

**Crop Summary**

**Heavy Tobacco Harvest Advances**

Tobacco harvest continued in Lancaster County this week with farmers reporting one of the heaviest green crops in years. Leaves of exceptional size are reported in all sections of the county. Dry curing season weather is needed to get the high percentage of moisture down to safe levels. Cutting of the crop has passed its peak, but a few crops around the county have some growing to do. It appears very unlikely that any of the crop will be caught by frost.

Pasture conditions are excellent in most of the county for this time of year and some of the southern county pastures which had started to turn brown have made a good recovery. Hay is still being made with the quality varying from average to good.

The hot muggy weather provided excellent growing conditions for the maturing of the county's corn crop. Heavy ears in many fields have begun to break over and in a few fields some drying of the husks is noted. Reports from around the county indicate that the grains are beginning to dent on

many farms. Silo filling is in full swing with the crops filling the silos well.

Tomato harvest continued at high levels this week with good quality and yields being reported from around the county. The crop is ripening fast and green tomatoes continue to make good growth.

Fairly good working conditions prevailed throughout the week, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service said in its weekly crop and weather summary. Soil moisture was short in a few areas, causing a delay in plowing and the maturing of some crops.

All fruit in the state is in good condition and harvesting of apples and peaches continues. The peach harvest in the southeast has passed its peak. The peach crop is of good size and quality but short in quantity. Little or no insect damage is reported.

At present, the state agriculture department agency said, everything points to a good potato harvest. An early freeze is not expected to hurt the crop in Potter county but there is some concern over an early freeze in

**Farm Prices**

**Pa. Farmers Reverse Nat'l Trend**

Harrisburg — Pennsylvania farmers failed to match a national increase in farm prices during August the State Crop Reporting Service announced today.

Farm product prices in the Keystone State averaged 3 percent lower than in July, although nationally prices advanced about 2 per cent.

Lower prices for livestock, fruit and vegetables accounted for most of the decrease in Pennsylvania. Slightly higher prices for dairy products and food grains helped offset the decline.

Erie County.

Plowing for fall grains continues throughout much of the state.

The blend price of milk advanced seasonally 15 cents per hundredweight to \$4.65 and poultry and egg prices remained about steady with July levels. Beef cow, veal calf, and lamb prices dropped from 40 to 90 cents per hundredweight.

Vegetables showed a general price decline as harvest volume increased. The price drop was lead by sweet corn (from \$5.30 per cwt. in July to \$3.95 in August), and tomatoes (from \$12 per cwt. to \$6.80). These prices are an average for both processing and fresh market use.

Apple prices also fell as harvest of summer varieties increased.

The index of prices received,

the barometer of farm income, was 220 per cent of the 1910-14 base of 100. The index of 226 in mid-July and 225 a year ago.

Nationally, farmers received higher prices for beef cattle, milk, hogs, cotton and wheat. Commercial vegetable and potato prices were down sharply.

The parity index, the ratio of prices received by farmers to prices paid by farmers, dropped from 75 in mid-July to 73 in mid-August in Pennsylvania. The national parity ratio gained one point and stands at 80.

Roaring Maples Dean Belle, a Holstein cow owned by Harold K. Book, Ronks R1, produced 14,841 lbs. milk and 587 lbs. butterfat in 339 days on twice daily milking as a 4-year-old.

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**Steer Feeders—**

**PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CATTLE GOING ON FEED**

Digestive disorders and a slight transient depression in appetite in newly-arrived cattle in the feedlot have been problems for a number of years. There are numerous causes:

1. The sudden change in type of feed, for example, from grass and milk to grain, silage and/or hay and a protein supplement.
2. Too rapid pushing of grain concentrates.
3. Too much protein.
4. Not enough roughage.
5. Too much high quality roughage.
6. Unpalatable feed.
7. Too much green chopped legume or grass silage.
8. Feeding soft or immature corn. If not moldy, soft corn is satisfactory, but animals must be accustomed to it gradually (Morrison<sup>1</sup>).
9. Too much green chopped corn causing green corn poisoning.
10. Too much silage fed to lighter weight calves. Calves do not have the digestive capacity to obtain their total digestible nutrients from a full feed of silage alone.
11. Digestive disorders caused by infections.
12. In addition, in connection with supplements containing an antibiotic, there is an adjustment of the rumen microflora to the antibiotic. This may cause a slight depression in rumen function and reduce appetite for 24 to 36 hours after the initial feeding. Softer feces also may be noticed. This effect is transient and after 36 to 48 hours the appetite should be restored to normal.

For a successful and profitable steer feeding program designed to minimize these problems contact any Miller & Bushong Service Representative or call us direct at Lancaster, EXpress 2-2145.

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