

Farm Use Of Electricity Shows Greatest Increase Since 1959

U.S. farms used an average of 10,536 kilowatt-hours of electricity during 1969, another all-time high and the greatest increase over a previous year since 1959 according to John D. Turrel, executive manager of the Farm Electrification Council. Citing figures recently released by the Crop Reporting Board of the USDA, Turrel said that average annual farm consumption of electricity last year was 720 kilowatt-hours above 1968, and more than 3,800 kilowatt-hours above the 1959 average. The Pacific Northwest led all other areas of the country with

an average annual consumption of 30,024 KWII. Farmers pay record low for electricity. While setting a record high for consumption of electricity, farmers were paying a record low in energy cost -- an average of 2.09c per KWH. This compares with an average of 2.15c in 1968, and 2 1/4c in 1959. Even lower was the price paid by farmers for all additional usage of electricity, the incremental rate, estimated by Turrel to be 1 1/2c per kilowatt-hour. This incremental rate, he said, is the one that farmers use in making their energy choices. Turrel stated that a combination of factors were responsible for this increase in the farm use of electricity. They include a shortage of farm labor, a continuing trend toward confinement production of livestock, recognition by farmers that the use of electrically-powered equipment frees their time for important management functions; development of new electrical equipment to handle a wide variety of the big horse-

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 10, 1970 19

power jobs demanded by modern agriculture and the low energy, labor, and maintenance costs inherent in operating electrically run farm equipment.

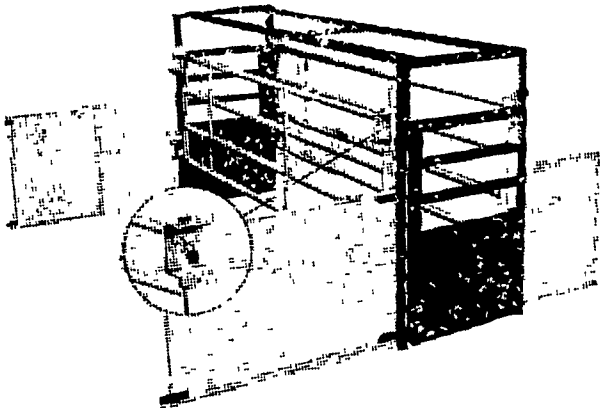
The FEC spokesman pointed out that electricity is the one production input that has continually decreased in price to farmers since 1950. "Today, farmers purchase electricity for 69 percent of what it cost them in 1950," said Turrel. "Yet, they're paying from 183% to 275% of 1950 prices for inputs such as farm machinery, wages, and land."

Energy of The Future In Agriculture
Looking toward the future, the FEC executive said that electrical applications to agriculture hold many exciting possibilities. These include: 1. Using lasers or microwaves to transmit electricity through the air to run unmanned tractors and self-propelled field machines. 2. Using electric energy as the source of heat in large plastic "greenhouses" which

(Continued on Page 26)

wide variety of the big horse-

BROWER Better-Built Hog & Cattle Equipment



Farrowing Crates

- Cleaner — more sanitary
- Sows cannot crush pigs
- No draft on pigs
- Sets up in seconds — no bolts or nuts
- Saves 1-3 extra pigs out of each litter
- Sturdily built for larger sows



Low-Boy Hog Feeders

- Guaranteed 15 years
- 12 - 16 ga. self closing doors
- Easy feed flow adjustment
- Weatherproof
- Eliminates crowding
- Saves feed
- Various sizes and models

ALSO: Lamb Creep Feeders ● Cattle Waterers ● Holding Crates
Infra-red gas brooder ● Sow Waterers ● Hog Founts ● Creep Feeders
Feed Mixers ● Steel Panel Gates

Write or stop in for free illustrated catalogue

Automation At Its Finest Customed Engineered For The '70s



"CAGE SYSTEMS"

POULTRY EQUIPMENT IS OUR BUSINESS

SEE AUTOMATION IN OPERATION
AT THE POULTRY HOUSE
BOOTHS P1 & 2 AT THE FARM SHOW.

WE SELL, SERVICE AND INSTALL



E. M. HERR EQUIPMENT, INC.

R. D. 1, Willow Street

717-464-3321

Need . . .

HAY - STRAW - EAR CORN

Buy Now and Save!

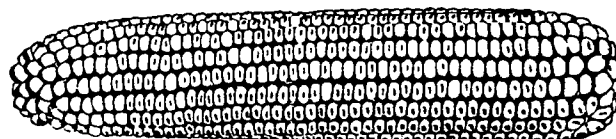
More and more farmers are buying from us for better value and all around satisfaction

Delivered — any quantity

Phone Area Code 717 687-7631

Esbenshade Turkey Farm

"America's Oldest"
PARADISE, PA.



ALL-OUT YIELDERS!

Pioneer's New Generation hybrids

make the most of today's
corn growing advances

For 1970, Pioneer offers you a New Generation of hybrids—exceptional performers to fit your specific corn growing needs.

These varieties are especially suited to top-level farming—where high fertility, high populations, weed and insect control, and top-level management open the way to new yield goals. You can meet these needs with Pioneer's New Generation hybrids.

Supply of many of these top performers won't last long. So order now and get first call on the hybrids that can help you get all-out yields.



PIONEER.
BRAND
SEED CORN

SEE US AT
BOOTH 569-571

AT THE
FARM SHOW