

## World Food Gap Also A Fertilizer Gap In Most Developing Countries

In a recent presentation on the World Food Crisis, Agriculture Secretary Freeman said:

"The great majority of the developing countries are deficit in both food and fertilizer. These two commodities are for all practical purposes the same commodity. Traditionally, we have talked of the food gap in the less developed world. I would like to emphasize that this is also a fertilizer gap. A 20-million-ton food gap is a 2-million-ton fertilizer gap! One pound of plant nutrients, used in association with water, pesticides and fertilizer-responsive varieties, yields on the average 10 pounds of additional food-grains.

The difference between fertilizer and food is a one-year time lag. This year's fertilizer is next year's food. The cost of filling the food-fertilizer gap is reduced by two-thirds if it is filled with fertilizer rather

than with food. Recognizing the interchangeability of food

and fertilizer makes it possible for virtually every advanced country to contribute in a major way to the filling of the food-fertilizer gap."

To obtain the maximum benefit from the minerals applied and to obtain the best crop yields the soil must be at the

proper pH level, the National Limestone Institute adds. Agricultural limestone supplies the calcium and usually the magnesium and some other minor minerals needed to produce greater yields of more highly nutritious food than if the soil is deficient in these

important minerals. It also increases the efficiency of the N-P-K which is applied as well as native to the soil.

Proper soil tests will assist profits in terms of greater yields, the Institute said, by assuring farmers of proper fertilization and liming rates.

### ● Reflections

5 YEARS AGO

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**Christ Miller, County Plowing Champ** — Christ S. Miller, who works a 125-acre general farm with his father at Elizabethtown R1, was top plowman at the contest sponsored this week by the Lancaster Soil and Water Conservation District (Aug. 12). Miller scored 440 of a possible 600 points. His closest competition at 413 points was Wilmer McDonald, Lancaster R2.

**Frey Boys Win Garden Spot Beef Show** — A pair of brothers from Quarryville R2 finished one and two in the beef judging at the Lancaster Stockyards, Wednesday, Aug. 16.

Eleven-year old William Frey showed a 995 pound Angus to the grand championship in the 39th annual Garden Spot Baby Beef Club show. Brother John, 13, nudged his 842-pound Angus to the reserve championship spot.

Top price for the champion at the sale was \$50 per hundredweight. The reserve champion brought \$40 per hundredweight.

**Trimble Has 4-H Pig Club Champ** — A 185-pound Yorkshire shown by Donald Trimble of Quarryville R1, won grand championship honors at the annual Lancaster-Lebanon 4-H Club Pig Show at the Union Stockyards, Wednesday (Aug. 23).

Reserve champion was a 210-pound Berkshire shown by Larry Hart, Quarryville R1.

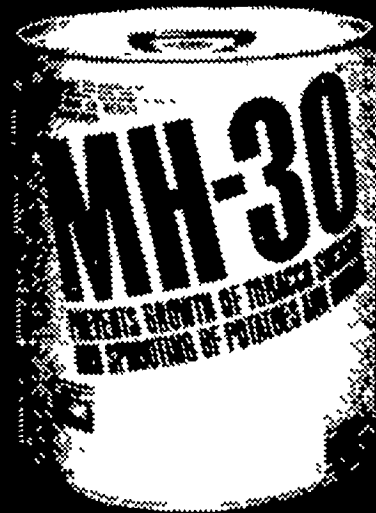
The Yorkshire champion brought \$100 a pound during the afternoon auction. In his first year in the pig club last year, Trimble had the reserve champion. He has worked with pigs for six years and has a total of 40 head at home. He was a member of the state champion Dairy Judging Team which triumphed recently for Lancaster during the 4-H contests at Penn State University.

A total of 240 pigs was included in this week's exhibition.

**County Teams Score Five State Wins** — Five teams returned to Lancaster County following State 4-H Days at Penn State this week (Aug. 19) with state championships. Garden Spot teams brought

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