

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year



SAM LONG AND HIS WIFE SANDRA shown examining the herd record book which shows an average per cow gain of \$30 in return over feed cost for 1965. They attribute this increase largely to the forage analysis and feed programming service they are receiving from Penn State University. L. F. Photo

Forage Testing And Feed Programming Pay Off In Net Returns For Dairyman

When a farmer keeps records he can measure progress. This is one thing Samuel Long of Manheim R4 has proven in the last year. In 1963, he went under the Penn State owner-sampler testing program to get more detailed information on just what his mixed herd of grade and registered Holsteins and Jerseys was doing in dollars and cents. Then in November of 1964 he put his herd under the Penn State-IBM forage management program. To be eligible for this service he had to participate in forage testing, which is an integral part of

the program Sam had been a devoted believer in the merits of soil testing for some time, so it wasn't difficult for him to be convinced that forage testing might also hold many benefits. In fact, he was the first dairyman in his testing area to enroll in the plan. Did it help? Well, he gives credit to the combination testing-feed management program for the added \$30 per cow return over feed cost he received this year, and figures the \$5 cost per forage sample tested is one of the best investments he ever made.

Generally, he takes two samples a year, one of corn silage, one of hay. The recommended procedure for sampling silage is to let it cure for about two weeks, then

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Commission To Study Farmers' Bargaining Ills

The National Commission on Food Marketing hopes an array of witnesses at a public hearing next month will suggest some practical and imaginative ideas on how farmers can combine their efforts to improve their bargaining power in the nation's marketplace.

Potentialities for strengthening farmers' bargaining leverage through their own collective endeavors, possible limitations on such efforts, and whether cooperatives need the kind of legislation that was enacted to provide for collective bargaining by

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Pa. Agr. Dept. To Survey State Egg Industry

A comprehensive survey of Pennsylvania's egg industry, to determine present potentials and future trends, is being made this fall by the State Department of Agriculture.

The Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service will mail survey forms November 1 to 15,000 commercial egg producers in the state. Information

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Best Corn Crop Since '61 Anticipated In Pa.

State farmers are harvesting their best corn crop since 1961, with this year's grain production estimated at 53.9 million bushels, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

The estimate, based on October 1 conditions, reflects improved crop conditions resulting from substantial rainfall since the beginning of August. Two months ago, after a severe mid-season drought, the forecast was for only 47.8 million bushels.

Last year's corn production was 47.5 million bushels. The 1963 and 1962 crops amounted to 43 million and 44 million bushels respectively.

The hay crop, however, is expected to total 33 million tons, slightly less than last year, and almost 300,000 tons short of the five-year average. Yield per acre is estimated at 155 tons.

"New Farm Bill Makes Farmers Wards Of Federal Treasury", Official Tells Lanc. Farmers Assn.

Speaking at the annual banquet meeting of the Lancaster County Farmers Association, held Tuesday night at the Plain and Fancy Farm near Bird-in-Hand, an American Farm Bureau Federation official told some 225 county farmers and wives that the recently passed farm bill "gives unprecedented authority to the Secretary of Agriculture, and for all practical

purposes makes farmers wards of the U. S. Treasury."

John C. Lynn, legislative director of AFBF, said the bill was the "most far-reaching piece of agricultural legislation ever passed." He suggested that future success in farming will depend to a great extent on farmers' ability to contain the power this bill grants to one man—the Secretary of Agriculture.

When farmers have to rely on the federal treasury for their net income, instead of the marketplace, Lynn said, they will find that their income will be depressed because "an urban-oriented Congress will not stand still for the continued distribution of money to farmers under the guise of adjusting production."

Lynn further warned county farmers that if prices on some of the principal agricultural commodities are artificially depressed, the ef-

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Conservationist Announces New "Needs" Study

A two-year study of Pennsylvania's natural resources was recently launched at Harrisburg by federal and state conservation agencies. The study, State Conservationist Ivan McKeever of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service said, will gather information which will be used in updating the Conservation Needs Inventory which provides information used in flood prevention, soil conservation, water supply, and recreation developments in the Commonwealth.

The study is under the direction of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with local, state, and other federal conservation agencies and local groups having an interest in resource development in Pennsylvania.

McKeever, who is chairman

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Farm Calendar

- October 26 — 10 a.m. Lancaster County 4-H Capon Exhibit at Elk's Club, 219 N. Duke St., Lancaster — 6:30 p.m. New Holland 4-H Capon Roundup at New Holland Diner, Rt. 23, New Holland
- October 27 — 10 a.m. Annual dairy cow show and sale at New Holland Sales Stables, Inc.
- October 28 — 6:30 p.m. Junior leader awards banquet at Dutch Town and Country Inn, Paradise.
- October 29 — 7 p.m. Special Fall feeder sale at Vintage Sales Stables, Paradise.

Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average below the normal range of 64 to 42 degrees. It will be generally cool throughout with little day to day change.

Precipitation may total ¼-inch, occurring as showers over the interior early in the period, with more general rain toward the end.



JOHN C. LYNN, legislative director of the American Farm Bureau Federation and guest speaker at the Lancaster County Farmers Association annual banquet meeting, is shown talking things over with J. Robert Hess, president of the county association, following the meeting. L. F. Photo