

# Lancaster Farming

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## Waterways, First Step For Farmers Planning To Expand Corn Production

by Don Timmons

There are two interesting trends that seem to be developing in Lancaster County crop production and in the state 1) an increase in corn production over the past four years at the expense of small grains 2) more of the total corn crop being produced for silage during the same four-year period

How accurately this change-over to corn can be related to dairy farmers switching to livestock production is a matter of some speculation. For whatever reason, corn is apparently gaining and small grain production is declining.

This means several things to the farmer who is trying to utilize his corn land to the fullest. One, if he no longer has dairy, his need for corn is greater than his need for hay. So rather than tie up the land

with contour strips which he once cropped for hay, he is now looking for ways to put all or most of his land into corn.

Secondly, though he continues to plant on the contour when he replaces the strips with a row crop such as corn, he is wide open for soil erosion.

### WATERWAYS

The first step in converting to all-corn production—whether for grain or silage—is to develop some means for 'walking' the water off the fields so that it doesn't erode the soil.

Grassed waterways are essential to this intensive type of production on any slope greater than three percent, according to Soil Conservation Service (SCS) work unit conservationist Orval A. Bass. While waterways were also needed on

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THIS LUSH WATERWAY on the New Providence farm of Vincent Hoover was completed last year. Here, Hoover, left, and Orval A. Bass, SCS conservationist, examine the stand of tall fescue, redtop, birdsfoot trefoil, and Reed canarygrass. Hoover will cut this for hay soon. L. F. Photo

## Clark Stauffer Tops Exhibits At 4-H Conservation Roundup

At the first annual 4-H Conservation Club roundup, held Monday night at Ephrata High School, Clark Stauffer was awarded a plaque for best all-around performance. He was scored on his record book, and on his first-place exhibit which showed the use of cover crops to control soil erosion. His exhibit included photographs and actual soil displays with and without cover crops.

Clark, the 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Z. Stauffer of Ephrata R1, serves on the game committee of the Northern Lancaster County 4-H Conservation Club and is active in the Baby Beef and Lamb Club and in 4-H tractor club work.

Plaques were also presented to Curtis Horst for second place and to Debbie Schantz for third.

The roundup was joint effort of the Northern and Southern Lancaster County 4-H Conservation Clubs. It was

held in conjunction with a special meeting of the county SWCD directors. Exhibits were judged by Charles Slaton, U. S. Soil Conservation Service public information officer and by district vice chairman Henry H. Hackman.

Associate county agent Winthrop Merriam who presented the plaques, also announced that Ronald Stauffer had placed first in the recent district division of the State Conservation Contest. His placing won him a three-day conservation

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## Lanc. Pork Producers Seek Queen; Full Slate Of Officers Reelected

At a recent meeting of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association directors reelected all officers and decided to hold a contest this year for a Lancaster County Pork Queen.

James Horton, secretary-treasurer of the association, was installed as a new director of the association. He was elected to a three-year term at

the meeting. Warren Leininger, vice president, and James Z. Martin, secretary-treasurer, will serve during the 1967-68 year.

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## Win Merriam To Leave County Extension Staff

Lancaster associate county agent Winthrop Merriam announced this week that effective June 7th he will be resigning from the county extension staff.

Merriam states he has accepted a position at West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va. He will be part of a four-member state 4-H staff; his title will be State Extension Program Leader — 4-H and Youth Development.

Merriam came to the county in 1958 as assistant county agent. He was promoted to associate agent in 1962.

In commenting on his resignation, he noted he regretted leaving the county after nine years' service here but felt this opportunity is just too good to pass up.

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Winthrop Merriam

## Harnish Cow & Fisher Herd Top April DHIA

A registered Holstein cow owned by John M. Harnish, Beaver Valley Pike, completed the highest individual 305-day lactation during April, according to the Red Rose Dairy Herd Improvement Association. She produced 21,681 pounds of milk and 899 pounds of butterfat.

The herd having the highest monthly butterfat average was owned by Joseph L. Fisher of

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## Farm Calendar

May 15-7:30 p.m., Elm-Penryn 4-H Club at Penryn Fire Hall

May 16-8 p.m., Farm & Home Foundation directors' meeting at Lancaster Farm Credit Bldg

May 17-8 p.m., Special meeting of Lancaster County 4-H Horse Club leaders at Lancaster Farm Credit Bldg to plan county horse program

May 18-7:45 p.m., 4-H County Council reorganization meeting at Rohrerstown Elementary School

8 p.m., 4-H Leaders bi-monthly meeting at Atlantic Breeders Cooperative.



CLARK STAUFFER displays the first-place plaque which he won Monday night at the roundup of the Northern and Southern Lancaster County 4-H Conservation Clubs. Stauffer's prize-winning exhibit demonstrated the effects of ground cover on soil erosion. L. F. Photo

## Weather

Temperatures can be expected to continue averaging below normal for the next five days, says the weatherman. He looks for the "cool" to prevail throughout the period, but promises milder temperatures about mid-week.

And MORE RAIN is being called for with amounts totaling greater than 1/2 inch, expected over the weekend.