



Lancaster Farming

SECOND SECTION

Agway Holds Annual Tobacco Meeting

Leonard Ford, federal tobacco grader, addressed about 100 farmers attending the Agway Tobacco Marketing Organiza-

tion meeting at New Holland Fire Hall Monday on preparation of tobacco for marketing

Bales of tobacco marketed by local farmers through Agway in previous years were examined and suggestions were made for improvement of tobacco handling

Particularly in the X-1 grade, the top grade of straight striped tobacco, farmers were urged to be more careful to remove dirt, weather beaten and trashy leaves

The importance of good burning qualities for cigar filler tobacco was stressed. The key here is to use fertilizers identified as tobacco fertilizers, which contain sulfate of potash rather than muriates of potash. Muriate of potash contains chlorine which reduces burning quality, farmers were told.

Farmers questioned why price of Wisconsin tobacco has increased, while the price of Pennsylvania tobacco has remained relatively stable.

It was explained that the Wisconsin tobacco is used primarily as a chewing tobacco which commands higher prices than the cigar tobacco grown locally. It was pointed out that a profit for the manufacturer of cigars is often less than 50 cents for 1,000 cigars, a low profit margin which virtually rules out price increases to farmers unless cigar prices are increased.

Tobacco Buying Late
Asked about the probable

starting date of tobacco buying, Mark Hess, Agway Garden Spot Unit Manager, said, "There is no indication of an early buying this season." Last year most of the tobacco was sold by this time, he noted.

Hess said he thinks the primary reason for the hold-up in buying is the lack of uniformity in quality of the late tobacco crop. He said the late planted tobacco ran into a period of dry weather before harvest that resulted in a higher than average amount of poor quality tobacco.

He explained that this poor quality, however, occurred in some late stands of tobacco but not in others.

Because of the lack of uniformity, Hess believes it is in the "best interest of all concerned that the market doesn't open until well into the new year" after the tobacco has been stripped. This will give a more precise indication of the quality of the individual farmer's tobacco, he indicated.

In other business two farmers were reelected to three year terms on the board of directors of the Advisory Board for Marketing of Agway commodities in the local area. The two are: Paul E. Bauder, Terre Hill, and Clyde Eshelman, Washington Boro.

Arthur Cochran, Agway area manager, reported on the overall Agway operations in 12 states.

Only Part of Seed Corn To Be Blight Resistant

Officials of firms that produce about 80 per cent of the Nation's seed corn told Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin recently that supplies of seed for the total 1971 corn crop could be tight.

At the same time, they pledged a special effort to insure that all available blight-resistant varieties be used in planting the 1971 crop, rather than having one-fifth of such varieties left in normal distribution trade channels.

"If farmers plant only the same amount of corn acreage as 1970 and use the same amounts of the various kinds

of hybrid varieties that they did last year, there will be enough total seed for the 1971 crop," D. D. Walker, President of the American Seed Trade Association, told Secretary Hardin and other Department of Agriculture officials.

"But," he added, "there will not be sufficient resistant varieties for everyone."

The Department and seed officials said that although there will be about one billion pounds of seed corn available for 1971 planting, there will be insufficient blight resistant varieties to fill the need.

Of the 80 per cent of seed supplies reported by the companies represented at the Washington meeting, 22 per cent would be of the blight resistant N-Cytoplasm variety, 38 per cent partially-resistant blend varieties, and 40 per cent of the T-Cytoplasm variety, which proved susceptible in varying degrees to the new strain of Southern corn leaf blight. The blight, coupled with drought, reduced the expected size of the 1970 corn crop 15 per cent below the July forecast.

The Department and seed officials agreed that there were a number of "imponderable" factors in the 1971 corn crop situation. These included:

— Extent of farmer demand for seed supplies that will be resistant to the Southern corn leaf blight

— Response of farmers in terms of total acreage of corn they will plant based on their experience with corn leaf blight — that is, will they plant corn, or go to some other crop, like sorghum?

— How will the expected

price of corn next year affect their planting plans?

— How will the new farm legislation, recently passed by Congress, affect their planting plans?

In announcing that a special effort would be made to use all available blight resistant seed varieties in the 1971 plantings, Walker said that ordinarily, a substantial proportion of the seed available in any one year remains in trade channels and never gets planted. Normally, more than 20 per cent of the seed may go unused, he said.

"This year, the seed companies in response to recommendations of the USDA will try to allocate their available blight-resistant seed and sell it on terms which will make certain that the supplies are as fully utilized as possible," Mr. Walker said. In this way, he indicated, companies hoped to cut the unused blight-resistant seed to less than three or four per cent.

Women's Group Holds Election

The Women's Committee of the Lancaster County Farmers Association Tuesday reelected Mrs. Jesse Wood, Nottingham RD2, chairman.

Others reelected were: Mrs. Clarence Stauffer, Ephrata RD1, vice chairman; Mrs. Lewis Bixler, Marietta RD1, secretary, and Mrs. James Kreider, Quarryville RD1, treasurer.

