

## Survey Of Off-Farm Agricultural Jobs Shows 2,434 Yearly Openings

Opportunities for employment in off-farm agricultural occupations are apparent from a three-year study completed by N. K. Hoover, D. R. McClay, and G. Z. Stevens of the department of agricultural education at Penn State University. The 1965 survey, conducted by the state's vocational agriculture teachers, found 4,415 businesses and services in 29 Pennsylvania counties currently employing 34,850 persons needing agricultural abilities.

Considering business expansion and employee turnover, the study shows 2,434 yearly openings in off-farm agricultural occupations during the next five years in the 29 coun-

ties. Counties surveyed were Adams, Armstrong, Berks, Bedford, Blair, Bucks, Butler, Chester, Clarion, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Erie, Franklin, Fulton, Indiana, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lehigh, Lebanon, Mercer, Mifflin, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Snyder, Somerset, Union, Venango, and Westmoreland.

Three occupational groupings account for 74 percent of the business, 73 percent of the employees, and 71 percent of the employees to be hired during the next five years. These groupings are agricultural supplies and equipment, animal and poultry products, and ornamental horticulture. Other occupational groupings are machinery sales and service, fruit and vegetable crops and forest products, agricultural resources, and agricultural service.

The study identified skills and abilities needed in off-farm agricultural occupations under 11 headings: plant science, animal science, agricultural mechanics, agricultural business management, business management and economics, sales and business skills, job and employee characteristics, employee-supervisor relations, building construction technology, industrial mechanics, and industrial quality control. Persons needing agricultural abilities were classified under 163 job titles. Of these, 37 account for 75 percent of new employees, not including professional workers, in the next five years.

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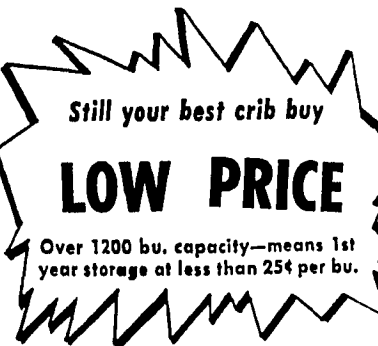
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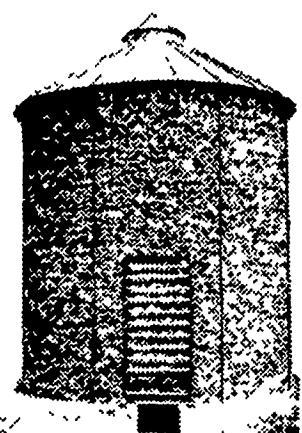
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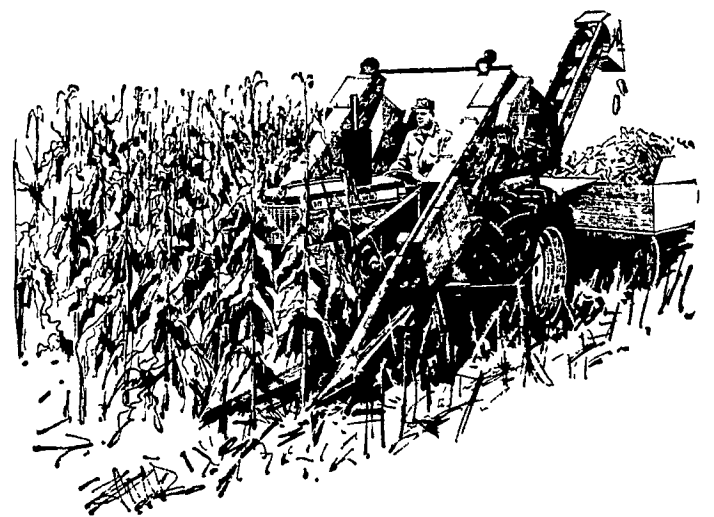
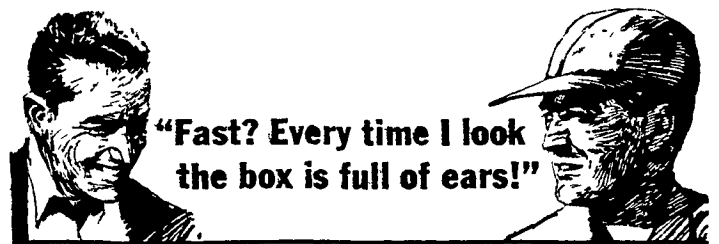
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