

Lancaster Farming

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Notice: Holstein Breeders!

Some letters to members of the Lancaster County Holstein Breeders' Association about the annual field day Tuesday have not arrived in the mail.

Members who haven't received the letters but who want to attend should notify the Association immediately, so plans can be made and food provided, reports Jay Landis, Association president.

Based on informal checks, Landis said, about one-third of the letters sent out apparently have not arrived to members. Landis said the lost letters appear to have no particular pattern, but are scattered throughout the membership area.

He urged members who haven't received the letters to contact one of the following members himself at Millersville, 872-8818, David W. Sweigart, Elizabethtown, 367-2286, James Kieider, Quarryville, Donald Eby, Gordonville, 768-

3086, or Clarence Stauffer, Ephrata, 733 3521.

Landis urged those persons who haven't received a letter to contact one of these five members immediately today (Saturday). While it might be possible to accept some additional reservations through Monday, a flood of last minute requests is discouraged because of the difficulty in supplying food, Landis indicated.

The field day will begin at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the farm of Curtis E. Akers, Quarryville RD1. At noon there will be a chicken barbecue for \$1.25 with milk and ice cream furnished. It's in order to help plan this barbecue that members should contact the planning committee, Landis emphasized.

Persons attending have been advised to reach the Akers' farm by traveling south on Route 222 and turning right at Solanco School. After taking the first road left, the farm is the first on the right.

Chester County Brothers Win 4-H Tractor Driving

Chester County brothers have won both divisions of the Chester County 4-H Tractor Driving Contest.

Robert Hodge won the senior division and his brother Bruce captured the junior division. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hodge West Chester RD4.

The contest was held July 10 at the farm of Joseph Styer at Eagle.

Other winners in the senior division were Tom Kaiser, second, and Paul Bailey, third. In the junior division, second place honors went to Wayne Styer, and Jordan Hunt placed third.

As county winner, Robert Hodge will represent the county in the State contest at Penn State, August 10-12 during State 4-H Days.

The contest was a test of the members' driving skill and their ability to operate farm machinery safely, and was a part of the county 4-H Tractor Club program. Leaders of the county 4-H Tractor Club are Joseph Styer, Eagle, Nevin and Kenneth Myer, Chester Springs, and Chester Wenger, Chester Springs.

Further information can be obtained about the 4-H tractor club program by contacting one of the 4-H club leaders or the Extension Service Office.

Yokum Says Area Wheat Crop 'Dead' and at 'Critical' Stage



John Yokum, superintendent of Penn State's Southeastern Field Research farm near Landisville, lifts some "essentially dead" and partially bent wheat at the farm Thursday.

At the time, Yokum was concerned about possible problems in getting local wheat harvested if rainy weather continues.

But Thursday was a good drying day with wind and Friday started out sunny and hot, leading Arnold Lueck, associate county agent, to note that if the favorable weather continues,

most of the wheat in the area probably will be harvested over the weekend.

In commenting on the wheat situation Thursday, however, Yokum termed it "critical." He said that another week of rainy weather could result in germination right in the seed head. The stalk is already ripe and a hard driving rain could level the wheat, resulting in substantial losses, he added.

As of Thursday, very little wheat had been harvested in the area and the wheat in the fields had a high moisture content. "I

would guess 16 to 18 per cent, maybe higher. It's pretty soggy yet," Yokum said.

For the grower, this means the wheat can't be harvested unless drying is provided for. If stored with a moisture content much higher than 14 per cent, the grain would mold and ferment and this would destroy it as an animal feed, Yokum said.

If the grower sells it to feed mills with a high moisture content he's docked on the price.

For many area farmers, therefore, good weekend weather is a foremost concern.

Filled Milk Sales Off, But Low-Fat Items Gain

Sales of filled or imitation milk were off sharply this year, the USDA reported recently, but sales of low-fat and skim milk products are booming.

Over-all sales of filled milk in federal order markets were estimated at 32 million pounds during April, down from 58 million pounds a year earlier.

In Central Arizona, where filled milk sales accounted for 11.5 per cent of Class I market sales in August, 1968, sales accounted for only 2.5 per cent of the total this April. In the Niagara Frontier (Buffalo, N.Y.) market, sales of imitation milk were reported at 70,000 pounds in April, accounting for only 2.1 of one per cent of the fluid

milk sales, and down from 249,000 pounds a year earlier. In nearby Rochester, N.Y., sales of the product ceased late last year.

On the other hand, sales of skim milk and low-fat milk items accounted for 20 per cent of fluid milk sales in federal order markets during January-March 1970. That's up from 19.2 per cent of the total during all of 1969. Sales of these items have moved up steadily since 1960 when they accounted for only 7.4 per cent of the total.

The big gain in this category Low-fat or two per cent milk which accounted for 13.3 of the fluid milk sales during January-March. That's up from 12.0 per cent during all of 1969 and more than double the 1966 percentage.