

Lancaster Farming

D. 27

Lancaster, Pa., Saturday, May 16, 1959

\$2 Per Year

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ors In Penna. Egg Quality

By E. J. Lawless, Jr.

Ed Lawless has been an intrinsic part of Pennsylvania and U. S. poultry industry for 35 years. Mr. Lawless was recognized for his contributions to the industry at a dinner in his honor. It has been said of a dedicated man the best thing you can do for him is to support the thing in which he believes. As a result, Mr. Lawless is saluting an old-timer in Pennsylvania agriculture. Lancaster Farming takes pleasure in printing the following by Mr. Lawless. Both, in recognition of his contributions to the industry and as a service to our readers.)

Pennsylvania must be a quality egg producing State if it is to succeed and consumers continue to purchase eggs for consumption. The best returns to the producer are obtained by providing eggs that offer the highest yield of quality eggs. Continued or increased consumption of eggs will come when the consumers are pleased with the quality of eggs purchased and know that they are receiving the best for their food dollars.

Every agency has a responsibility in cooperating in a beneficial program for the poultry industry in Pennsylvania.

The producer must use every available means to maintain a quality egg production.

Marketing agency must accurately and objectively evaluate quality. They must use the best means available to maintain quality until it reaches the distributor or consumer.

University must furnish information needed to produce and market quality eggs. They must make available information in the hands of those who are in the best position to use it.

Department of Agriculture must carry its share of responsibility in contributing to marketing practices. Consideration the

Department must take seriously its protective enforcement.

The Department is assuming its full responsibility in managing an enforcement program that will provide as much protection as can be normally expected.

In 1957 the Department had two men for a full year and one man for 1/2 year. A total of 5,401 samples of eggs were examined.

Of this total, 122 were in violation of the Fresh Eggs Law, 151 in violation of the Grade Standards. There were 24 or .44% prosecution.

In 1958 the situation improved as far as inspections were concerned in that there were eight men for a full year.

These men reported on 21,852 samples of eggs, of which 323 were in violation of the Fresh Egg Law and 1367 were in violation of the Grade Standards. There were 105

or .48% prosecutions.

There were 1394 violations on carton markings which were required by a change in the Standards.

It should be noted that the number of prosecutions were small in comparison to the number of violations. In explanation of the difference, it may be said that prosecutions seldom if ever are made at the time of the first violation.

Based on a territorial arrangement for the enforcement program, efficiencies have been developed which have permitted the Department to accomplish more than four times the amount of work with less than four times the personnel.

The enforcement work protects those who follow a quality program and assists those who wish to meet the requirements and punishes those who are voluntarily or involuntarily careless.

In addition to the enforcement work, the Department has developed and put into effect an officially identified quality egg program known as the Certified Program.

Individuals or marketing organizations enter into a voluntary agreement with the Department to pack Certified Eggs according to requirements and are then permitted to use an official identification.

The certified Program started in April of 1958 with four plants packing a total of 5,640 cases of eggs officially labeled. The number of plants and the volume increased each month.

(Turn to page 12)

When The Rain Comes



THERE'S A GOOD feeling about a man standing on his porch and watching the rain soak into his land. There's a good feeling about knowing when the rain is done, you'll go into the field and find all the topsoil and moisture remaining on your farm. That's a feeling enjoyed Wednesday by Mark Greider, right, Lancaster RD 2, when Amos H. Funk, left, dropped by to congratulate Greider on being named Conservation Farmer of the Year for 1959. Funk, chairman of the County Soil Conservation District, joined the veteran county farmer in "porch-plowing" for a few moments to enjoy the sight of rich land, beneath soft rainfall, protected by contour farming. —LF PHOTO

in Curing May Save 50 Per Cent of Hay Value



NG WITH PLANS for a barn hay-curing unit on the farm of Jay Landis, were Max M. Smith, county agent, and Joseph A. McCurdy, Penn State engineer. The extension agents assisted Landis in determining the size of fan unit he needs to cure hay in his bank-barn mow. Landis plans a portable unit to use one fan and motor in curing hay in two mows. —LF PHOTO

Lancaster County farmers are being reminded once again of the profit offered to hay producers through the use of controlled curing methods. Joseph McCurdy, Penn State Extension engineer, visited in the county recently with several local farmers, in company with County Agent Max M. Smith.

McCurdy urged farmers producing reasonably large hay crops or fifty tons or more to consider "artificial" or forced-air drying of their crops.

This system, he pointed out, eliminates some of the weather risks in hay making, freeing the farmer from dependence on field curing to enable him to get his crop in while retaining quality.

Your hay crop contains as high as 83 per cent moisture while standing. This must be reduced to less than 25 per cent for safe, successful and quality curing and storage.

With mow-curing, hay can be hauled in with as high as 40 per cent moisture content. You bring in the leaves and color, he said.

McCurdy visited the Jay Landis farm, Lancaster RD 6, in the New Danville area, and assisted Landis in planning a mow-curing installation for his bank-barn mow.

They measured the mow and figured necessary sizes for motor and fan needed to deliver sufficient air for the mow size. McCurdy then advised Landis in determining the size and shape of the mow duct.

He emphasized here that the duct in mow-drying MUST be centered in the hay. This prevents all the air being forced through hay on a "thin" side and leaving the other side and top of the stack full of moisture.

Bales should be packed in the stack, preventing air from escaping between the bales, instead of through the stack. (Turn to page 11)

FIVE - DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday - Wednesday
U. S. Weather Bureau,
Lancaster Office
Temperatures will average 3 - 4 degrees cooler than normal range of 54 - 74. Mostly fair and cool over weekend, gradually rising temp. first of week, with chance of rain Mon. and Tues. Precipitation for past week totaled .88 inch.