

Hearing Slated On Apple Sales Agreements

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania apple growers will have a chance to express their views on a marketing order hearing scheduled for May 9 and 10 in Harrisburg, according to an announcement made today by State Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning.

Working together through such means as marketing orders will help producers protect their position in the marketplace, Henning said. Apple growers all around us in New York, New Jersey and Virginia have effective systems

similar to that proposed in our state. The State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania is to be commended for its action in submitting a proposed marketing order and petition asking for a hearing.

A hearing is required to show need for an order before the Secretary can schedule a referendum. Two-thirds of the producers, with half the apple volume would have to vote approval before an order would take effect.

The proposed marketing order allows for an assessment to be paid by the growers of apples. Money collected under the order would be used for advertising and promotion, research and information service programs administered by an industry advisory board. The order would not permit control measures such as supply quotas, grading inspections and fixing of container sizes.

Forests Fire Crews Ready

HARRISBURG — Like an army preparing for battle, the Department of Forests and Waters fire prevention staff and crews are mobilizing their equipment and knowhow in preparation for spring fire season.

Foresters from the Department have been attending some 40 meetings of fire crews

held throughout the State during the month of March for the purpose of discussing the best and most up-to-date methods of detecting and fighting forest fires.

For the third year in a row, the Department will employ airplanes to help fight fires by dropping water bombs on the burning areas. Planes used for some time for fire-detection purposes, only recently were brought into action to combat the fires once they started.

destroyed 314 acres of timberland, compared with an average of 43 acres destroyed in 1960.

"Last year in Pennsylvania forest fires destroyed an average of only 5.67 acres of timberland, way below the national average," Goddard said.

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Between 6:05 and 6:15 A.M. This Week