

# Lancaster Farming

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EGGS ENTER THE WASHER at the right and get a bath of water and detergent while being scrubbed with long bristled brushes. The rotating eggs move on into a spray rinse at the middle of the machine and through a drying area at far left in the picture. From the washer, the clean, dry eggs go through the normal candling and grading process to cartoning and casing. Paul Hess, left, Hess Brothers, Ephrata, and John Snader, procurement manager, check the operation of the machine after its installation this week.

## In-Plant Egg Washing Brings Varied Opinions

**Ed. Note:** This is the second and concluding article on In-plant egg washing and the significance of the process for both the producer and processor.

How soon will all the eggs produced in Lancaster County be washed in the plants of the processor? Will this be good for the industry? Will it be good for only the processor, or only good for the producer, or either or neither? What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of taking the washing job off the farm?

If you had traveled with us to processing plants and poultry houses this week you might have begun to wonder if anyone knows the answers to these questions.

In fact, we became pretty certain in our travels that no one does know all the answers to these and other problems which are bound to come up when an idea so new and revolutionary is put into practice.

However, we did hear some opinions and ideas which we will pass along. We also learned that more questions

will probably be answered within the next few weeks and months as three processors in the area put plant washers into operation.

First of the three washers went into operation this week at the plant of Hess Brothers in Ephrata where the management is highly pleased with the preliminary results. Producers Cooperative Exchange in Coatesville expects to have washing facilities installed by the middle of January, and Raymond Sauder, Lititz, will install washing equipment with new machinery which will go into his expanded facilities under construction at present.

Raymond Sauder, who processes in excess of 5,000 cases each week, feels that there are many advantages to the producer.

"We believe we can get a better washed egg in the plant than the shipper can get on the farm, and this will result in a higher quality pack," Sauder said.

Ben Burkholder, plant manager at the Victor Weaver plant in New Holland feels

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## Forage Necessary Ingredient For High Butterfat Production

High quality forage may not be the answer to all the dairyman's problems, a Penn State researcher told dairyman and feed company representatives Tuesday night.

In fact, he said, some of the extremely high quality hay produced in eastern Pennsylvania during the past summer might add to the problem of low butterfat content in milk.

Dr. Richard S. Adams, extension dairy feeding specialist from the Pennsylvania State University, told the 50 persons meeting in the Lancaster Poultry Center, high grain feeding and restricted forage

feeding, especially of high quality forage, can not be counted on to maintain butterfat levels in the milk.

He said the highly digestible hay or even highly digestible corn silage moves out of the rumen too fast for the rumen bacteria to break down the fibre and produce the fatty acids which are necessary in the production of butterfat.

Minimum forage requirements to satisfactorily maintain butterfat test under farm conditions is about a pound to a pound and a half of hay or hay equivalent per hundred pounds of cow body

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## SCD Members Reappointed

Amos Funk, Millersville R1, has been reappointed to the board of directors of the Lancaster County Soil Conservation District.

Funk, whose term on the board expires on January 1, was approved for another term by the Lancaster County Commissioners at their meeting on Wednesday.

The Commissioners also reappointed Richard H. Witmer as the Commissioner-member on the board for a one year term. Funk's term is for four years.

Directors are nominated by county farm organizations

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## County Future Farmers Named To Receive Keystone Degrees

HARRISBURG, Twentyseven Lancaster County farm boys who are members of the Future Farmers of America have been nominated by the FFA State Advisory Council for the coveted degree of "Keystone Farmer". Investiture ceremonies are being arranged for January 9 at the FFA State Convention during the 1963 State Farm Show.

The list of those chosen was certified to the State Farm Show Commission this week by James C. Fink, coordinator of agricultural education in the Department of Public Instruction, and State FFA adviser.

Highest degree which can be earned at the State level by an FFA boy, the Keystone Farmer title is awarded to vocational students for outstanding achievement in agriculture and rural life. To qualify, the FFA boy must have demonstrated marked ability in leadership, completed at least two years of vocational agriculture instruction.

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## Farm Calendar

Dec. 8 — 2 to 5 p.m. — Chicken barbecue at the Poultry Center, sponsored by the Lancaster County Poultry Association. Take outs only.

Dec. 10 to 14 — State extension service annual conference at the Pennsylvania State University.

Dec. 10 — 7:30 p.m. — Soil Conservation District Directors meet in the County Court House. Annual report and plans for 1963.

8 p.m. — Ayrshire, Jersey, Brown Swiss 4-H club Christmas party at the home of Kenneth Eshelman, Elizabethtown R1.

Dec. 11 — 7:30 p.m. — Producers Cooperative Exchange annual meeting at the Pequea Valley High School.

8 p.m. — County 4-H Council meets at the Farm

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RELINQUISHING THE GAVEL TO THE NEW president of the County Teachers of Vocational Agriculture is the past president Henry Givler, left, Pequea Valley High School. Accepting the office is William Fredd, Solanco High School. Other officers, elected at the regular meeting of the association Wednesday night at Ephrata High School are, left to right, Elvin Hess, vice-president, Elizabethtown Area High School; Gerald Kiger, secretary, Lampeter - Strasburg High School; and Joseph McCahan, treasurer, Manheim Central High School.

## FIVE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Temperatures during the next five days are expected to average two to six degrees below the normal range of 27 at night to 43 in the afternoon. It will be cold throughout the period with little day to day temperature change expected. Precipitation is expected to total about a half inch (melted) falling as snow or rain early next week.