Other members are Mrs. Robert Kauffman, Elizabethtown RD1; Mrs. Robert Groff, Quarryville RD3; Mrs. William Guhl, Oxford RD2; Mrs. Reid Wissler, Ephrata RD2; Mrs. Clyde Wivell, Columbia RD1; Mrs. Ralph Hostetter, Manheim RD2, and Mrs. William Endslow, Marietta RD1.

Besides election of officers at the meeting at Rhoads Restaurant there was a summary of the year's activities.

Take Toy Buying Seriously

Take toy buying seriously and choose toys that are made well and safe and made well,

Ephrata Farmers, Wives Meet

The Ephrata Young Farmers will hold its annual special meeting with wives of members at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 15 in the vocational agriculture room, Ephrata High School.

The program will include slides by Donald Rock on hunting and fishing in the North west

reminds Sandra M. Eaton, Chester County associate Extension home economist.

Many toys available in toy departments today are just not made well. Unfortunately, many well-meaning and innocent parents will spend large sums of money this Christmas on toys that are unsafe and fragile.

Any parent would benefit from a trip to a toy department to examine what is being offered. The person who considers buying any toy ought to think carefully about how long the particular toy will last, the Extension home economist reminds.

Some plastic toys are very fragile and are not suitable for every age child. A child is likely to break off a part of the toy and place the small plastic piece into his mouth or ear.

Other unsafe toys on the market include tiny race cars that can be dangerous as they move rapidly around a track. If a child attempts to get an eye-level view, one of the cars could easily jump the track and injure his eye. Toys for young children often are not securely put together and loose parts can find their way into mouths, ears, and noses.

Another group of toys is very complicated and operates on batteries. The user must exercise extreme care so that the toy doesn't get bent or the tiny wires disturbed. The child may very well end up being so careful with his toy that he doesn't enjoy it.

Miniature appliances and power tools are not made to last or to endure the hard use of a child. Adults know how careful they must be with real-life appliances and tools. Even these break or do not function properly. A child isn't that careful and shouldn't be expected to be that careful.

Many worthwhile and safe toys are available and many of them will last for years. However, parents must take toy buying seriously and sift through the toys offered, choosing those that are made well and are safe, she concluded.

Chester County Corn Meeting

A meeting to discuss the growing disease and insect menaces of the local corn crop has been slated in Chester County at 7:30 p.m. Thursday (Dec. 17).

Sponsored by the Chester County Cooperative Extension Service, the meeting will be held at the Central Chester County Technical School, Coatesville, located along Old Business Route 30 at the entrance to the Veteran's Hospital.

Three Penn State Extension specialists will lead the discussion. Dr. Joseph H. McGahan, agronomist, Dr. Donald H. Petersen, plant pathologist, and Dr. Robert S. Tetrault, entomologist.

In announcing the meeting, Robert A. Powers Jr., Chester County agricultural agent, and Glenn A. Shirk, associate agent, emphasized that there is much confusion about both corn diseases and insects, including corn blight, stalk rot, root worm and corn borers. All these will be discussed along with the big question "What is likely to happen in 1971 and how will it affect you?" they said.

A similar meeting was previously announced for Lancaster County at the Farm and Home Center at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday (Dec. 16).

PFA Region 1 Directors Meeting Tuesday

The Pennsylvania Farmers Association will hold a training conference for county committee members in Region 1 counties next week.

Among several counties involved are Lancaster, Chester, Berks and Lebanon.

The meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Holiday Inn, Pottstown, at the intersection of Routes 100 and Old 422.

James G. Kreider, Lancaster

County president, said he expects about 25 to 30 members to attend from Lancaster County.

The meeting will include a general session in the morning, followed by break down into several smaller groups to explain the role of the various individual offices in the afternoon.

Speakers in the morning session include William A. Moore, Charles R. Ord, Roy Battles, and Eugene G. McDowell.

Individual meetings in the afternoon will be directed by the following: Charles Mohn, board of directors, Charles R. Ord, county presidents; Frances Yohe, county secretary; J. Wesley Haer, women's committee; Richard L. Prether, advisory council; Roy Battles, information, Chester Heim, legislative. The meeting will conclude with a half hour group session headed by McDowell.

York County Holstein Makes 4E

A Registered Holstein cow in the herd of Paul R. King, Delta, York County, has joined a select group of 28 other cows of the breed to be designated "4E".

The "E" designation indicates excellence in body conformation. Four indicates a cow has maintained this "Excellent" classification scoring 90 points or more on four different occasions as she grew older.

Redgate Leader Victoria 4722515 was classified "Excellent" for the fourth time last

month at the age of 12 years. "Victoria" completed her highest single record at the age of 7 years 9 months when she produced 20,470 pounds of milk and 974 pounds of butterfat in 365 days. She was sired by Brook Lodge Ovation Leader 1288515.

The classification rules concerning the multiple "E" designation became effective in January 1966. Over 87,000 Registered Holsteins were classified last year. Each year less than two per cent of the total are

scored "Excellent" and only a fraction of these receive the multiple "E" designation.

No Registered Holstein female may be scored "Excellent" (90 points or above) until after she has dropped her second calf. Additional "E" designations may be made upon reclassification at 90 points or more within the following age brackets: 6 thru 8 years, 9 through 11 years, and 12 years or over. No more than one "E" designation may be assigned in any one age bracket.