

Lancaster Farming

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Longenecker Tops Fair Steer Show

A trim 4-H Angus named "Clyde" topped the Manheim Fair Steer Show Wednesday night to become the first black steer to top any County Fair Show this fall.

Mike Longenecker, 18 year-old son of Mr and Mrs Carl Longenecker, Littitz R2, showed his project steer to the championship in the 4-H Show and then was named over-all grand champion. The steer was bred at Trotwood Farms in New York State.

Reserve grand champion was the reserve 4-H entry, a Hereford. (Continued on Page 7)



Miss TERRI SHANK, 1969 Lancaster County Poultry Queen. Terri is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Shank, Route 1, Elizabethtown. Currently Miss Shank is a student at Messiah College, Grantham, Pa.

As Labor Is Diminished Management Need Increases Poultry Assn. President Says

"I've tried to establish a close relationship with the hatchery," said Harold Esbenshade in telling how he obtains good pullets for his 10,000 layer flock. Esbenshade is president of the Lancaster County Poultry Association.

"You are not able to know how the pullets were grown when you buy them out of state," he continued. So, you must build relationships with the supplier so you can place confidence in him that he will supply you with the kind of healthy pullet you want. Harold thinks this development of relationships is important in all areas of farming as it becomes more and more complex and it is increasingly necessary for the farmer to rely on others to provide services for him.

Esbenshade buys his pullets to come into his laying house at 22 weeks of age and keeps them 14 months. He looks for a medium weight bird and thinks the first ten weeks after the birds are in the house are most important.

He likes to get them into peak production and then feed and manage them to carry them through the housing period.

"I've tried to put together a farm operation here that doesn't take a lot of labor," Harold said referring to his nest-type belt gathering egg system and automatic bulk feeder operation. But he has a theory that says "anytime labor is diminished the management need is increased." And it is along this management line that Esbenshade thinks farmers should show more development.

"I think farmers should become more of a businessman," he said. Businessmen take risks and the farmer should be ready to do this also. If he considers giving some of the risks of his business to others he should be sure the lowering of his net income is not out of proportion to the risk involved.

"The farmer should become more aware of finances," Harold continued. "Not only the finances related to his farm operation but also to related businesses with which he deals. Many farmers have strapped themselves financially so they can't move."

Esbenshade farms 120 acres on his home place and rents 60 more acres. He has room for 200 steers and grows 150 acres of corn plus small grains and a diminishing acreage of tobacco. Mr and Mrs Esbenshade and their three children Jay 9, Denise 8, and Teddy 5, live just east of Mt Joy at a Manheim R2 address.

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Egg Profits Get Key Spot In NEPPCO Expo Program

A two-pronged approach to profitability in commercial egg production will be taken by the educational program at the exposition of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO), next week.

Speakers will explore price discovery procedures and recent activities in the egg market as one major avenue. The other will be a fresh look at management and husbandry as it relates to the profit structure.

The special session for commercial egg producers will be held on Tuesday, Oct 15, at the exposition's Haddon Hall Hotel headquarters in Atlantic City at 3 p m.

Leading off with the "better

husbandry" approach will be Dr Gary Waters, HyLine Poultry Farms, Des Moines, Iowa, who has made an intensive study of this much-forgotten aspect of expanding profits.

On the pricing side, Dr George B Rogers of USDA's Economic (Continued on Page 3)

Poultry Assn. Annual Meeting Set October 30

The Annual Meeting of the Lancaster County Poultry Association will be held at 6 30 p m, on Thursday, October 30, 1969 at Hostetters' Banquet Hall, Mount Joy.

The program includes Rev Martin W A Trostle presenting (Continued on Page 16)

Started Pullets In Penna.

By Floyd W. Hicks
Penn State Poultry Specialist
The Pennsylvania egg production industry is fourth largest in the United States, yet the majority of our started pullets used as replacements for this egg production industry are "imported"

from the other states. This means that over ten million dollars annually are being spent elsewhere for the purchase of these pullets.

A "started pullet" is generally thought of as a young chicken that is raised to approximately 20 weeks of age and is then placed in specialized laying house facilities. There are several different strains of pullets available that have many claimed and real production characteristics. So the choice of strains and particularly (Continued on Page 9)

Farm Calendar

- Monday, October 13
1 30 p m.—Fall District Conference of DHIA Supervisors, Willow Valley Restaurant
- Tuesday, October 14
14-16 — NEPPCO at Atlantic City, N. J.
- 14-17 — National FFA Convention at Kansas City.
- 4-H Leader's Forum, Shillington (Continued on Page 16)

Cattle Feeders Tour Set For October 21

A local cattle feeder's tour was announced this week by M. M. Smith, County Agent. Smith said the tour will be on Tuesday. (Continued on Page 16)



COUNTY POULTRY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT, Harold Esbenshade and Mrs. Esbenshade gather eggs from their

10,000 layers. Harold places emphasis on management over labor in his farm operations. L. F. Photo