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Lancaster Farming

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Lancaster County Fair Schedule

Quarryville Fair	September 15 - 17
Ephrata Fair	September 21 - 25
Lampeter Fair	September 22 - 24
New Holland Fair	September 29 - October 2
Manheim Fair	October 6 - 8

SMV Emblem Required For Hired Farm Help

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has reminded farmers that beginning August 27 all farm vehicles operated on public roads by hired help must display the official "slow moving vehicle" (SMV) emblem.

Robert O. Gilden, executive secretary, USDA Committee on Safety, said the requirement was adopted by the Department of Labor as part of the rules for administering the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety Act of 1971. The proposed rule was published in the May 27 issue of the Federal Register. It applies to any farm vehicle traveling less than 25 miles per hour.

According to the National Safety Council, farmers in 26 States and Puerto Rico will be most effected. Five States have legislation permitting the use of the emblem, while 21 have no legislation on the matter.

The emblem is a fluorescent orange and yellow triangle measuring 16 inches at its widest point. It was adopted after extensive research at Ohio State University to determine

the shape and color that would be most easily recognized under both daytime and nighttime conditions. The American Society of Agricultural Engineers has approved the emblem.

According to the National Safety Council, a Michigan study shows a noticeable decrease in rear end collisions involving farm vehicles displaying the emblem.

The emblem is transferrable from one vehicle to another. It is relatively inexpensive and may be purchased at most implement dealers and farm supply firms. Manufacturers report that the supply should be adequate to meet the demand.

According to the National Safety Council, the order affects the following States: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia, Wyoming, Illinois, Iowa, Oklahoma, Vermont, and Virginia

Solanco Launches Fair Season

It's Lancaster County Fair time again.

The Solanco (Southern Lancaster County Community) Fair will begin the season Wednesday, September 15 at Quarryville Memorial Park.

The usual full schedule of judging events will be featured at the Solanco Fair with classes for everything from livestock to domestic and fine arts.

The opening day schedule Wednesday includes dairy cattle judging and queen contests

The Thursday schedule will feature a county-wide tractor driving contest, swine and baby beef judging and a tug-of-war

The Friday schedule includes a baby parade, fat hog and baby beef sale, the annual parade and rural youth awards

Both the Lampeter and Ephrata fairs will be held the following week. The Ephrata Fair runs from September 21-25 and the Lampeter Fair from September 22-24.

The New Holland Fair is scheduled from September 29-October 2

The Manheim Fair will conclude the Fair season from October 6-8

Schedules of events at each local fair will appear in Lancaster Farming as they approach. The fairs will dominate local farm events for the next month

Solanco Fair Schedule

Wednesday, September 15
10 a. m. — Judging Dairy Cattle and various other judging
7:30 p. m. — Formal opening of the Fair
8 p. m. — Talent Contest and Crowning of the Queen

Thursday, September 16
10 a. m. — County-Wide Tractor Driving Contest, 4-H, FFA and Open Class
1 p. m. — Judging Swine
2 p. m. — Judging Baby Beef
7:45 p. m. — Tug of War

Friday, September 17
10 a. m. — Baby Parade
2 p. m. — Fat Hog and Baby Beef Sale
6:30 p. m. — Parade
8:30 p. m. — Rural Youth Awards

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Also see special feature on the national FHA farm family of the year on page 13. This family visited Lancaster County several weeks ago

While the outstanding three-day Ag Progress Days show represented a long drive for farmers during the busy harvest season, many local farmers and agribusinessmen attended. See photos on pages 8 and 9

Farm Calendar

Monday, September 13
Fulton Grange meeting, Oakryn

Tuesday, September 14
10 a. m. - 2 p. m. — Wayne Feed plant open house, Lancaster.

10:30 a. m. - 1:30 p. m. — Trojan Field Exhibition, Eugene Hoover farm, Route 722 southeast of Lancaster Airport

8 p. m. — Manheim Young Farmer monthly meeting

8 p. m. — Ephrata Area Young Farmer Association officers meeting, Ephrata High School

Egg Packaging Association annual meeting, O'Hare Airport, Chicago

York Inter-State Fair, September 14-18

Wednesday, September 15
11:30 a. m. — Pennsylvania Poultry Processors Association, Schindlers Restaurant, Camp Hill

Solanco Community Fair, Quarryville, September 15-17.

