

Lancaster Farming

Wheel Track Planting Is Practical, Says R. Henney

Wheel track planting of corn practical in Lancaster "It definitely is." is the answer of Robert C. Henney R1, teacher of Vocational Agriculture at Warnton High School, and he has figures to prove it.

Henney and his partner Mervin B. Shelly, also of Lancaster, planted approximately 85 acres last spring by this method and are very well pleased with the results. Henney reports that in comparison (they made a comparison of all types of soil) wheel track planting corn outperforms the corn in fields planted by the conventional method of about 12 or 15 bushels per acre. In one instance on adjoining farms where all treatment was identical except the wheel track planting, the wheel track planting produced 187 bushels while the conventional method made 91.

There are other benefits besides better soil, Henney thinks increased yields may be one of the benefits. Since fewer workers are required and there will be less wear on the machinery, the wheel track method provides the greater moisture capacity of the fresh soil. Weed control is easier because weed seeds do not germinate readily in the soil between the rows of the corn gets ahead of weeds. Less working of the soil remains in better condition. More water is available to the plants since the soil is broken up and the sole until the soil is worked down again, the loose soil will absorb much more water making more water available to the plants and the danger of erosion is less. Soil that is wet will retain more

organic matter because the sun will not destroy organic matter buried underground. Henney and Shelly cash rent two farms and share rent another. They farm a total of 213 acres in corn, tobacco, wheat, oats, and hay, but their corn program is the most different from conventional methods in the Garden Spot. Steer programs on the farms for many years had caused a buildup of potash residue from heavy application. (Turn to page 6)

Agri. Council To Cooperate In Farm - Bus. Day

Walter L. Dunlap, Jr. chairman of the Agricultural Council of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce made an appeal for all representatives of agricultural organizations in the county to return the cards concerning Farm-Business day as soon as possible. The appeal was made at the meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural Council on Thursday Afternoon. Farm-Business day is being sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce to help develop a closer relationship between business and agricultural segments of our community. Dunlap urged all persons having cards to please return them before November 6.

A total of 17 business places in the city have indicated interest in having representatives from agriculture visit their business on November 19 to open Farm - City week. Robert Terrill and H. B. (Turn to page 5)



ABSENCE OF WEEDS IN THIS FIELD show the control Robert C. Henney and Mervin B. Shelly got with only one cultivation after wheel track planting and spraying at planting. Henney feels that the single cultivation was not needed for weed control, but was necessary to side dress the crop with Nitrogen. Even after the corn was ripe the field was extremely free of weeds and fall grass. The ears are of average size, but population is over 14,000 plants per acre and the yield in this field was well over 100 bushels per acre on a dry, shelled corn basis. —LF PHOTO

FIVE - DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday - Wednesday
Temperatures for the next five days will average normal to 4 degrees above normal. Normal temperatures in this area range from a low of 40 at night to a high of 59 in the afternoon. Cooler weather is expected over the weekend with some warming expected about Tuesday or Wednesday. Chance some light rain or drizzle about Sunday or Monday.

During the past week 1-2 inches of rain fell in Lancaster bringing the total for October to 3.67, well above normal for the month.

Leadership Conference Hears State F.F.A. Pres.

Gerald Greiner, Manheim R4, president of the Pennsylvania Association of Future Farmers of America was featured speaker at the York-Lancaster area FFA Leadership Training Conference held at Dillsburg on Monday. Greiner, recently returned from the national convention in Kansas City, reported on his activities as a delegate to the convention.

Greiner also assisted in a panel, moderated by George Myers, Teacher of vocational agriculture at Lampeter-Strasburg high school, on the proper way to develop a chapter program of work. Other members of the panel were Donald Knisley, vice president of the Pennsylvania Association FFA and Burnell Andrews, Willow Street R1, representing the Garden Spot chapter from Lampeter-Strasburg school.

The 15th annual conference held alternately in York and Lancaster county schools is for the purpose of helping the local officers become more proficient in their duties. A total of 212 officers,

advisors and school administrators as their guests attended the meeting and banquet. Barry Flinchbaugh, president of the York County chapter from Red Lion, assisted by the York County officers conducted the meeting and acted as toastmaster for the banquet.

Teachers from Lancaster county who had a part in (Turn to page 14)

Glenn Porter In Capon Club Win

Glenn Porter, Washington Boro R1, a 10 year veteran of the 4-H capon club turned in a score of 99 out of a possible 100 to win the blue ribbon in the county roundup at the meeting of the Lancaster Kiwanis Club Tuesday.

Kiwanians meeting in the Brunswick hotel sponsored the club, supplied \$50.00 in prize money and purchased most of the exhibited birds. First prize birds scored on carcass alone belonged to Dorothy Groff, Lancaster R7, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Groff. The prize marked the first win for Dorothy in three years of competition.

In record book score, Gary Portner, 11 year old, finished a close second behind his brother with a score of 98.25 to tie his record of last year when he also finished second. This is his third year of competition.

Third place went to Larry Gordley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Gordley, Manheim R3. Larry finished with a score of 97.3 for his first year in competition.

Scores in the contest are based on the records kept by the member and the appearance of the dressed (Turn to page 9)

Celery Growers Seek New Strain

Lancaster County farmers may be throwing money away on large amounts of fertilizer they do not need, J. O. Dutt, Extension Vegetable Gardening specialist from Pennsylvania State University told county celery growers at the farm of Jay Hodecker, Lancaster R3, on Wednesday. Some of the soil samples from Lancaster county show very high amounts of phosphorus and potash. Many farmers apply large amounts of fertilizer each year. "You may not do any harm, but (Turn To Page 11)



ROBERT C. HENNEY EXPLAINS HOW corn will be removed from storage with a hand shoveling. Boards will be placed from the ledge to the upright plank to space underneath for a drag chain to be placed. As the front of the corn in the crib, more boards can be removed allowing the corn to fall into the wagon unloaded mechanically. Converted wagon shed is much wider than conventional and therefore must be equipped with forced air drying equipment.—LF PHOTO