

Celery Men Seek Change In Soil Test Reporting

About 40 county celery producers voiced objection Monday to the current method of reporting soil test results by the Pennsylvania State University soil testing laboratory.

The growers, meeting in the packing room of Amos Funk, Millersville, voted to send a letter to the laboratory calling for a return to the policy of reporting soil nutrients in pounds per acre rather than as low, medium and high.

Loud support was registered for the letter which said "Celery growers in Lancaster York and Lebanon request consideration be given to the soil test results indicating the exact level of plant nutrients present in the soil in pounds per acre and that all test results as now reported, low, medium and high, be changed to vegetables and possibly to potatoes.

"For example, yields for celery will be greater as available potash is increased to 400 pounds per acre. As amounts of potash are increased beyond this level, yields are depressed and minor element deficiencies often appear. Therefore it is important for a grower to know the exact upper limit of potash level in his soil, not a general test indicating just a high level of this nutrient.

"It is suggested the special report form be used for vegetable growers."

William Yount, Plant pathologist with the Bureau of Plant Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture said great variations were noted in plants of the H-46 strain last year, but four plants were selected from a total of 45 to be used as foundation seed stock this year. He said the selection committee tried to pick out plants which were straight, had good color and would produce good quantities of seed. Funk last year grew two pounds of the new seed which was certified by the bureau.

Since celery seed averaged about 8,000 seeds per ounce, Yount said, county growers should have a plentiful supply to meet needs.

He explained that certifica-

tion of seeds assures a grower of a uniform supply wherever the seed is purchased since certification standards are nationwide.

Dr. Ernest Bergman, plant nutritionist at the Pennsylvania State University said he is continuing his studies with the new variety in an attempt to eliminate some of the undesirable features. In response to the remarks from one grower that some of his customers had complained about the lack of flavor in the H-46 variety, Bergman said it was probably due to variations in new seed. A group of growers who tasted a sample from the questioner agreed that it lacked the flavor noted in some of the other samples brought in from around the county.

Bergman said some growers have sprayed too heavily with boron, or added too much boron to the soil. "Don't spray or apply boron if you don't need

(Continued on Page 9)



LOOKING OVER A SELECTION OF H-46 celery at a meeting Monday afternoon are two county celery growers and a plant researcher. Left to right are Jay Hodecker who grows 19 acres of celery at 1803 Rohrerstown Road, Dr. Ernest Bergman, plant nutritionist at the Pennsylvania State University, and Rudy Grob, 2063 Stone Mill Road, Lancaster, secretary of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association. The selections from the original cross made by Dr. Bernard Pollack at PSU will be used to increase the seed supply of trenching celery to replace the old Houser strain lost during World War II. L. F. Photo.

Tomorrow's Poultry Profits START WITH Eby's Chick-to-Egg Feeding Program



Start Your Chicks
on
EBY'S PRE-CHICK
STARTER

Start your chicks by feeding 1/2 lb. of Eby's Pre-Chick Starter per chick, for a fast start and less mortality.

The extra food power; higher protein; high vitamin and antibiotics fortification will save extra chicks to start on the right road to tomorrow's egg profits.



SEE US TODAY ABOUT OUR EARLY ORDER BONUS PLAN

EBY'S MILL, Inc.
LITITZ
Phone 626-2106

HEMPFIELD MILLS, Inc.
EAST PETERSBURG
Phone 898-3031



Pennsylvania
Farm Show
CHAMPION!
Sunnybrook
Started Capons
Second
Straight Year!

For the second year in a row our capons have been grand champions of the Pennsylvania Farm Show. This year our White Rocks took both champion and reserve. In 1962 it was our Vantress-Arbor Acres Cross that won.

All through the Northeast, growers are making extra profits with our surgical capons. Four to six weeks old when delivered and well past the danger period. Easy to raise, easy to feed. Fast growers that bring top market prices. Direct delivery in our own trucks over a wide area. Write for our free folder "Profits From Capons."

SUNNYBROOK Poultry
Farms, Inc.

A. Howard Fingar
R. D. 2, Hudson 6, N. Y.
Ph: TA 8-1611