

Farmers Home Loans Up in '70

The Farmers Home Administration in 1970 has more than doubled previous records for channeling private funds to purposes of rural development through the sale of promissory notes to investors.

Administrator James V. Smith reported recently that the agency closed 1970 with insured note sales totaling \$2.265 billion. In no previous year have sales reached \$1 billion.

The notes represent loans made by the Farmers Home Administration, a U.S. Department of Agriculture credit service in rural areas, for housing, for community facilities such as water and sewer systems, and for family farm ownership.

After loans are advanced by the agency from revolving funds, promissory notes representing the loans are sold to private investors. Funds derived from these sales replenish the loan revolving funds, thus lessening the impact of the rural loan program on the federal budget. The payment of principal and interest to the investor is backed by the full faith and credit of the U. S. Government.

Smith said the agency's record placement of notes this year reflects the result of new and improved marketing methods which were developed to assure Farmers Home of funds for increased loan programs for rural families and communities.



Firm Cites Cochranville Farmers

Two Cochranville farmers were among those honored by DeKalb Ag Research Inc. at a meeting in Annapolis, Maryland recently.

They are William Engle, who had a 167.07 bushel per acre yield, and Melvin Lapp, who had a 156.90 bushel per acre yield.

Engle planted his corn on May 12 at a rate of 24,000 plants per acre in row widths of 31.5 inches. He used Atrazine and Lasso to control weeds. Harvesting date was October 19.

Lapp planted 22,400 plants per acre on May 5 in 37 inch rows and harvested October 13. He used Aatrex.

One of the only five dry land yields in the country which topped 200 bushel was registered by Gerald Shoop of Milton, Pa., who had an official yield of 200.53. Of the other four entries which went over 200, one was from Maryland and three from Minnesota.

The Shoop entry was planted on May 2 in 39 inch rows at a rate of 22,400. Weeds were controlled with 2-4-D and the

crop was harvested September 26. There was no cultivation.

There were 45 irrigated yields in excess of 200, including 29 from California, 13 from Colorado, two from Texas, and one in Idaho. Don Armstrong of Rio Vista, Calif., posted the highest individual yield at 228.73.

Other Pennsylvania yields mentioned were Mary E. Rice and Son, Dale Furry, Altoona, 187.11; John Behrer, Spruce Creek, 160.13; Justus Moyer, Perkaspie, 147.99.

Celery Growers Meeting Slated

An afternoon meeting of special interest to celery growers will be held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, at the Jay Hodecker Celery Farm, according to Arnold G. Lueck, associate Lancaster County agricultural agent.

The Hodecker farm is located a half mile south of East Petersburg along Route 72. Look for his farm sign, Lueck instructed.

The meeting will feature timely information on the specialty crop, problems relating to growing conditions, pest control, and seed supplies of PennCrisp for 1971 planting.

"We are informed there is an adequate seed supply available for this year," Lueck said.

Several men from Penn State will present information on celery growing. They are: Ernie Bergman, horticulture nutrition; Pete Ferretti, vegetable specialist; and Richard Ostrowski, plant disease specialist.

Chester Co. Extension Sets Several Meetings

The Chester County Extension Service has announced several meetings for farmers.

An all day "Dairy Day" is scheduled for Thursday, February 18, at the Sadsburyville Fire Hall, Sadsburyville. Roger Grout, Penn State agricultural engineer, will speak on "Housing and Handling Young Stock" at 10 a.m., followed by John Baylor, Penn State agronomy specialist, speaking on "Forage Production and Management."

Following lunch, which will cost \$1.50, a panel of local dairymen representing small and large farms will address the question, "Is Dairy Farming Profitable?" at 1 p.m. Members of the panel are Ralston Brown, Arthur Hershey, William Moore, and Allen Lee Stoltzfus. Then Larry Specht, Penn State dairy specialist, will speak on "Better Breeding for Pennsylvania Herd."

Also on February 18, the Chester County Cooperative Extension Service has announced that Livestock Day will feature a swine program during the day, and a beef program plus a 4-H swine program in the evening. Penn State Extension Specialists will speak at all of the programs.

The swine program will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the basement of Zinn's Diner, Route 30, Thorndale. The morning program will be of particular interest to the pig breeder, whereas the afternoon session will emphasize market outlook and pig feeding and management.

