

Penn State Research Farm Field Day



Skoog bags some of the tobacco seed heads at the Penn State Research Farm near Landisville this week.

Only a small percentage of the heads are bagged to obtain seed for breeding purposes. Diseased or inferior plants are rejected.

Through this process of selection and elimination with some 51 varieties and

strains of tobacco, researchers hope eventually to develop one or more new varieties of hardy, disease resistant and productive tobacco for use by local farmers.

That the process is a long and trying one is indicated by the fact that many of the 51 varieties and strains already have undergone six to eight years of research.



Skoog demonstrates the type of tobacco leaf (right) researchers are trying to obtain, as opposed to an undesirable leaf (left).

The larger one is longer and wider and smoother; the smaller one lacks both length and width to insure high yield per acre. The smaller also has a pucker surface which detracts from the appearance of the cured tobacco and cuts down on its acceptability to the trade.

4-H CLUB Activities

State 4-H Days

Some talented 4-Heis from Lancaster County will be among those from all over the state headed for State 4-H Days at Penn State University August 10, 11 and 12.

The bus will leave at 1 p.m. August 10 and return at 3 p.m. August 12. Those attending from Lancaster County, reports Miss Joan D. Lucas, assistant extension home economist, are:

Senior Livestock Judging Team—Ed Donough, Gay Dean, Bunell Buchen, and Clark Stauffer.

Dairy Judging Team — Jesse Balmei, David Wanner, Sue Kauffman, and Raelene Harbold. Junior Livestock Judging Team — Joseph Lefever, Ed Hess, Mike Gube and Jeffrey Geider.

Horse Judging Team — Joyce Hinderdee, Cathy Reinhold, James Watts and Kirk Busseil.

Tractor Driving—Darryl Bolinger, Consumetama — Sue Buckwalter, Nancy Barley and Peggy Hamilton, Demonstrations — Nancy Yunginger, Cindy Hess and Cynthia Smith.

Chaperones will be Mrs. Doris Thomas and Robert Kauffman.

Box Social and Dance

The Lancaster County 4-H Council will hold a Box Social and Square Dance Wednesday, September 2 at the Farm and Home Center to honor new 4-H Queens.

The social will start at 6:30 p.m. with dancing at 8.

New Holland 4-H Club by Diane Herr

The New Holland 4-H Community Club held its monthly meeting at the home of Elmer Lapp on August 3.

The meeting was called to order by president, Elvin Lapp. The club was urged to help clean the four leaf clover every week at the Holland Post Office.

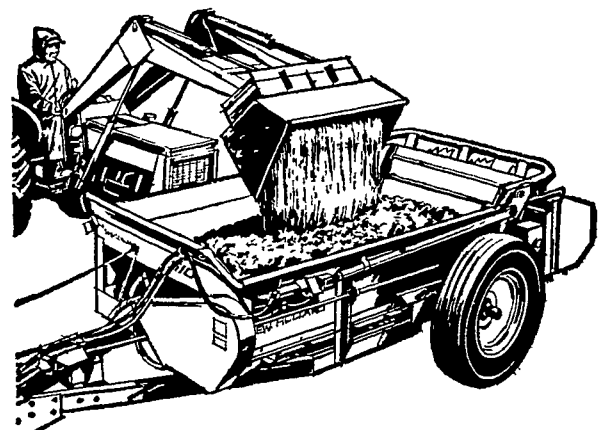
The next meeting will be held at the home of May Lou Fisher at 7:30, September 21. A recreation night is planned.



H. A. Skoog, federal research agronomist, strips down the seed head of a tobacco plant before bagging it to insure against cross pollination with other plants. He also removed any open flowers which may have already been cross pollinated.

Object is to obtain a pure strain of seeds and eventually—if the researchers at the Penn State Research Farm near Landisville are lucky and successful—a new and better variety of tobacco for Lancaster County farmers.

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