

Lancaster Farming

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Pruning - Good Wintertime Chore



PRUNING APPLE TREES WILL HELP trees bear bigger fruit and fruit with better color. Dr. Carl Bittner, extension fruit specialist at Pennsylvania State University, on the ladder, told fruit growers at the pruning demonstration Wednesday afternoon on the farm of H. R. Oberholtzer, Bareville R1, that a rule of thumb in pruning apple trees is take everything off the bottom of the limbs and thin out the branches on the upper side. Not more than about 15 per cent of the previous years growth should be removed from a well pruned tree. Helping Dr. Bittner in the tree is Harry Oberholtzer, son of the farm owner.

—LF PHOTO

WHAT'S NEXT Govt. Asks Capette Ban

The Government Thursday announced steps to halt the use in poultry of a fattening hormone suspected of causing cancer.

Secretary of Welfare, Arthur S. Flemming outlined a voluntary program to remove from the market all birds known to have been treated with the synthetic hormone known as diethylstilbestrol or Stilbestrol.

Secretary Flemming re-

Farm Outlook And Agribusiness Meet Set By Extension

Agribusiness and the Agricultural Outlook will be the topics up for discussion at the extension meeting scheduled for next Tuesday evening, December 15, in the Farm Bureau Auditorium, Dillerville road.

The panel, scheduled to begin at 7.30, will be composed of Kermit Birth and Charles Porter, both Agricultural Economists from the Penna. State University; E. Snavely Garber, Willow Street Dairyman; and a representative of one of the banks in Lancaster County.

This promises to be a very interesting meeting with representatives of the University bringing the national outlook and local persons to add the point of view of the farmers of Lancaster County.

ported that the action was taken after minute quantities of the hormone were found in the skin, liver, and kidneys of slaughtered birds. None was found in either the dark or white meat.

Flemming told a news conference that tests indicate that the substances may cause cancer in some animals if taken in large quantities over a long period of time.

No traces of the drug have been found in any of the other meat animals treated with the hormone. Beef, lamb and mutton have been cleared by the department as safe for use, and all poultry with the exception of birds injected with stilbestrol.

In Lancaster County a very small percentage of chickens grown are fattened with the use of the synthetic hormone. Poultry officials estimated on Thursday that only about 5 or 6 per cent of the birds grown and marketed in the

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Farm Calendar

Dec. 12—2 - 5 p.m. Poultry Barbecue at Lancaster Poultry Center, 230 Bypass and Roseville Road.
Dec. 14—8:00 p.m. Soil Conservation District meeting at Court House.
Dec. 18—7.30 p.m. Pequea Valley Watershed meeting sponsored by the Pequea Valley Future Farmers of America and Lancaster Co. Soil Conservation District.

Calf Chain For New Holland FFA

In recent weeks, three local donors have each presented a registered Holstein calf to the newly organized chapter of the Future Farmers of America at the Garden Spot High School at New Holland, Pa. These calves were given to three outstanding boys in Vocational Agriculture who were winners in an essay contest. Eleven boys competed in writing essays on the topic "How I Would Raise A Calf."

A committee composed of two young dairy farmers in the area, Fred Overly and Earl Witmer, both of East Earl RD, Along with Robert Herr, adviser of the F. F. A., read each essay and ranked them by their assigned number. In this manner the three boys were selected.

The boys selected were, John S. Weber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Weber of Mohnton RD. who won the calf presented by the Farmers Bank and Trust Company of New Holland; F Roy Weaver, son of Mr and Mrs. Fred Weaver of Terre Hill RD who won the calf presented by Winsor View Farms of Narvon RD 1 and owned by Mr. Robert L. Yohn; and Wilmer L. Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Martin of New Holland RD 1 who received the calf presented by the Blue Ball National Bank, Blue Ball, Pa.

