



AT THE EDGE of an alfalfa field in its fourth year of production, Lester Weaver holds a sample showing the quality of alfalfa still being produced.

L. F. Photo

● **Lester Weaver**

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In addition to helping other 4-H'ers, the Weavers have raised six "club members" of their

own. Three of the children who are still active in 4-H are living at home; two older ones are married; and the youngest boy, Leon, is in college preparing for a career in veterinary



THEY USED TO SAY "KNEE-HIGH BY THE 4TH OF JULY!" indicated a good corn crop. Modern hybrids like those grown on the Lester Weaver farm were sky-high by the 14th of July, when this photo was taken. L. F. Photo

medicine.

On their 50-acre farm the Weavers keep 2000 laying hens, fatten 50-60 steers, and feed out about 60 hogs at a time. They farm 8 acres of tobacco, 12-15 acres of corn, and 8 acres of wheat.

The farm was laid out for contours in 1958, and crops are planted in strips for good water management. Weaver believes this attention to conserving the soil and water on his farm has definitely been reflected in crop yields.

Although he experienced a little shed burn in some of his tobacco this year, and had a high stem and rib moisture condition in some of his early cut plants, he found that a good part of the late cutting had an average selling weight of about 2500 pounds per acre.

He estimated the corn yield this year at between 135-150 bushels per acre, and said he had had a gradual increase in yield each year. One strip of corn that was good and dry was measured at 150 bushels

per acre. He still uses standard, 38-inch rows for corn, with plants per acre averaging about 18,000. When asked for his feeling on the value of narrow-row corn, Weaver said the added investment in special equipment and extra fertilizer required for that method should certainly be considered as adding to the production costs. He also felt it was doubtful whether we had yet fully exhausted the yield potential of 38-inch rows.

The farm is operated on approximately a four-year rotation, except for alfalfa which may stay in for five years. If the weevil problem persists, Weaver says he may consider clover as a substitute crop.

Some Red Clover is being raised now by seeding it in the wheat field in March while the ground is still frozen. The subsequent freezing and thawing helps to work the seed in and provide a good stand, he said.

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● **Poultry Assn.**

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Roseville Rd., Lancaster, the association will consider some by-law changes and will elect new directors for 1966.

Following discussion of the regular annual business matters which will begin at 7:30 p.m., pictures will be shown and light refreshments will be served.

All area poultrymen are urged to attend this meeting, and to take advantage of the opportunity to help further the development of their organization.

● **SWCD**

(Continued from Page 1)

at a conservation camp this past summer. The boys, Scouts Harry Buhay, Jr. and Gregory Noel, were presented with two books on conservation. Campbell also awarded certificates to two 4-H Club boys for their achievement in conservation; they were Robert Fisher and Gary Musser, both students at Garden Spot High School.

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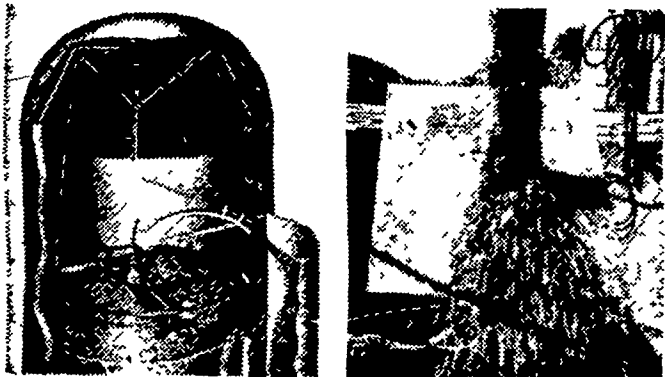
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