

# The Regional Star Farmer's Farm



Weaver stands this week with some of the 32 Holstein cows and 22 heifers on his Strasburg RD1 farm. Starting with three cows and some heifers in 1967, he hopes to have a 40 cow herd this fall. After that, he

wants to cull and improve his herd through breeding. He uses ABC. "I think there's a good future in it," he says of dairying.



Weaver inspects his lush alfalfa stand.



Weaver has a good corn crop coming on this year. This stalk is not unusual in having two good ears, he says. To feed his dairy animals, he relies on alfalfa, corn, corn silage and sorghum which he grows.

Robert Lee Weaver, a 21-year-old Strasburg RD1 farmer, has been named FFA Regional Star American Farmer

It is one of the highest national FFA awards. The award carries with it the right to compete with three other Regional Star Farmers in October for the Star Farmers of America award, which is recognized as the highest FFA award.

The Star Farmer award is based on a combination of farm program and leadership in FFA activities.

These photos were taken this week of the Weaver farm, a 115-acre farm just north of Strasburg which young Weaver rents from Earl Groff, in a tour with Weaver and Lampeter-Strasburg vocational teacher Galen Kopp.

Besides the cows and crops shown, Weaver has in the past been growing about three acres of tobacco and keeping up to 30 market hogs.

In 1966, Weaver was Lancaster County Star Farmer. This week, national FFA representatives were at the Weaver farm preparing a film of his farming operation to show at the National

FFA Convention at Kansas City, Mo., October 13-16

Weaver, who hopes to own his own farm someday, is showing what a young man with energy and know-how can do in farming.



Robert Lee Weaver  
Regional Star Farmer

## Pa. Officials to Assist At Waste Conference

State Agriculture Secretary Leland H. Bull will serve as a panel moderator at a four-state conference Sept. 14 to 17 to study the problems of agricultural waste in an urban environment.

The conference, sponsored by the New Jersey Animal Waste Disposal Task Force, will be held at Atlantic City. In addition to New Jersey, participating states are Pennsylvania, New York and Delaware.

Secretary Bull will preside at the afternoon session Monday, Sept. 14, and also serve on the same day as moderator of a panel to discuss a state's viewpoint on agricultural waste problems.

John W. Early, director of Agricultural Planning, Evaluation and Research in the Pennsylvania Agriculture Department, will be vice chairman of the morning session Sept. 15 on agricultural waste funding.

Glenn Herl, manager of Cloisterdale Farms, Inc. at Ephrata, and David G. Ungei, former executive director of the State Soil Conservation Commission, will also speak Sept. 15 on research needs. Ungei now is assistant executive secretary of the National Association of Conservation Districts.

Jack F. Schinagl, head of agricultural communications at Pennsylvania State University, will be vice chairman at a session on communications and public relations Sept. 15.

Reservations for conference attendance may be made through Richard D. Chumney, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 1888, Trenton, N.J. 08625.

Tobacco usually ranks No. 4 among U.S. farm export commodities, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In the 1969 calendar year, U.S. tobacco exports amounted to 757 million pounds (farm sales weight) — about 10 per cent in manufactured products and the remainder in unmanufactured leaf. Over 95 per cent of these exports were for dollar sales, therefore, tobacco exports make a big contribution to the U.S. balance-of-trade position.

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