The three calves, selected from some of the finest herds in Lancaster County, are given to the boys writing the

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Small Fruits Sometimes Missed, Orchardists Told

Blueberries are probably our most neglected small fruit crop, Co. Fruit Growers were told at their meeting on Wednesday evening at the Production Credit building.

Dr. Carl Bittner, Extension Fruit Specialist from the Pennsylvania State University told the association members that blueberries can be one of the most profitable small fruits for the home gardener or the commercial producer. He said that new varieties large enough to cover a nickel are now available to growers and have almost made the accepted varieties of a few years ago ob-

solete.

Dr. Bittner mentioned a few varieties only a few years old and still considered good such as Dixie, Early Blue and Jersey, but they are rapidly being replaced by newer varieties. He mentioned that the Herbert look-very promising.

One reason for the lack of interest in blueberries in the past was the lack of knowledge of cultural practices. Research has shown that yields will be improved if 3 or 4 inches of sawdust is ridged up around the plants. "This is a very essential part of the program", said Dr. Bittner, "And it takes an awful lot of sawdust."

Committee Plans Dairy Day for '60

Antibiotic and pesticides for use around the dairy and on dairy cattle will be one of the subjects to get a going over at the annual Lancaster County Dairy Day scheduled for March 3 from 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Other topics suggested by the committee which met on Tuesday were Power equipment for emergencies, Bulk tank and milking equipment cleaning and care, Ketosis and Lepto-Spirosis control and prevention, Butterfat variations, The Pennsylvania State University forage testing program, Barn remodeling and ventilation, and dairy herd management.

Details of the program will be announced at a later date by County Agent Max Smith and committee chairman Willis Esbenshade.

Others in attendance at the meeting were Paul Ankrum, president of the county Guernsey breeders; John Paes, president of county Ayrshire breeders; Henry Kettering, president of county Holstein breeders; B. Snavely Garber, representing agriculture extension; Simeon Horton, Mount Joy Farmers Co-op; Robert Keene, Queen Dairy, Inc and Richard Weaver, Abbots Dairies.

Dairy day to be held at the Guernsey Sales Pavilion will also feature displays of dairy equipment such as conveyor systems, bulk tanks, pipelines, washers, and gutter cleaners.

FIVE - DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday - Wednesday

A general warming trend with rain is expected for the next five days. Temperatures will average above 4 degrees above the normal range of 43 in the afternoon to 27 at night. Rain is expected Saturday morning and again about Tuesday and Wednesday with a total precipitation of about 3/4 inch. A general warming trend and rather warm temperatures are expected to continue through Wednesday.

Another requirement for the berries is an acid soil condition. For this reason the specialist recommended applying 0-20-20 fertilizer and supplying the nitrogen in the form of Ammonium Sulfate which leaves an acid residue.

The meeting came as a climax to the day of meetings which began with a pruning demonstration in the orchard of Robert C. Herr, Lancaster R2, and another demonstration on the farm of H. R. Oberholtzer, of Bareville R1.

Dr. Bittner told the group of over thirty fruit producers that there have been no drastic changes in pruning or spraying recommendations.

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Ike Visits Mela At World Fair

President Eisenhower this week visited the first World Agricultural Fair in New Delhi, India. The American exhibit at the fair is a joint effort by members of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the Atomic Energy Commission.

Visitors to the fair receiving the official guidebook will see the introduction to the contents in the words of President Eisenhower, "Welcome to Mela USA! (Mela is the Hindi word for country fair) I am delighted through Mela USA—which embodies the spirit of the American county fair—to extend our Nation's tribute to India's farmers and to history's first World Agricultural Fair.

Traditionally, the county fair, held at harvest time, expresses the American farmer's pride in the fruits of his honest labor and symbolizes many of the values which he cherished. The values and goals highlighted in Mela USA—Food, Family, Friendship, and Freedom—are among those shared by our two great democracies. I hope Mela USA will serve to deepen our bonds of understanding and cooperation and serve to strengthen our resolve to achieve mankind's greatest goal: a fruitful and flourishing world at peace."