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HAVE YOU SEEN ANY NICER PLANTS THAN THESE THIS YEAR? We haven't. They were grown under a plastic cover by Ben F. Martin, shown at right above with Henry B. Engle, research agronomist at the Southeastern PSU Field Research Laboratory. Martin moved plants from this bed to the field on May 12 and 15.

New Holland Farmer Grew Tobacco Under Plastic; Transplanted On May 12th

This may not be a record, but we haven't heard of anyone else who set out their first tobacco plants by May 12 as Ben F. Martin, New Holland R2, did this year.

He transplanted about one-third acre, 2,000 plants, on Wednesday, May 12, and 3,000 more three days later. His idea was to get earlier plants to maturity to help spread the work load somewhat in the fall.

Martin, a steer, broiler, and crop farmer, generally plants about eight acres of tobacco each year. He is using the long-season Pennbel-69 variety of tobacco that was developed at the Field Research Laboratory near Landsville. Henry B. Engle, research agronomist at the Field Laboratory, was instrumental in developing Pennbel and has long recommended that farmers find a way of getting it planted earlier to avoid risk of frost near harvest time. For that

reason he worked with the plastic "greenhouse" idea, and distributed plans and directions for its construction last year (see Lancaster Farming May 16, 1964 — Plastic Tobacco Cover Pushes Early Plants).

Martin picked up the idea at that time and sent for the plans. He followed them closely but substituted 3/8-inch galvanized pipe for the recommended wood lattice (the Research Station has since changed their recommendation to pipe for greater structural strength). Martin was unable to say what his cost of construction had been because he had the pipe on hand — he had removed it from his broiler house when he converted from keio-

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Dr. Spurling To Quit Diagnostic Post For FDA

Effective July 1st, Dr. George F. Spurling, well-known poultry diagnostician at New Bolton Center, will be leaving his post as Assistant Professor of Poultry Pathology at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, according to M. W. Allam, Dean of the School.

Dr. Spurling has accepted a position with the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D. C.

The rumor that Spurling would be leaving caused some concern among poultrymen and poultry servicemen in Lancaster County last week since many of them rely on the New Bolton diagnostic facilities. Both Dr. Palace H.

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Rural Life Sunday To Be Observed May 23rd

The fifth Sunday after Easter is designated as Rogation or Rural Life Sunday. At this time a special focus is placed on God's blessing on rural life and its resources, land, and people. Two services of observance are scheduled in Lancaster County as follows: at 10:00 a.m. on May 23 a service will be held at the Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church. An evening service will be held at the Lititz Church of the Brethren at 7:30 p.m. This service is sponsored by the 4-H County Council in cooperation with

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Dairy Princess Applicants Must Apply By June 10

The deadline for applicants to enter the 1965 Lancaster County Dairy Princess contest has been extended from May 25 to June 10, according to contest committee chairman Mrs. Herbert M. Royer, 2025 Oregon Pike, Lancaster.

"Lancaster is the number one dairy county in the state, producing over \$27,000,000 world of milk each year," Mrs. Royer said, "and we want to make sure all girls have a chance to enter this contest so Lancaster will be well-represented in the state contest."

The Lancaster contest will

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Farmer's Pay More Influenced By His Ability As Manager Than As A Worker, Young Farmers Told

At a meeting of the Mannheim Young Farmer Association this week the point was made by Harry Hofmeister, representative of Farmec Co., that more and more the farmer must get his pay as a manager rather than as a worker.

As an important part of better managing, he discussed the principles and economics of farmstead mechanization. He dwelt particularly on the mechanics of moving feed and compared the relative values of several methods of doing this. In referring to the economics of feeding he stressed the increasing importance of silage — both grass and corn.

There are two considerations when a farmer decides to save labor by mechanization, Hofmeister said: (1) how you are going to affect the quality of your materials and your product, (2) how much you will have to invest to gain the desired efficiency. The factor of quality is often overlooked, but actually more savings can often be made by improving quality than in labor-saving, he told the farmers.

For example, he said that many augers will not deliver a quality product. They first mix the feed, then they separate it through centrifugal force and all the heavier particles are thrown to the outside. After 25-30 feet of

augering you have mainly chaff left, according to Hofmeister. "You can see this by watching where the boss animals feed. You'll seldom find them at the end of the line," he predicted.

"You can make this uneven distribution even worse," he suggested, "by enclosing this auger with a tube that has side or bottom holes in it. Then your feed will separate by the time it has traveled 20 feet, and you'll find hardly a kernel of corn at 100 feet."

His recommendation was to use an enclosed auger with

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Pa. Game Comm. To "Ferret Out" Rabbit Habits

In a new study of rabbits recently initiated by the Pennsylvania Game Commission, ferrets will be used for the first time in recent years to help the Commission determine why hunters have been bagging fewer cottontails lately.

Biologists will capture rabbits and mark them with reflective ear tags and dyes. Ferrets (weasel-like animals), box traps and nets will be used to catch the rabbits.

To study daily movements, the biologists will use devices at burrows which will record

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Farm Calendar

- May 23 — through 30th — Soil Stewardship Week
- May 24 — 7:30 p.m. Red Rose FFA at Garden Spot High School
- 7:30 p.m. Elm-Pennryn 4-H Community Club at Pennryn Fine Hall.
- 8 p.m. DHIA Directors meeting at Farm Bureau Bldg.
- May 25 — 12 noon, Pennsylvania Farmers' Association industry-wide meeting at Holiday Inn West, Harrisburg.

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Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average above the normal high of 77 and low of 54 degrees. Warmer temperatures will develop over the weekend and continue to about mid-week.

Precipitation for the period will total between 1/4-1/2 inch, occurring as scattered showers possibly Sunday but mostly during mid-week.