

# Lancaster Farming

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\$2.00 Per Year

## Sugar Beet Acreage In Co. Is Uncertain

The number of Lancaster County acres that are to be planted in sugar beets for the 1969 crop year appears to be quite uncertain at this time. The sign-up meeting held on Wednesday at the Farm and Home Center by New York Sugar Industries Inc., Montezoma, N.Y., produced only 94 acres from the 100 farmers actually signing contracts, though another 100 or more acres are likely to be contracted as a result of interest shown at the meeting.

At a meeting for interested beet growers held several weeks ago, company representative, Warren Richards, had announced that a permanent receiving plant costing \$300,000 would be established at Elizabethtown if 2,000 acres were contracted in the Dauphin, York and Lancaster Counties. At that time it had been thought that some 700 of these acres would come from Hershey Estates and another farmer in Dauphin county, leaving the need for 1,300 acres in Lancaster and York counties. Informal sources now say, however, that a legal problem has arisen in the contract signing with the Hershey Estates because they are a charitable organization. This likely will result in only about 400 of the 700 acres actually planted in Dauphin County.

No one from York county was present at the local sign-up.

The New York Sugar Firm is still reported to be willing to place a temporary receiving plant at Elizabethtown if they can get 800 acres from the area. Richards is presently contacting individual farmers and contracts will still be written until March 1.

A plant for the beets is reported to be available for rent from the company at \$2 per acre and harvesting equipment is to be available. Questions or inquiries may still be directed to the county agents office at the Farm and Home Center.

## Farm Calendar

**Monday, February 17**  
7:30 p.m. — Swine Education Meet, Farm and Home Center

**Tuesday, February 18**  
9:30 a.m. — Southeast Dairy Conference, Guernsey Barn, Lincoln Highway East  
9:50 a.m. — Dairy Health Educational Meeting, Farm and Home Center  
7:30 p.m. — Manheim Young Farmer meet, (small engines), Vo-Ag Room  
7:30 p.m. — Ephrata Young Farmer meet, (farm management) Vo-Ag Room  
7:30 p.m. — Farm and Home Directors meet, Farm and Home Center

**Wednesday, February 19**  
7:30 p.m. — Eastern Lancaster (Continued on Page 5)



BLYTHEDALE OLYMPIA MAYFLOWER, a 4-year-old Registered Jersey owned by Paul Trimble (in photo) and Ambrose Hanks, Drumore R1, has 10,436 pounds of milk, 6.1 percent test and 637 pounds of butterfat in 305 days. Trimble and Hanks operate a poultry and dairy operation at Fairfield. L. F. Photo

## Miller Announces Republican Break With Gov. Shafer On Tax Issue At Co. Extension Meet

State Rep. Marvin E. Miller, R-Lancaster, broke the news of the disagreement on the proposed state income tax between Governor Shafer and the Republican House caucus at the Lancaster County Agricultural and Home Economics Extension Association Annual Meeting held Tuesday evening at the Farm and Home Center. Appearing as the featured speaker, Miller said, "Our party has had a disagreement with the governor. We will not support the income tax. Instead of starting with a budget we will start with our tax structure and see which programs fit in." The representative called the disagreement a "family spat." "We just disagree with the way he wants to spend money."

The main thrust of Miller's topic was his views on today's changing society. He spoke in behalf of young people saying it all depends on your point of view. "The young generation is smarter, stronger physically and

## Date Announced For Soil & Water District Annual Meeting

The Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District annual dinner meeting was announced this week for Tuesday evening, March 4 at the Farm and Home Center. Starting time is 6:30 p.m.

The charge for the tickets is \$3.25 per plate and reservations should be reported by February 25. They are available from any director.

## Attention To Details Gets Top Production On This Poultry-Dairy Farm

"Attention" is the word Ambrose Hanks uses to describe the most important item in getting and keeping top production from a layer flock. Hanks puts his theory into practice with his 10,000 leghorns. "I keep looking all the time for the bird that doesn't seem quite right. When I find one, she goes into the hospital pens." These cages are located at the end of his 40x248 foot environment controlled house.

This Drumore R1 Poultryman spends seven hours a day with his chickens. His attention to minute details has paid off in exceptional production with the present flock producing at the 57 to 58 percent level in the 13th four week period. At the end of 280 days, his production records showed 210 eggs per bird housed. Losses have been only 1 percent a month and Hanks says people tell him that is pretty good. "Of course, if you get it lower, that's better," he said.

The pullets are raised in Georgia and must be ordered six months in advance. A two week period is spaced between flocks to clean and wash the house.

Commenting on the reports of increased chick hatch this year, Ambrose said, "According to the experts we are to have another egg depression like we had. Over production of chicks can be stopped if the hatcherymen get burned like they did

before they will learn if it happens again."

The birds at the Ambrose farm are fed three times a day with an automatic feed cart. The cart services two rows, both top and bottom, in 30 minutes. "I don't feed them a lot at a time," Hanks said. "If you fill the feeders too full, they dig it out and that is where a lot of your profit goes."

An auger, at the end of the building, is run by a power-take (Continued on Page 7)

## Wheat & Feed Grain Provisions

Farmers with a Feed Grain base (corn, sorghum and grain sorghum) can earn price support and diversion payments by enrolling in the program according to the local ASCS office.

Minimum diversion is 20% of the base and makes the farm eligible for price support payment on feed grains grown, up to 50% of the base. Farms with a base of 25 acres or less, earn diversion payment on the minimum diversion. All farms earn diversion payment on acreage diverted above the minimum. Maximum diversion is the larger of 25 acres or 50% of the base, not to exceed the base.

By diverting an acreage equal to 15% of the wheat allotment, farmers can earn certificate payment on wheat planted, up to 43% of the allotment.

They can also earn diversion payment for any part of the allotment not planted to wheat. Maximum acreage that can be diverted is the larger of 50% of the base, or the difference between 25 acres and the non-payment diversion (15% of the (Continued on Page 8)



ELECTED EXTENSION DIRECTORS at the annual meeting Tuesday night, are (left to right) Amos Rutt, Quarryville R2, Robert Bushong, Columbia R2, Mrs. David E. Buckwalter, Litz R3, Carl Herr, 840 Penn Grant Road, Lancaster and Mrs. Clarence Stauffer, Ephrata R1. L. F. Photo

## Dairy Health Meeting Set February 18

Are you having any dairy herd health problems? Or herd management problems? If so, Victor Plastow suggests you plan to attend a dairy meeting on Tuesday, February 18th, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in the Extension meeting room in the basement of the Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster.

Dr. Sam Guss, Extension Veterinarian from The Pennsylvania State University, will be present to discuss health problems of dairy cattle. Donald Ace, Extension Dairy Specialist, will present the answers on dairy herd management. There will be a question and answer session following each speaker.

Lunch will be available at one of the nearby restaurants.