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-FARMERS- GROW SWEET CORN AS A CASH CROP

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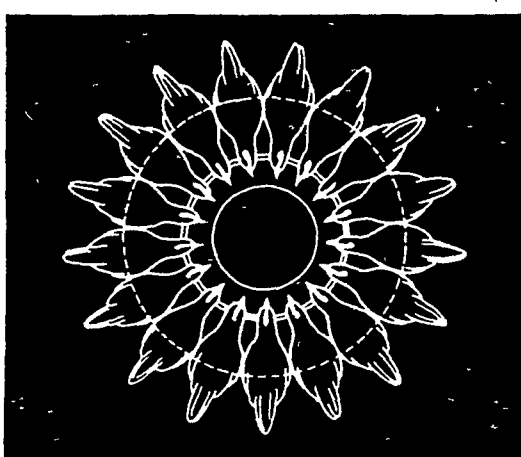


HALFWAY TO MARKET are these 100-pound porkers being raised as an FFA swine fattening project by Robert Weaver. He got started with swine when he was awarded the Sears' gilt several years ago. L. F. Photo

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● Robert Weaver

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include such sports as baseball and basketball. Locally, he has participated in television programs which his chapter has presented in the Lancaster area. He traveled to Kansas City last Fall with several chapter-mates and their instructor to attend the National FFA Convention. During State FFA Week last summer at Penn State he achieved honorable mention in the Farm Mechanics contest. At the last annual meeting of the Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative in Philadelphia, he represented the Garden Spot Chapter.

In addition to all of these local and county chapter activities, he raises two acres of corn and one acre of tobacco, cares for a dairy herd and a pen of fattening pigs. These are the projects he carries as part of the vocational agriculture work experience program.

Bob, a quiet, but intense, sort of boy, appears to use his available time to best advantage. There isn't much wasted motion in what he does, and apparently his fellow FFA members recognized this efficient quality when they chose him to lead the county chapter this year.

● Pesticide Research

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from the Agricultural Extension Service and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

The stepped-up research program will answer some of the questions regarding the relation of pesticides to plant and animal ecology and human health. Frear points out that research in the pesticide field is a highly specialized subject requiring large investments in equipment and manpower.

At the time chemical research on pesticides was begun at Penn State in 1933, less than a dozen insecticides were in common use, and about half that number of fungicides. Today, hundreds of chemicals are used to control algae, birds, trees, snails, and rabbits — to mention a few. Most of today's chemicals are organic compounds, some of a highly complex nature, according to Frear.

Interest in cooperative work is already indicated by faculty members in fields of agronomy, animal science, plant pathology, and forestry and wildlife.