

Manheim Chapter Future Farmers Take Off On Six Week Tour

Editor's Note: The following is a report from the Manheim Central Future Farmers of America on a trip to the West Coast. The report was dated July 3, and is in the form of the log being kept by John Wagner, reporter for the group.

Thursday, June 27

The 1963 class of FFA boys left (Manheim) Thursday morning, took Route 41 to #15. We drove all night through Maryland and West Virginia. In the morning we visited the Shenandoah National Park of Virginia. The Skyline Drive

consisted of 100 miles of beautiful scenic views. We also stopped at the National Bridge. We camped in a National Park.

Friday, June 28

Left at 8:30 Friday morning on Route 11 and traveled through Tennessee. Toured Knoxville and slept at a Baptist Church. We went through one change of time so far and had rain every day except Thursday.

Saturday, June 29

Started at 5:15 in the morning. We wanted to make New Orleans by evening. Passed

through another time belt, traveled through Georgia into Alabama, and s'opped at Lookout Mountain in Tennessee. We could see five different states from this lookout. We made New Orleans by 11:30 — mosquitos were so bad it was impossible to sleep.

Sunday, June 30

Left New Orleans at 5:30, ate breakfast and traveled to Lake Charles, Louisiana, and went swimming in the afternoon. Mosquitos were so bad again, we got a motel to sleep in.

Monday, July 1

Went to Lake Charles to get truck greased and change oil, and also washed all our laundry. We hit Houston, (Continued on Page 18)

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, July 13, 1963—13

Fatter Cattle, Leaner Hogs Are The Trend

HARRISBURG — Jack Spratt and his wife would be happy buying meat in Pennsylvania where farmers send fatter cattle and leaner hogs to market.

Since 1957, beef cattle have been 50 to 70 pounds heavier, and hogs 15 to 20 pounds lighter at market time than the U.S. average, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

It's a simple matter of knowing what the market wants — and producing it, according to Roger Halsted and Frank Pulley, of the State Agriculture Department's Bureau of Markets.

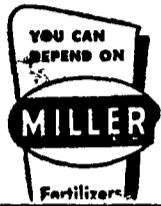
Hogs, for example, should be marketed at 180 to 225 pounds to produce desirable carcasses with more meat and less fat, Halsted explained. In the past six years, hogs slaughtered in Pennsylvania during May averaged 222 to 225 pounds. Average for the nation was 240 to 242 pounds.

"They still push corn to them in many parts of the mid-West and send bigger, fatter hogs to market," Halsted added. "Our farmers have learned that it's more profitable to market leaner hogs." With beef, Pennsylvania buyers have shown a preference for cattle of uniform size and weighing about 1,100 pounds. Chain stores are more specific, seeking animals that will dress to about 600 pounds. Pulley pointed out.

This trend is evident in May slaughter records. In Pennsylvania, animals averaged 1,066 pounds from 1957 to 1961. In May this year, the average was 1,083 pounds. U.S. averages for these periods ranged from 995 to 1,029 pounds.

Slaughter of lightweight animals, particularly in the South, helps lower the national average. Pennsylvania farmers, on the other hand, are placing greater emphasis on improved breeding and feeding programs to produce better quality beef cattle, Halsted said.

