

Cloister FFA Retains County Judging Title

For the second consecutive year, the Cloister Chapter of Future Farmers of America was named the top-ranking school in the annual intra-county vocational agriculture judging contest held recently in conjunction with the Lampeter Fair.

The Future Farmers from Ephrata High School topped the opposition with a score averaging 497.38 points, nearly two points better than their title-winning score last year.

Runnerup chapter was Warwick with an average of 486.4 points.

High individual scorer in the county was Earl Hertzog, Cloister, with 638.3 points. Runner-up was Charles Harding, also Cloister Chapter, with 611.3 points.

Hertzog also was top scorer in dairy judging, with Randal Kline, another Cloister Chapter member placing second.

Top judges in livestock were Jacob Stoltzfus, Pequea Valley Chapter, and Daryl Bollinger of Cloister Chapter.

Judging results were:

CHAPTERS

1. Cloister, 497.38 points. 2. Warwick, 486.4. 3. Grassland, 480.81. 4. Garden Spot, 463.53. 5. Penn Manor, 462.54. 6. Pequea Valley, 447.84. 7. Manheim, 444.18. 8. Solanco, 421.3. 9. Elizabethtown, 419.5

INDIVIDUAL

1. Earl Hertzog, Cloister, 638.3 points. 2. Charles Harding, Cloister, 611.3. 3. David Merkey, Cloister, 610.2. 4. Terry Kauffman, Cloister, 600.8. 5. Jacob Stoltzfus, Pequea Valley, 597.9. 6. Ronald Mull, Cloister, 594.0. 7. Dennis Mahler, Grassland, 591.6. 8. Victor Wood, Pequea Valley, 590.1. 9. Randal Kline, Cloister, 586.9. 10. Irvin Schannauer, Cloister, 583.2

DAIRY

1. Earl Hertzog, Cloister, 325.6. 2. Randal Kline, Cloister, 323.6. 3. Irvin Schannauer, Cloister, 321.0. 4. Charles Harding, Cloister, 320.0. 5. Terry Kauffman, Cloister, 317.8. 6.

Three Upcoming Short Courses Announced

Director of Penn State University short courses Dr. Fred C. Snyder announced three courses that will be offered on the main campus during December.

On December 5-7, Farm Income Tax and Social Security subjects will be presented. These will include farm income and expenses, personal deductions, investment tax credit, social security changes, and others.

A course on Cleaning and Sanitizing Dairy Equipment will be offered December 6-8. Subjects will include milk quality, regulations on cleaning and sanitizing, water problems as related to cleaning, and a study of cleaning compounds.

December 7 and 8 will feature the second short course in Wills and Estate Planning. Subjects to be discussed are Inheritance and Estate Taxes, How to Transfer a Farm, Father-Son Partnerships, etc.

Farmers, agricultural businessmen, insurance agents and others who advise and counsel farmers on estate planning are invited to attend.

Registration fees for each of these courses is \$10 for state residents, and \$15 for others.

Victor Wood, Pequea Valley, 311.8; 7. David Merkey, Cloister, 311.1; 8. Linford Martin, Grassland, 310.0; 9. Ronald Stauffer, Cloister, 308.1; 10. James Ludwig, Grassland, 304.9.

LIVESTOCK

1. Jacob Stoltzfus, Pequea Valley, 336.0; 2. Daryl Bollinger, Cloister, 335.1; 3. Kent Fritz, Warwick, 318.6; 4. Abe Fisher, Penn Manor, 317.1; 5. Dennis Mahler, Grassland, 313.8; 6. Barry Nickel, Pequea Valley, 313.6; 7. Earl Hertzog, Cloister, 312.7; 8. David Weinholt, Grassland, 312.2; 9. Ken Leaman, Garden Spot, 311.8; 10. John Weaver, Grassland, 311.5.

In Dry Years, Nitrogen Stays Available

Grassland responds well to nitrogen fertilizer during wet years, but in dry years... what? The question has long discouraged farmers from fertilizing grassland in the Northern Great Plains where rainfall is erratic.

Recent ARS research indicates, however, that nitrogen applied to grassland remains in the soil during a dry year, insuring efficient use of moisture when rains come.

ARS soil scientist J. F. Pow-er at Mandan, N. Dakota, found that up to 65 percent of

the soluble nitrogen applied to unirrigated test plots was available to grass the following season.

Power established bromegrass on fine, sandy loam, and fertilized with calcium nitrate. Irrigated and unirrigated plots each received the following treatments: 180 pounds of nitrogen per acre in early spring, before plant growth began; 90 pounds per acre in early spring plus 18 weekly applications of 5 pounds each during the growing season; and 10 pounds per acre during the summer in each of 18 weekly applications.

Soluble nitrogen content in the irrigated soil declined rapidly as the nitrogen was absorbed by growing plants. In

the unirrigated soil, however, soluble nitrogen content remained relatively stable during periods of drought, it rose beyond the level attributable to applied nitrogen, possibly because nitrogen-producing bacteria increased in soil.

Plots that received all the fertilizer in weekly applications retained nitrogen best. Next best were those that received half the total fertilizer in spring, and half in weekly applications.

Where does the food do go? A big share goes to labor. Of the total cost of moving food from the farmer to the housewife, wage earners in the food industry get an estimated 50%.

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