

Lancaster Co. FFA and Adult Tobacco

(Continued from Page 1)

Michael E Rohrer Strasburg RD1, third, Clair Brenneman, Lancaster RD6, fourth, and Dennis Sangrey, Conestoga RD2, fifth

Long tillers — Witmer J Rohrer, Strasburg RD1, second, Paul D Kreider, Ronks RD1, third, Michael E Rohrer, Strasburg RD1, fourth, and Donald E Shand, Pequea RD1, fifth

Short tillers — Elmer Boyd, Ephrata RD1, second, Witmer J Rohrer Strasburg RD1, third, David H Frey, Conestoga RD2, fourth, and Eugene M Rohrer, Strasburg RD1, fifth

In comments on tobacco growing, Roy Rohrer said many Lancaster County tobacco growers have "some poor tobacco" this year. Some key factors in this, he said, were not willing their tobacco enough before hanging, hanging it too close, not allowing it to get enough air to dry properly, and generally wet and moist conditions this year which caused the tobacco to have a high moisture content in the field and stopped

it from drying properly in the shed

A tobacco buyer himself for Lorrillard, Rohrer noted that "a lot of fellows are growing more than their sheds can really handle"

But he conceded that building new tobacco sheds is very expensive in relation to the return

Asked about new tobacco harvesting machines being developed, Rohrer said he doesn't see them being adaptable to the type of tobacco now being grown in Lancaster County. In the South where he believes these machines may be useful, the tobacco plants are much smaller. He believes there would be too much plant breakage with the much larger varieties being grown here.

Rohrer also noted that the tobacco companies are paying the top dollar now for chewing tobacco rather than the cigar tobacco which is being grown locally. Chewing tobacco requires a much thinner leaf and

vein than is now being grown locally, he said

A K. Mann Jr, one of the tobacco show judges, picked up a hand of Rohrer's winning tobacco and said it was of such outstanding quality it could be sold as cigarette tobacco

Mann was joined by Lester Whitmore of American Cigar in judging both the open and FFA shows

Floyd Imes, 523 Rambler Road, Manheim, an Agway employe, was corn contest judge

In commenting on his own procedures in selecting his winning entries in the tobacco competition, Rohrer said he selects several quality hands of tobacco and strips the leaves, sorting them into piles of wrapper, filler and binder. When he has a large pile of about 200 leaves, he then carefully selects the very best under light.

He also believes that planting vigorous plants in the spring is very important. He grows his own seed.



James Gruber, Elizabethtown RD3, opens a leaf of his grand championship entry in the Lancaster County FFA Tobacco Show Thursday at the Farm and Home Center.

Food Stamp Rules Changed

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced revisions in Food Stamp Program regulations to prohibit the return of cash as change in food coupon transactions and to prohibit the use of food coupons as payments for deposits on bottles or other returnable containers.

The revisions were made under USDA rule-making procedures in response to comments contained in the Agricultural Appropriations Conference Report of July 22, 1971. The Senate House conferees said the practice of giving cash change "threatens the success of the Food Stamp Program and should be stopped."

The revisions require retail food stores to issue credit slips or tokens to food stamp shoppers for amounts up to and including 49 cents, with the credits good only for eligible foods in the same store.

Previously, food stamp rules permitted change up to and including 49 cents to be given in cash in a single transaction. Undorsed 50-cent food stamp coupons will continue to be used for change in amounts of 50 cents or more.

Deposits on bottles or other returnable containers of eligible foods must now be paid by the purchaser in cash, instead of with food stamps as was the previous practice.

Those persons favoring the amendments feared willful abuses of the cash change privilege through deliberate attempts to convert coupons into cash. Supporters also felt that, through carelessness, change returned to recipients might not be used to purchase needed food.

Persons objecting to the proposal felt credit slips could decrease a recipient's purchasing power if lost, slow down the check-out process, complicate a retailer's accounting system, obligate a recipient to return to that particular store, and deprive recipients of extra cash for those necessary food items not eligible for purchase with food coupons.

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