

Lancaster Farming

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PART OF THE GROUP OF THIRTY THREE farmers who turned out at the June meeting of the Solanco Young Farmers to compare "wheeltrack" planting of corn be- conventional plantings, examine a corn field. William Fredd, right foreground, tells t cultural practices were used on the plot on the farm of Ziegler Hess, Quarryville. Fredd is the advisor to the Young Farmer's Association which held a winter meet- with a panel to discuss corn growing techniques and the follow-up meeting to see e of the ideas in practice. —L. F. Photo

Corn Growing Panelist Updates His Practices

Ziegler Hess, a poultryman at Quarryville R3, last winter served on a panel of corn growers to explain his corn growing program to the Solanco Young Farmers Association.

Another member of the panel reported on the success of several "Wheeltrack" plantings of corn in the county.

At the meeting Mr Hess explained that he had always tried to cultivate his corn several times during the growing season, but he said, "I guess we are never too old to learn something new in this business of farming." Mr. Hess has passed his 63rd birthday.

This week, Hess, through the Solanco Young Farmers Association and their advisor Wm Fredd, invited the group to his farm to observe his own experiments with wheel track planting.

As an outgrowth of the winter meeting, Hess became interested in trying some corn planted in the tractor wheeltrack but was not convinced he should abandon his conventional method of soil preparation.

However, he purchased a new planter and rigged it to follow the tracks of a four-wheel type tractor. He planted a total of 70 acres on two farms.

On one plot, Hess plowed with a moldboard plow and disked the ground once before planting. On the second plot he plowed with a moldboard plow, disked once and

worked the soil once with a Graham - Hamme cultivator before planting in wheel-tracks. On the third and largest plot he plowed with the moldboard plow and immediately planted in the wheel-tracks.

Each of the three plots have been sprayed with LV-4 but none of the plots have been cultivated.

At the Tuesday night meeting of the Solanco Young Farmers, some 33 farmers turned out to compare the three treatments with the corn fields of James Lefever across the road. Lefever worked his corn ground in the conventional method by preparing a good seedbed before planting and planted the corn behind a tractor with wide wheels.

Reaction to the results were varied, but most of the farmers agreed they were surprised at the few weeds in the plow-plant plots as compared with the plots that received some cultivation before planting.

Ralph Harnish, Christiana R1 said, "That's clean enough for me. It all my corn fields were that clean I wouldn't cultivate them."

James Jackson, Christiana R1, one of the members of the winter panel on corn growing, said, "I'm not convinced yet. It is too rough for me, but maybe I will like it better this fall. It looks too much like the hogs have been rooting around."

Everett Kreider, Quarryville R1, who does some custom corn picking thought the weeks would not be a problem, but wondered if the

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Cooking Club Elects Officers

Miss Lois Clymer was named president of the Conestoga 4-H Cooking club on Tuesday night at the reorganizational meeting in the Conestoga Valley high school.

Other officers elected include vice resident, Ellen Overgaard; Secretary, Jean Clymer; and treasurer, Julia Landis.

Adult leaders of the club are Joyce Denlinger, Mrs. Alvera Hess and Karen Boran.

FIVE - DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday - Wednesday
Temperatures during the next five days are expected to average near the normal range of 65 at night to 85 in the afternoon. Cooler air Saturday and Sunday will be replaced by warmer Monday. Cooler again toward the end of the period. Participation may total .1 to .5 inch occurring towards the end of the period.

County Herds Produce Tie Records In DHIA Testing In May

Two cows in the Red Dairy Herd Improvement Association made more than 700 pounds of butterfat in the lactations completed during May, the recent letter of the assn. shows two herds in the association had 70 pounds of butterfat per cow for the month. The 34 registered Holsteins in the herd of Mowrey Frey at Lancaster R7, made the record on 1,750 pounds of butterfat with a 4.0 per cent test while the 10 registered Holsteins in the George Heid at Stevens R1, averaged 1,730 pounds of butterfat with a 4.0 per cent test. The Holstein cow owned by Shelly, Manheim R1, had the highest lactation during the month. Judy had 715 pounds of butterfat and 18,813 pounds of milk with a 3.8 per cent test. The two pounds of butterfat separated the two cows as a registered Holstein cow owned by Ray Hoover, Gap R1, finished the year with 713 lbs. of butterfat. Faye made her record with 17,469 pounds of milk with a 4.1 per cent test. Sixteen other cows in the association finished lactations with better than 600 pounds of butterfat.