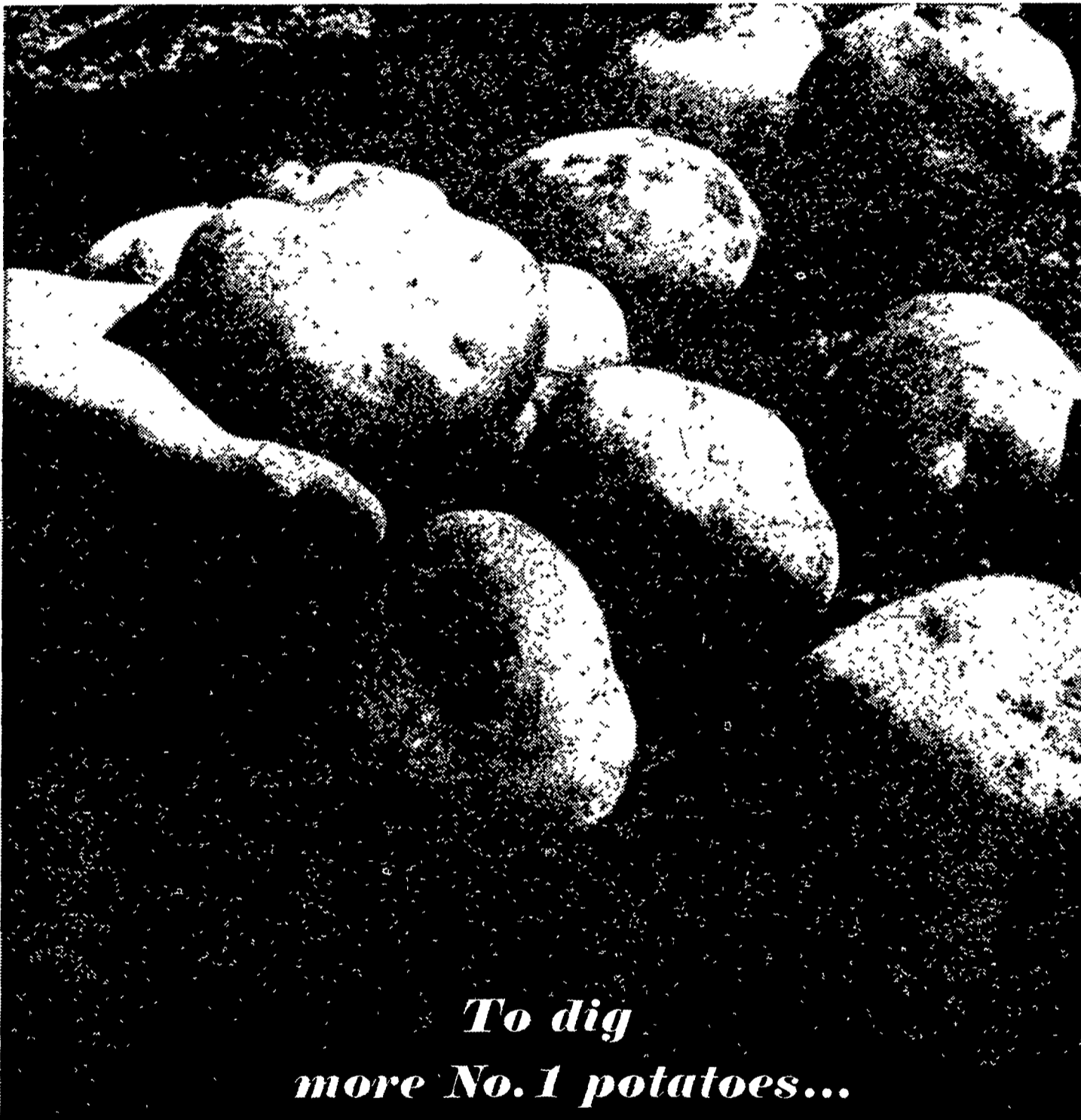
The farmer, the buyer and the butcher have a common purpose, Halsted and Pulley agreed — to give retail customers the kind of meat and the size of cuts they want.



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Nursery Business Needs Trainees

There is an increased demand by ornamental nurserymen for individuals trained in this area of work according to Dr. Fred C. Snyder, Director of Short Courses at The Pennsylvania State University.

The Ornamental Nursery Management Winter Course is a non-college credit technical program. Each student graduating from the program at Penn State has two or three job offers from which to make his choice, said Snyder.

The program consists of two eight-week periods of in-class and laboratory instruction a year in each of two years. A six-month placement for on-the-job training is recommended for all students. Instruction during the four eight-week terms will be held on the main campus of Penn State.

Included in instruction are such areas as propagation, field production, use and maintenance of trees, shrubs and flowers, insect and disease control of ornamentals and turf, turf management, personnel management and machinery service and repair.

High school graduates, 16 years of age or older, are eligible for enrollment. The usual mathematics, science, and English college entrance requirements do not apply to this program.

A descriptive leaflet of the program and an application blank can be received by writing the Director of Short Courses, Room 211 Armsby Building, College of Agriculture, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

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