

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year



SOME FEATURED SPEAKERS AT THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE were (front row, left to right): Samuel A. Dum, Lancaster County dairy producer; Sigfried Weis, president, Weis Markets; Alan R. Warehime, president, Hanover Canning Company; (back row) Leland H. Bull, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture; Dr. R. E. Larson, Dean, College of Agriculture, The Pennsylvania State University; Walter E. Wilmarth, poultry producer. Dum, Weis, Warehime, and Wilmarth served as members of a panel of which Dean Larson was chairman.

Study Shows Investment And Gross Sales Needed For Certain Farm Profit

As a farmer, how much of an investment must you have to expect a net return of \$2,500? Of \$3,500? Of \$4,500? Of \$5,500? A recently reported USDA study showed that net income and investment varied considerably with type, size and location of farm operations. For example, farms with returns of \$5,500 required capital investments ranging from \$28,270 for a North Carolina tobacco farm to \$353,120 for a beef ranch in Oklahoma. More than half of all farms earning \$5,500 had capital investments of more than \$75,000, with eight of these exceeding \$100,000.

The objective of the study was to determine the kinds and amounts of resources required on different types of farms in different farming regions to enable farm operators to earn specified incomes. For this purpose, farm budgets that would produce the specified incomes were developed for 16 types of farms in 29 areas. These included 8 dairy farms, one of them in southeastern Pennsylvania.

How did the Pennsylvania dairy farm compare with dairy farms in the rest of the country? (See Table 1) At all levels of income the Pennsylvania farm showed less gross sales than the average dairy farm, less invested capital, less total acreage and less acres in crops. The Pennsylvania dairy farm also hired less farm labor and custom work than the average dairy farm and handled fewer cows

The one category in which it was above the average was in hours of farm operator labor invested, and this was true for all income levels. For dairymen in southeastern Pennsylvania this tends to show that they can make as much money as the average dairyman anywhere in the country, and they can do it with fewer cows, less gross sales, less invested capital, smaller farms, less hired — but more operator labor.

Much is heard about "increasing the farmer's efficiency" these days. This study

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Scranton Keynotes "Challenge" At Governor's Conf. On Agriculture

Pennsylvania has the greatest potential of any state in the East," Governor William Scranton said at his Conference on Agriculture this week at Harrisburg. "We are on the edge of the 'metropolitan sprawl,' and are faced with the greatest opportunity in our history," he told the approximately 600 agriculturists attending the conference.

He challenged them to develop the tools to meet the needs and opportunities that will be upon us in the near future. "Forty-three percent of today's Pennsylvanians derive their living from agribusiness," the Governor said. He proposed the creation of a Committee on Agriculture that could help plan the state's future in the area of agribusiness. This committee would work with Secretary of Agriculture Leland H. Bull, and its activities would be coordinated with the Council on Science and Technology.

Another speaker, Dr. Eric A. Walker, president of The Pennsylvania State University, lamented the lack of "professionalism" among agriculturists. "The time has come," Walker said, "for the individual farmer to take the initiative and play a leading part in deciding what is best for the American nation. They need to take a more direct interest in agricultural

education and legislation: the importance of the individual farmer will increase as farmers become fewer in number."

He recommended a detailed study be made of the manpower needs for producing food in the U. S. with the idea of determining the place of agriculture in our nation both today and in the future.

The next speaker, Edmund H. Fallon, executive vice-president and general manager of Agway, Inc. said that though farmers may be "getting sick of the word 'efficiency,' they've got to keep

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Soil Scientists Study Tillage Effects On Crops

Many scientists are convinced that farmers would be money ahead if they would limit seedbed preparation to plowing — and only as much disking and harrowing as needed to eliminate surface roughness.

This conviction is supported — but not conclusively

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Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average slightly above normal with little day-to-day change, but with slight warming trend through the period. Normal high and low for the period would be 62 and 39 degrees.

Precipitation will occur Monday and again Wednesday and total rainfall will be between 1/4-1/2 inch.

Selection Of County Star Farmer Discussed By Vo-Ag Teachers

At their regular monthly meeting, held at Lampeter-Strasburg High School, this week, the county teachers of vocational agriculture voted to require completed a Keystone Degree application for each FFA candidate for the County Star Farmer Degree.

This degree program was originated last year with Mannheim's Dale Hershey its first recipient. The degree is designed to provide a recognition between the Chapter Star Farmer and Keystone levels, and it is open only to boys who attain the Red Rose Farmer Degree. The candidates are chosen by a selection committee made up of county FFA officers with the aid of their teacher-advisors. After the five most likely boys have been selected, their applications are screened and

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County Bankers Host Farm Youths At Dinner

The Lancaster County Bankers Association this week entertained 30 young people from among the 4-H, Future Farmers and Future Homemakers groups in the county at their annual dinner meeting at the Host Motel.

Each year the County Bankers Association gives \$900 in youth awards, divided among the three organized groups of young people in the schools. The 4-H Clubs divide \$600, FFA and FHA each divide \$150. These awards are presented throughout the year at various school functions.

The 4-H'ers attending the dinner were James Kettering, Jerry Snader, James Houser, Robert Wengel, Carol Hess,

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NEPPCO Board Plans 10-Point Aid To Industry

Meeting in New York City, April 3 and 4, the Board of Directors of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council adopted a 10-point program to aid and improve the poultry industry in the Northeast.

"We recognize that the industry — particularly the market egg branch of the industry — is facing serious and continuing production and marketing problems," said Harry P. Metz, NEPPCO President, in reporting on the actions of the Board.

"We believe, however," he continued, "that the Northeast is on the doorstep of a new era — an era which, while

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Table 1.

A Comparison of Resources Needed For A Dairy Farm In Southeastern Pennsylvania With The Average Of Other U.S. Dairy Farms Studied To Produce Specified Levels Of Operator Incomes.

Resources By Areas	Four Levels Of Operator Income			
	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$5,500
Gross Sales	SE Pa \$11,055 Avg US 12,065	\$13,388 14,599	\$16,298 17,854	\$19,797 20,864
Invest.	SE Pa \$37,325	\$42,655	\$49,591	\$59,163
Capital	Avg US 41,379	48,087	56,518	64,616
Total	SE Pa 54	65	80	97
Acres	Avg US 79	102	125	147
Crop	SE Pa 30	36	45	54
Acres	Avg US 56	73	89	105
Hours Operator Labor	SE Pa 2,358	2,500	2,500	2,500
	Avg US 2,075	2,238	2,320	2,385
Hours Hired Labor	SE Pa 123	253	586	996
	Avg US 285	427	847	1,178
Hired Custom Work	SE Pa \$106	\$132	\$159	\$192
	Avg US 435	513	615	658
Number Of Cows	SE Pa 19	23	28	34
	Avg US 21	25	32	37

Farm Calendar

Apr 12 — 8 p.m. 4-H Leaders, Northwest Region, meet at Litz Recreation Center.
Apr 13 — 7:30 p.m. Reorganization meeting Garden Spot 4-H Community Club at Smoketown Elementary School.