

● **County Swine**

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will be many years before the hog business really becomes as efficient as the poultry business has become.

On the subjects of high pork markets, Younkin said that prices right now are helping the hog feeders greatly — he predicted continuing good prices until about early fall, 1966 — but “we pay too much attention to the highs and lows when it’s actually the average prices, year in and year out, that tell the true story,” he said.

He told the swinememen that most of the new units that are going into operation are substituting capital for labor. That is, they are using such devices as modified slat floors, controlled environment buildings — in some cases —, and often using automatic feeders. This mechanization enables them to handle more hogs

with less labor costs per hog.

When asked about the proposed swine evaluation center planned for location at Penn State, Younkin said he understands the plans are in the process of going from the architect to Government Services Administration for final approval. He could offer no proposed date for beginning construction, but his answer suggests that some progress is being made in that direction.

In the audience judging contest that dominated the morning session, the group evaluated five classes of hogs — two of breeding gilts, and three of market animals. One of the latter classes was a group of Hampshire-Yorkshire crossbreds; all the other classes were Yorkshires.

The top scoring judge of the day was Miss Becky Boyd of Glen Rock R1, York County. She racked up 470.3 points out of a possible 500, to win the grand prize of a weaned York-

shire gilt which was donated by host Hess.

The gate prize of \$5 was drawn by eight-year-old Janet Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Martin of Ephrata.

In each of the three divisions, ladies, men, and youth, there were five merchandise prizes awarded. These were won by:

Ladies Div. — 1, Miss Becky Boyd; 2, Mrs. James Martin; 3, Miss Betty Herr; 4, Mrs. Richard Boyd; 5, Miss Irene Bollinger.

Men’s Div. — 1, Eugene Hosler; 2, Kenneth Hess; 3, Paul Bollinger; 4, Warren Leiminger; 5, Earl Kreider.

Youth Div. — 1, Michael Hosler; 2, Suzy Martin; 3, Tom Zartman; 4, Beth Boyd; 5, David Deardolf.

Judge was Dwight Younkin, assisted by M. M. Smith, county agricultural agent.

The site of the affair, the H&H farm, is a 38-acre hog and poultry operation. The

● **Holstein Field Day**

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as in breeding enough of the right merchandise to satisfy an ever-growing demand for the best.

“The oldest law in merchandising is the law of supply and demand,” Backus stated. “Today, the cow with the

heavy production cannot sell on production alone. Nor can the cow with good type bring the real high dollar without production.

“Good merchandising, then, demands that our breed produce more and more of those cattle that carry balance — with special emphasis on that commodity in shortest supply, type.”

Another point of Backus’ talk was that, “it is vital to maintain and broaden the difference between the purebred and the grade.” To do this he suggested that “consideration should be given to recognizing and regulating the use of truly great sires so that they might be used to perpetuate and broaden the difference between the purebred and the grade.”

“Perhaps a special committee could carefully designate certain proven sires as of Superior Merit. The Superior Merit bulls should be regulated by restricting them to Registered Holstein cattle owned by members of the national breed association,” he suggested.

County Agent Max Smith also told the group that alfalfa is still king of the forage crops. Smith said that early August or early April is the time to plant alfalfa without a nurse crop. A band seeder with press wheels should be used. Weeds should be controlled with 24D-B when they are one to two inches tall.

Temporary forage crops that are useful to the dairy farmer include sudan grass or one of the sudangrass-sorghum hybrids. The important thing to remember with these crops is not to harvest too early — sudan grass not before 16 to 18 inches high, and the hybrid variety not before 30 inches tall — because of the danger of poisoning the cattle.

If the forage is grazed, the field should be clipped at four inches high after a two to three week period and fertilized to encourage regrowth. Farmers should also be aware of the danger of prussic acid in these forages after a killing frost.

If farmers are going to use chemical control of suckers, Smith warned them to become acquainted with the directions on the label. Time of topping and rate of application per acre are of great importance.

Other persons appearing briefly on the program were Linda Lou Welk, Lancaster County Dairy Princess, who spoke on her trip to the State Dairy Queen pageant at Towanda, and who was presented with a \$25 Savings Bond by the county Holstein association, Victor Plastow, associate county agent, and Nelson Empet, fieldman for the Pennsylvania Holstein Assn.

Judge for the morning contest was Jonas Gruver, East Berlin R1.

The contest winners were.

Men’s Division

Albert R. Fry, Manheim R2; Nelson Hershey, Columbia R1; Clair M. Martin, Lititz R1; Fred Metcalf, Willow Street; Elam Petersheim, Elverson.

Ladies Division

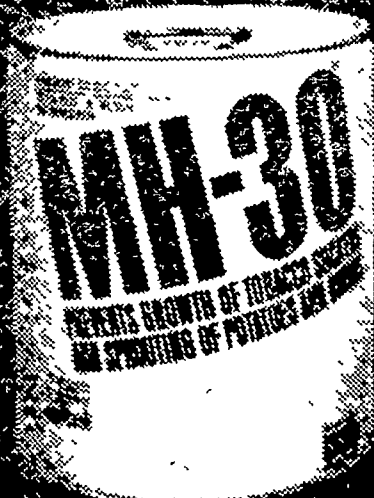
Mrs. Kenneth Hershey, Kinzer R1, Mrs. Melvin Peifer, 1831 Hans Herr Drive, Lancaster, Mrs. Miriam Kauffman, Elizabethtown R1; Mrs. Carl Martin, Ephrata; Mrs. Nelson Hershey, Columbia R1.

Junior Division

Shirley Hershey, Lititz R2; Mary Ellen Kettering, Lititz R3; Jay Smoker, Stephen R1; Daryl Bollinger, Lititz R1; Jim Breitigan, Lititz R2.

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