The beef program will be held 7:30 p.m. at the Central Chester County Vocational Technical School, located near the Rt. 30 entrance to the Coatesville Veterans Hospital. Topics to be discussed are "Feeder Cattle Disease Prevention," "Beef Cattle Feeding and Housing" and "Beef Market Outlook."

Anyone interested in the 4-H pig project is invited to attend the 4-H swine meeting which also will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Central Chester County Vocational Technical School.

The Chester County Cooperative Extension Service has also scheduled four meetings to help acquaint farmers and persons filing farm tax returns with the basics of filing farm tax returns. The meetings will emphasize: "Changes in the Tax Law and Their Affect on Farmers," "How to Make Tax Filing Easier and More Accurate" and "Farm Records and Tax Filing."

The meetings are scheduled as follows: Tuesday, February 16—10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Howery's Restaurant, Rt. 1 south of Oxford, and 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School Vocational Agricultural Room; Wednesday, February 17—10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Foderhmet Restaurant in Honey Brook and 7:30 p.m. at the Octorara High School Vocational Agricultural Room.

On Friday, February 26, ABC Day will be held at Sadsburyville Fire Hall, Sadsburyville, at 10 a.m. a movie will be shown on "Modern Milking Methods" and Donald Ace, Penn State dairy specialist, will speak on "Making Feeding Programs Work." The lunch and afternoon program will be provided by ABC.

A series of dairy nutrition and feeding meetings began this week at Owen J. Roberts High School vocational agriculture room. Other meetings, which begin at 7:45 p.m., are slated for the same location on February 22, March 1 and March 15. The programs are being presented by Neal Burtner, Owen J. Roberts agriculture teacher, and Glenn A. Shirk, associate Chester County agricultural agent.

Guernsey Products

Lebanon Valley I Milanna, a senior three year old Registered Guernsey cow owned by Jacob N. Smith & Son, Palmyra, has completed an official DHIR actual production record of 15,110 pounds of milk and 680 pounds of butterfat in 305 days two times a day milking, according to The American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Farm Reports Get '67 Base

Effective January 29, the summary table of the Indexes of Prices Received and of Prices Paid by Farmers will be shown on a 1967 base rather than a 1910-14 base, Dr. Don Paarlberg, Director of Agricultural Economics, USDA, announced recently.

This change is effective with the issue of Agricultural Prices for January 1971. The 1967 base is used in accordance with

a directive by the Office of Management and Budget, which requires all Federal Government general-purpose index numbers to use the year 1967 as the base period.

The Indexes of Prices Received by Farmers and Prices Paid by Farmers are by law prepared on the 1910-14 base and they will continue to be published as in the past.



Receiving awards for top corn production during 1970 at the Ephrata Area Young Farmers banquet were: left to

right, Melvin Nolt, third; Aaron Stauffer, second, and Earl G. Martin, first.



Charles Ackley, Ephrata Area Young Farmers advisor, speaks at the organization's banquet last Friday. He received a special award of appreciation from the organization.

Ephrata Area Young Farmers Hold Second Annual Banquet

The Ephrata Area Young Farmers Association held its second annual banquet at the Mt. Airy Fire Hall last Friday.

Highlight of the meeting was presentation of awards to outstanding corn, corn silage and hay producers.

In the corn grain production

category, first place went to Earl Martin with an average of 168.6 bushels per acre. Aaron Stauffer was second with 167.1 and Melvin Nolt was third with 161.3.

The top corn silage producer was Cliff Bollinger with 13,253

total digestible nutrients (TDN) per acre. Nelson Martin was second with 12,460 TDN and Wilbur Kreider with 12,210 TDN.

Jesse G. Balmer was first in baled hay production with 6.67 tons per acre and Luke Zimmerman was second with 6.23

tons per acre. Tom Zartman was third with 5.29.

John R. Zartman presented the corn and hay awards.

Henry Givler, area FFA advisor, installed the new officers for 1971.

Jesse G. Balmer was named president to succeed Mahlon

Eberly. Eberly served as banquet toastmaster.

Other new officers are: Irvin Graybill, vice president; Clyde Eby, secretary; Earl Martin, treasurer, and Glenn Martin, public relations.

Charles E. Ackley, association

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