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FRANKLIN MYERS shows some nearly mature ears on no-til planted corn.

This field had been in corn in 1968.

L. F. Photo

● **No-Til**

(Continued from Page 6)

planting next year because of the saving in time required to get the corn in the ground and the saving in cost to do so. He figures they saved at least \$800 per acre with the eliminated plowing and disking.

"It looks promising," says Paul S. Zimmerman, Lititz R4, about his no-til planted corn. "Earlier, I thought it might not do as well, but it grew out of it and now I don't see much difference. I usually let others try new things first," he chuckled. "But this is one thing I thought might work in our area."

Zimmerman is planning again to use the new method next year but may do some things differently. First, he thinks he may disk the ground first to get the fertilizer in the ground better and maybe make the weed killer more effective. He also likes the idea of running a chisel through the middle of each row to let the rains soak in better.

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Basically though Paul likes the new idea because it saves on machinery wear and it saves time in his busy work month of May.

Elvin M. Hursh, Lititz R4 had a problem getting the planter in the ground as did some other farmers according to the reports. In Hursh's case some of the seeds appeared to be not much under ground level. But it came up very good — almost unbelievably good.

"I didn't know much about it," Elvin said. "I thought I would see how it worked and fortunately it worked out for the best."

Hursh killed off the alfalfa and the rains came the day after the corn was planted to bring the crop up quickly. He wants to get the seeds deeper next year but for this crop he expects yields to be as great as his other corn even though he planted a short season variety.

So, reports from different farmers in different parts of the County all seem to favor the new no-til corn planting method. Almost everyone reports changes he will make to better use the method in his situation. But the sum of all the reports seems to be as one farmer said "I think we are going to do more of it next year."

Pennsylvania's lamb crop this year is estimated at 126,000. This will be a decline of 6 percent from last year and is comparable to the national downward rate for 1969, according to a mid-year livestock survey by the State Crop Reporting Service.

The survey indicated an increase in the Commonwealth's wool production from 1968 by 3 percent to 1,201,000 pounds. The number of sheep shown was down 2,000 head from the year 1968 to 156,000, but fleece weight at 77 pounds was up 3 pounds.

Pennsylvania's 1969 calf crop is estimated at 797,000, down 2,000 from last year and 20,000 below 1967.

Last year, 12 million cigarettes were rolled by hand in an effort to beat the price rises. At least twice that number were munched in an even more successful effort to cut costs.