

GROWING CORN IN '69?

If you are, let us show you how to insure maximum yields the most efficient and economical way with:

ANHYDROUS AMMONIA

- Rental Equipment or
- Custom Applied

PLUS

BULK BLENDED FERTILIZER

- Rental Spreaders or
- Custom Applied

Use the program that produced two 1968 State Corn Champs.

ORGANIC PLANT FOOD CO.

Grofftown Road — P.O. Box 132
Lancaster, Pa.

392-4963 or 392-0374

YOUR COMPLETE SERVICE COMPANY

Scattered Cases Of Sheep Scab Reported

State Agriculture Department representatives are checking sheep flocks in Pennsylvania after scattered cases of sheep scab were reported in six counties.

Dr. Homer S. Foiney, of the Department's Bureau of Animal Industry, said 246 animals were found to be infested and 320 others exposed to the disease. He said all of those animals had been dipped, under state or federal supervision, to destroy mites that cause skin scab.

He urged sheep growers to avoid bringing any infested or exposed animals onto their farms. Sheep scab, he added, damages hide and wool and seriously lowers the market value of animals infested by the disease.

Six years ago, Pennsylvania had gained scab free status after intensive campaign to eliminate the disease from sheep flocks in the state. There are more than 200,000 sheep on Pennsylvania farms, and more than 30,000 have been inspected since the first of the year, Dr. Foiney said.

The six counties in which cases of scab have been reported are Chester, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Lehigh and Mifflin.

Counting Farmers' Noses To Be Done By Mail In '69 Ag Census

The census taker won't be paying farmers a visit next year.

Instead, the 1969 Census of Agriculture will be taken by a questionnaire, mailed—not this January—but in January 1970. Farmers are required by law to complete and mail back the questionnaire within a reasonable time. Followup procedures will be used to obtain missing reports.

This "mail out, mail in" technique should prove cheaper than the "knock-on door" method used in 1964 and earlier years.

Formerly, paid enumerators called on all farm operators to help them complete the questionnaires.

Next year, though, farmers and ranchers will be on their own when it comes to filling out and returning the forms. It's assumed they have farm records to serve as a guide.

Some statistical items will be reported in 1969 only for farms with sales of \$2,500 or more. Typical items are acres of crops irrigated, number of wheel-type versus crawler-type tractors,

acres of alfalfa harvested, number of regular hired workers, tons of dry and liquid fertilizer used, acres of major crops fertilized, acres limed, inventory numbers of cattle, hogs, and sheep by age-sex classes, and number of grain-fed cattle sold.

In most respects, however, the 1969 Census and what it covers will be comparable to 1964 and earlier censuses.

The definition of a farm has not been changed. Places of less than 10 acres will be counted as farms if 1969 sales of agricultural products are at least \$250. Places of 10 acres or more will also qualify as farms if sales amount to at least \$50.

Principal data items for all farms are total number of farms, acres in farms, average value of land and buildings per farm, cropland harvested, total land irrigated, acreage devoted to seven major crops, and numbers of major kinds of livestock on the farm.

And all farmers in all counties will be asked again to give their age, value of all farm products sold (including forest products), days of off-farm work, recreation income, number of autos, trucks, tractors, combines, and corn pickers (including corn heads for combines).

Expenditure questions will include, as usual, purchases of feed, fertilizer, pesticides, lime, gasoline and other farm fuels, machine hire, farm labor, and livestock and poultry purchases.

In January 1971 there will be a followup census of major production trends on the specialized farming operations which produce most of our Nation's food and fiber.

Plans for these supplemental census surveys are still on the drawing board, but they might go something like this:

Dairymen who report dairy sales of \$10,000 or more in 1969 might be asked: Was any feed grinding or mixing done on your farm? What type of milking parlor did you have? What did you spend on health products?

Other specialized production for which this sort of additional input or output data may be assembled are fruit, vegetables, livestock, poultry, cash grain, tobacco, other field crops, field seeds, hay, and miscellaneous items (including horticulture).

Of course, farmers and everyone else will be participating in the Census of Population and Housing, to be taken as of April 1, 1970. This census will be the primary source of data on characteristics of farm and nonfarm people and housing. Occupation in 1970 versus 1965, education, and net farm income after operating expenses are some of the facts to be recorded.

The U. S. Office of Education is downgrading Vocational-Agriculture education by reducing it to a part-time job at the Washington level, cutting out jobs, kicking the Future Farmers of America out of its quarters in a Federal office building. Under a "reorganization" announced Dec. 27, 1968, the Chief of Agricultural Services has been reduced to a program officer, and has been allocated only part-time responsibilities for agricultural education. The agricultural staff was relegated to regional offices, and its personnel no longer designated as program officers. The office of the executive secretary of the Future Farmers of America is now a part-time operation. The Office of Education says it will provide services of an employee to serve as advisor to FFA "on request."

**WE
WON**

**BABCOCK POULTRY
FARM, INC.**

Ithaca,
New York

According to results published in the U. S. D. A. 2-year combined summary of Random Sample Egg Production Tests, 1966 - 67 and 1967 - 68, Babcock Beat All Competition In Income Over Feed and Chick Costs.

BABCOCK HATCHERY, INC.

BOX 285, LITITZ, PA. PH. 626-8561



Where in the World is Babcock? . . . Wherever eggs are produced at a profit!