

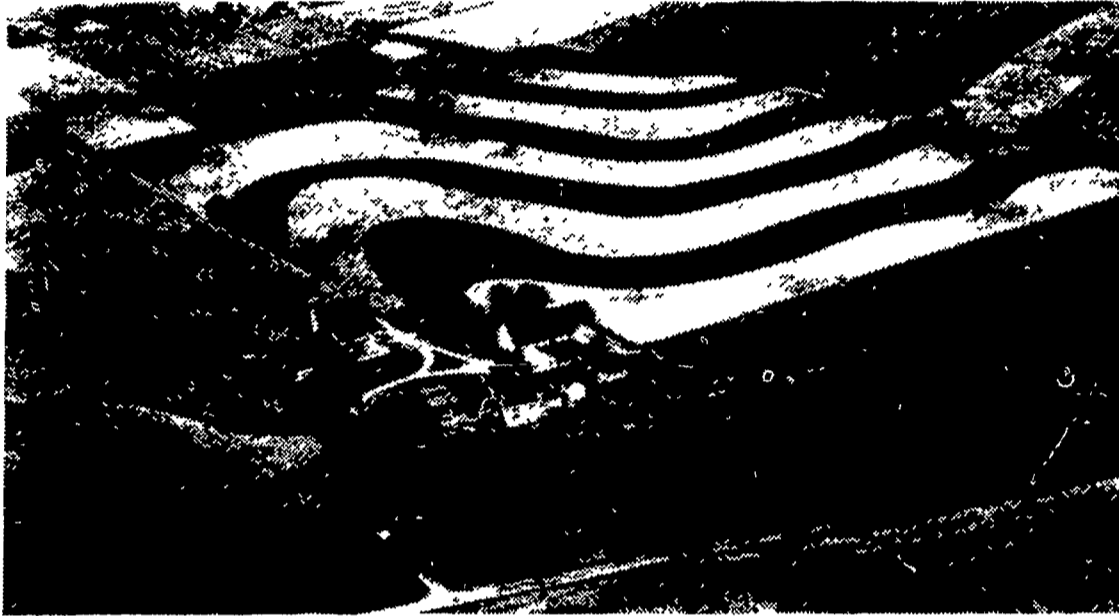
Annual Soil Conservation District Report Issue

Lancaster Farming

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Lancaster Farming, Saturday, March 6, 1965

\$2 Per Year



THE VIEW OF CONSERVATION MOST APPRECIATED BY AIR TRAVELERS over Lancaster County is the familiar contour strips, as seen in this aerial shot of a farm in the New Holland area. Close examination of this picture should show a grass waterway near the lower left corner of the picture.

Soil Conservation Dist. Directors Report Program

The Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District presented during Soil Stewardship Week.

5 A tour of county farms was held for the County Commissioners.

6 Director Chairman, Amos H Funk is also serving on the State Soil Conservation Commission

7 The fifth Annual Plowing Contest and Field Day were held on the Roy Garber farm. There were 7 contestants, and approximately 175 people attended. Richard Groff, Lititz R3, was the winner.

4 A television program was presented during Soil Stewardship Week.

1 A total of 234 attended the Annual Meeting at the Blue Ball Fire Hall

2 The Outstanding Conservation Farmer was Forney Longenecker, Lititz R3

3 During May, Soil Stewardship was observed. Seven papers carried Stewardship articles and several rural churches used Soil Stewardship materials

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Ammon, Speaker At Poultry Assn. Here On Thurs.

The program for the Annual Educational Meeting of the Lancaster County Poultry Association will feature Richard Ammon, Executive Director of NEPPCO. He will discuss some of the changes and trends that he ahead for poultrymen in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Ammon is a native of Lancaster County, and served as Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Millers and Feed Dealers Association prior to joining NEPPCO. He is well known throughout the eastern United States, and is a respected leader in the industry.

The program will also feature Dr. L. Dwight Schwartz, Extension Poultry Veterinarian from Penn State University. He will discuss the latest findings and recommendations in the field of poultry disease.

The meeting will be held at the Poultry Center, 340 West Roseville Road, Lancaster, and will begin at 7:45 p.m., March 11. All are welcome.

Farm Calendar

Mar 8 — 7:30 p.m. Manheim Young Farmers at Central HS Subj "Livestock Marketing"

— 7:30 p.m. Ephrata Young Adult Farmers farm welding class "Vertical and Overhead welding"

— 7:30 p.m. Northeast 4-H Tractor Club at Allen Matz Equip Co., Denver

— 7:30 p.m. Reorganization meeting 4-H Ayrshire, Jersey

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Weaver, Pres. Co. Baby Beef And Lamb Club

At a reorganization meeting this week the 120-member Red Rose Beef and Lamb Club named Larry Weaver, New Holland R1, as their new president. Weaver succeeds Eugene Hosler, Manheim R3.