Second place in the monthly averages belongs to the 43 registered Guernseys in the herd of Raymond and Louise Witmer, Willow Street R1. The Pen-Del herd made 62 pounds of butterfat per cow with an average production of 1,221 pounds of milk with a 5.1 per cent test. Besides the three top herds no other herd in the association produced better than 60 pounds of fat during the month, but 66 herds had 50 or more pounds

of butterfat. Faye made her record with 17,469 pounds of milk with a 4.1 per cent test. Sixteen other cows in the association finished lactations with better than 600 pounds of butterfat.

Crop Summary

Barley Harvest Cautiously Begins

Soil moisture continued to spur corn and tobacco growth this week, but rain made hay making headaches for some county farmers.

Hay making and cultivation of corn and tobacco, on lighter soils where moisture was not a problem, continued to be the major portion of the farm work during the week. A few scattered fields of barley around the county felt the combine during the week, but wet days and tough grain kept some farmers out of the harvest. Most barley crops were not yet ripe enough for good threshing, but the grain is colored and a few hot dry days will drive many combines into the fields.

Pennsylvania farmers last week were singing, "Let's make hay while the sun shines," the State Crop Reporting Service said Tuesday in its weekly crop and weather summary.

Insect and weed control programs are in full swing in most vegetable producing areas. The peak of the straw

H. J. Lindencamp Given Award

UNIVERSITY PARK—J Harold Lindencamp, R2 Peach Bottom, Pa, received a certificate of recognition for serving 11 years as Dairy Herd Improvement Association Supervisor in Lancaster County. The award was made at the annual meeting of the Association of Pennsylvania

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Hot Hay Blamed For Fire In East Lampeter Barn

Hot hay was blamed for a fire that swept through a large frame barn in East Lampeter Township early on Tuesday afternoon. The fire caused an estimated \$17,000 damage to the barn and contents.

The burned barn was on the farm owned by Aaron Kolb and farmed by his son Melvin at 621 Willow Road. The owner, who said the loss is covered by insurance, estimated the value of the building at \$15,000 and the hay and dairy feed at \$2,000.

Responding to the alarm turned in about 12:30 p.m. were fire companies from Witmer, Eden, Bird-In-Hand and Ronks. Firemen from Leola and Leacock stood by in case they were needed.

Between 250 and 300 volunteers, including firemen and neighboring farmers, worked into the evening with tractors and wagons to haul the smoldering hay away from the buildings and dump it in nearby fields.

The spontaneous combustion was caused when hay with a high moisture content was stored in the barn. Fermentation of the hay produced enough heat to bring the materials to the kindling point.

Japanese Beetle Invasion Coming

The beetles are coming! Millions of Japanese beetles are just about ready to invade this area, warns Chester County Agent, Robt. A. Powers, Jr. And before long, unless stern measures are taken to stop them, they will be eating roses, grapes,

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Wildlife Club Hears Report

Members of the Litz 4-H Wildlife club were asked to respond to roll call by reporting the kind of wildlife they had observed at their second meeting of the club.

Meeting at the home of John M. Buckwalter, Litz R3, the group heard a report from Melvin Long, one of their members, on the wildlife he observed on a recent trip to Potter County, Pa. Long also showed a series of colored slides of his trip.

President Jay Foreman presided at the meeting, according to Linda Stauffer, reporter for the club.

FARM CALENDAR

- 5-8 00 p.m. - Red Rose Beef and Lamb Club meets at the home of J. Gold Frey, 1/2 mile west of Maytown. Safety program. John Reifsnnyder of Litz is the speaker.
- 8-9 00 a.m. - South district judging day at Garden Farms at Annville. Lancaster County Fair meet at Clearview on Route 230.
- 9 p.m. - County 4-H Bee meets at the apiary. Ralph Gamber, 910 1/2 Street Lancaster.
- 7-1 00 p.m. - County 4-H demonstration day at Lancaster County Farm Bureau Building, Diller Road.
- 8-10 00 a.m. - Keystone Ram and Sale at the Farm Show, Harrisburg.
- 13-14 - Deadline for entry for 4-H Demonstration for district competition at Kutztown.