaged five to seven degrees above normal the week ended Monday.

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ness as is enjoyed by those in both "labor and industry" Such control, he said, would "include the power to bargain collectively, to manage inventories and to market on an orderly basis so as to prevent a small supply setting the price for the rest of the industry."

Comparable programs said, are now in effect for wool and sugar and are operating successfully.

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