

Crop Summary Weather Still Hampering Harvest

Rains and wet weather during the latter part of the week again held up harvest operations in Lancaster County. Very little wheat is still standing, but many hay crops were on the ground when the rains came. Because of poor drying conditions, much of the hay made was only fair quality.

Moisture conditions vary greatly in the county. In the Lancaster and Millersville area and most of the northern portions of the county, soil is almost too wet to allow cultivation, but some farmers in the southern part of the county report that corn crops could use more water.

By and large, both corn & tobacco crops are making excellent growth. Corn is pushing silk in most county fields. Many tobacco crops have been topped and topping should become general during the next week. Tobacco farmers report large leaves and little insect damage, but some fields are weedier than normal.

According to the weekly crop and weather summary issued this week by the Pa. Crop Reporting Service heavy crop damage was confined to relatively small areas in the Lancaster York County area July 29 when high winds and heavy rains hit. Some tobacco was flattened and some corn fields were hard hit.

Sour cherry harvest has started in Erie County, and the rains and humidity have been favorable for the grape crop. Peach harvest is becoming general in the southern half of the state. The quality and size of fruit is good, but there is a generally short supply available.

Harvest of summer apples has started. Boosted by plenty of moisture, an expected large apple crop continues to size well.

Sweet corn has started to appear on roadside stands. A large volume of corn should start to move to other retail outlets this week. Although sweet corn is late, it seems

to be in good condition and has been growing well with the hot weather.

Tomatoes are also looking good and should be ready to pick this week in southeastern counties. Northern tomatoes will be ready for market in about three weeks. Lima beans will be ready for harvest next week.

Farmers have been having trouble with the hay crop. While the rains have made the stands very good in the field, the same rains falling on newly cut fields have lowered the quality of hay being put into barns. Pastures are in generally good condition.

Buckmiller Park Asks For Help To Clean Up

The operators of Buckmiller Park, a nonprofit organization are asking for aid to clear away the debris left by the freak storm which hit the area last Saturday night.

Many trees were broken and destroyed by the winds which swept through the park making use of the park impossible until the trees have been removed.

Any resident of the county wishing to donate time or equipment to the task of cleaning up the park is asked to contact William Brinley at the Park Office off Route 72 just south of Lancaster.

Creep feed and water should be provided for pigs as early as three days after farrowing. If this is done, most pigs will be eating and drinking regularly at 1 week of age.

Agriculture has had a phenomenal increase in man productivity—a rate of increase in recent years three times that of non-cultural industry.

SHAVINGS

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Solanco FFA Names Chairmen

Committee chairmen for the coming year were appointed at the recent meeting of the officers of Solanco Chapter of Future Farmers of America. President Paul Trimble announced the following committee chairmanships: Greenhand Initiation, Ray Bomberger, Peach Bottom; Harvest Queen, Gerald Kreider, Quarryville R1; Dance and Roller Skating Party, Ronald Kreider, Quarryville R2, Turkey Shoot, Nathan Dombach, of Quarryville R1, and FFA Calendar, Carl Troop, Quarryville R3;

The next meeting of the club will be held at the home of Bill Wilson on August 23. The meeting will be the annual swimming party with swimming from 7 to 10 p.m. and all Solanco FFA members are invited to attend.

Reporter for the group is Ray Bomberger



Health gym—A place where they make mountains out of molehills