

Ground-Level Silos May Have Role Here

Farmers needing a new silo should consider a trench or bunker silo, according to Larry Click, Penn State extension agricultural engineer.



Larry Click

Speaking to beef cattlemen Wednesday night at the Farm and Home Center, Click, using slides to illustrate, explained that trench and bunker silos are both convenient and easy to use and very inexpensive.

He said a farmer in the state built a 30 by 110 foot concrete silo eight feet deep for only \$1700. This doesn't include the labor, which the farmer supplied himself.

Click said a figure of \$5 per ton of capacity should be used for construction cost of either a wood or concrete trench silo. This figure includes labor, he said.

Click also spoke on high moisture corn, including both shelled corn and ear corn. He said Lancaster County has a lot of high moisture corn.

Click said high moisture corn has several advantages over dry corn, including an earlier harvest of up to two weeks. Earlier harvest can reduce "shatter" losses.

Farm Products Prices Increase One Per Cent

Prices received by Pennsylvania farmers for their products rose one per cent in January, according to the State Crop Reporting Service.

Contributing to the price rise were higher prices for beef and pork. Steers at \$28 a hundred-weight were up \$1 from a month earlier and were \$2.50 higher than a year earlier. Hogs at \$26.70 a cwt were up 50 cents from December and were \$7.20 higher than in January a year ago.

Milk was down five cents a cwt from December and eggs were down two cents a dozen.

Nationally, farm prices advanced one-third of one per cent. Contributing to the increase were higher prices for cattle and hogs. Partially offsetting these increases were seasonally lower prices for eggs and cotton.

and down stock losses" by 10 to 30 per cent, he said.

The biggest advantage, though, according to Click, is that high moisture corn is easy to handle and "a lot of unnecessary operations," which are costly and time consuming, can be eliminated.

But he noted there are disadvantages, including the necessity of maintaining the moisture level within certain percentages, including the necessity of maintaining the moisture level within certain percentages; there can be spoilage in some silos, it's heavier, and it can't be moved readily for sale elsewhere.

Schick Wins Pork Award



Herbert K. Schick (left) of Kutztown RD2 is shown receiving a plaque from John Henkel of Strasburg RD1, president of the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council.

Schick is Pennsylvania's selection for Pork All American at the first American Pork Congress in Des Moines, Iowa March 3-5. The first congress is the combination of the National Pork Industry Conference and the annual meetings of the National Pork Producers Council.

Schick is among state winners under the age of 40 years, showing leadership and productive pork operation.

The Lancaster County representative for the state pork award was James Horton, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown. He is secretary of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association.

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