Thursday, September 16
8 p. m. — Lancaster County Pomona Grange election meeting, Oakryn

Eastern States Exposition Springfield, Mass., September 16-17

Saturday, September 18
8 a. m. - 5 p. m. — Tractor Pull, Rough and Tumble Museum, Kinzer
Lancaster County Pork Cook-out entry deadline

Ezra W. Martin Co. Is Expanding Hog Slaughtering Operation Locally

The Ezra W. Martin Meat Co. has begun excavation for a new \$1.4 million dollar hog-killing plant.

Present facilities, which are obsolete under new federal meat inspection standards, have a capacity of up to 60 hogs an hour. The new facility will be designed for up to 150 an hour.

While the company, 1625 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, is now slaughtering about 300 hogs per week, plans are to gradually expand the volume to about 2,500 per week, according to Landis E. Hershey, company president.

Hershey said he thinks Martin Co. is the only major (more than 20 per hour) hog slaughtering operation in the area, except for Chester County. Other major hog slaughterers are located in Allentown and Hatfield. None are located in Berks, York, Lebanon or Adams counties, he said.

Martin Co. also slaughters some beef. Kunzler & Co. and Lancaster Packing Co. also have large beef slaughtering operations.

But he noted that Kunzler recently discontinued hog slaughter and now is trucking hogs to Allentown for slaughter.

Elmer Martin Jr., company

secretary and livestock buyer, added that Hervitz Packing Co. of Harrisburg and Kessler Packing Co. of Lemoyne are also among large area hog slaughtering operations which have discontinued recently in the face of the new regulations.

Martin described the new structure as strictly a slaughtering and chilling facility, mostly for hogs. At present, about 15 per cent of the company's output is devoted to beef, he indicated.

Inter-State Gives Refunds

"Dairy farmers who are members of Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative were mailed a total of \$147,869.83 September 1," announced Florence Schultz, treasurer for Inter-State.

"These patronage refunds were for the fiscal year that ended July 31, 1964, and represent the remaining 80 per cent of their pro-rata share of savings set aside during that 12-month period. Regardless of whether a producer has since sold his farm and cows, or whether he has withdrawn his membership from Inter-State, he receives a refund based on the number of pounds of milk marketed in his name during

that period. 20 per cent was paid to the dairymen on April 15, 1965," Miss Schultz declared. "This is the 26th consecutive year in which the board of directors has authorized the September 1 payments," asserted Schultz, "bringing the total of such payments to \$2,442,819.41."

Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative, Philadelphia, has 3,000 self-employed dairymen who are members residing in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia and West Virginia. The cooperative is owned and controlled by dairy farmers since it was organized in 1917.

still operating in Lancaster County.

As a result of the new laws many meat processing plants have discontinued their killing and are either buying hog carcasses or having their own custom killed. Hershey said the plant expansion will allow Martin Co. to sell dressed hogs and kill hogs on contract for other packing houses within a 100 mile radius.

Hershey also emphasized that his firm will buy animals directly from the farmer, saving farmers the normal selling costs.

He also emphasized that his firm will pay farmers who consistently raise quality hogs a bonus. He noted that some farmers are currently getting one and one half to two cents above market price and that the firm will continue to encourage production of quality animals.

Hershey explained that the firm specializes in the sale of quality meat at a premium price. "We have been in the business a long time with the idea of quality," he stated.

While the new federal legislation has been important in encouraging slaughtering operations to modernize and expand or to discontinue operations, Hershey also sees the overall

trend toward specialization as playing an important role in the company's plans. He explained that increasing specialization in meat processing and most other phases of farming is occurring largely because of expensive and specialized equipment which can't be operated profitably for only a few hours a week.

The present Martin Co. plant will be used exclusively for the production of processed meats. The new structure, expected to be operational at the end of 1972, is located to the rear of and a short distance away from the present facility on a portion of the company's five acre tract.

The East Lampeter Township Industrial Development Authority is helping make the expansion project possible by providing financing through a \$14 million mortgage from Commonwealth National Bank. The Martin Co. then repays the authority.

Hershey said the new building of masonry and steel will be mostly one-story, with some higher portions.

He said the expansion could eventually mean an additional 25 to 30 employees.