Other officers elected for 1965 were vice-president, Kenneth Hess, secretary, Nancy Frey, assistant secretary, Linda Welk, treasurer, Robert Hosler; assistant treasurer, William Houser; song leaders, Judy Buckwalter and Tom Houser; game leaders, Carol Ann Hess and Dallas Wolgemuth; news reporters, Anna

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Free-Stall Housing Sparks Interest At Annual Co. Dairy Day

Agricultural Research Engineer, Gordon C. Perry of Agway, Inc., described their experience to-date with the free-stall housing and liquid manure handling combination to approximately 400 countians at the Dairy Day meeting this week. There has been a gradually growing interest in this system of dairy cow management in the county, especially since the company milk inspectors have been pushing the conversion of loose-housing to free-stalls.

Perry showed slides of many working systems in the U.S. and abroad. One point he emphasized was that the farmer must be careful of what goes into his liquid manure system. Straw, for example, will clog the system. The ingredient that makes the whole thing work is water — lots and lots of water, Perry said.

Dr. James E. Honan, General Manager Inter-State Milk

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F&H Canvassing About 60% Done In Co. This Week

Total results in the Farm and Home Foundation climbed to \$153,145 the past week, with the City Special Gifts and General Gifts Divisions now adding to the efforts of the Farm Gifts Division. This was announced, Wednesday, by Levi H. Brubaker and Lawrence H. Skromme, General Co-Chairmen of the \$375,000 capital funds appeal.

Of the over-all total produced, to-date, in the drive, \$121,531 has come from farm families and farm-related business interests of the county. The Farm Gifts Division has a quota of \$250,000 to raise, while the city units have been assigned a quota of \$125,000. About 60% of the canvassing in the county has been done.

Campaign officials reported that support in the county has included the gifts of numerous agricultural organizations. Recent gifts and pledges of support have come from the Lancaster County Holstein Association, \$1,000; Lancaster County Farm Cooperative Association, \$1,000; Lancaster County Fruit Growers Association, \$400; and the Lan-

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Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average below normal with little day-to-day change. Normal high for the period is 47 degrees, and low is 28.

Precipitation is expected to occur as snow on Saturday, and as rain or snow again on Monday. Total accumulation should be approximately 1/4 inch, melted.

Tobacco Growers Can Gain 7-10 Days By Using Plastic Covers Over Seedbeds, Agronomist Says

One of the main new developments at the Penn State University Southeastern Field Research Laboratory is growing tobacco plants under plastic covers. Henry B. Engle, research agronomist at the station, told approximately 70 farmers at the Lincoln Independent School this week.

But the key to growing plants successfully with this method is ventilation, Engle said. Plants grown in this way will be ready to put out a week to 10 days earlier than those grown in a regular seedbed, trials at the Experiment Station have shown. They have found that the most durable framework for the plastic can be made from lattice, or lath.

In discussing weed control in the seedbed, Engle said there are two basic ways being used: steam and chemical. Steam equipment is gradually becoming obsolete, the researcher said, and chemical controls seem to be taking over. Methylbromide, a poisonous gas, gives excellent control over grass and broadleaf weeds, he said, but it is not effective against clover. Three other chemicals cited were vapan, mylone (mico-fume), and cyanamid. They gave reasonably good control, but were not as effective as steam or methylbromide, even though these have to be applied with special equipment.

Fertilizer trials have not given results that were consistent enough to evaluate at the Station, Engle said. Tobacco seems to grow well under widely varying conditions, but given good growing conditions, it has been found that a fertilizer application of 100-150 pounds per acre will give the best results.

In commenting on the plant breeding aspects of tobacco, Engle reported that they are

trying to breed a variety with triple disease resistance. In Penn-Bel '69 they have a variety with double resistance — to wildfire and mosaic — and want to add resistance to black root rot in a new variety.

Sucker control was another area touched on at this meeting. Engle reported that many new chemicals are being tested in trying to overcome the industry's objections to some of the previous chemicals used. Several of the new ones look promising, Engle reported, but final approval from the cigar manufacturers is awaited. The most promising is a fatty-acid derivative that has worked well in Pennsylvania and in the flue-cured and burley areas. A year with normal moisture would be very helpful in evaluating these chemicals fully, the researcher said.

Engle concluded by saying that the grower should consider the use of supplemental heat shortly after the tobacco has been hung up to drive out that extra moisture before the damp, cold weather comes. This will go a long way toward preventing rot later on.

The other speaker on the program, Ben Mann, an independent buyer, and President of the Lancaster Leaf Board of Trade, confirmed that a well-ventilated, plastic-covered seedbed may gain that extra time that saves the grower from harvesting frosted tobacco. He also confirmed that long-season varieties, as Penn Bel, should not be planted later than mid June. Both speakers agreed that one serious management problem is that growers often top their plants too high. Sixteen good

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