

Elmer Lapp, a Farm Show Veteran, Enters Six Fine Belgians

A Lancaster County farmer who believes that horses still have their rightful place on the farm will have six of his finest

Belgians entered at the 1972 Pennsylvania Farm Show. Elmer Lapp, Kinzers RD1, is the owner of one of two six-horse

hitch entires scheduled to present demonstrations at the 56th annual Farm Show on Wednesday evening, Jan 12.

Lapp's six Belgians entered in the show are part of the 17 horses that he uses on his 83-acre family dairy farm and 70 rented adjoining acres. Most of his crops are produced for feeding his horses and 30 Guernsey and Holstein cattle.

The 52-year-old farmer also utilizes his horses for an unusual enterprise. He specializes in hauling school and church youth groups on old-fashioned hayrides around his farm area.

And if the hayriders want to dine with the Lapps — there are,

besides Mr. and Mrs. Lapp, two sons and four daughters — that can be arranged. A picnic dinner is served on the Lapps' lawn and the menu is always Mrs. Lapp's famous barbecued chicken.

Lapp also owns one of the famous Conestoga Wagons, vintage 1830, which he drives in special events such as centennial observances and the like at the annual Rough and Tumble Old Thresherman's Days at Kinzers.

At such events, he drives his six Belgians with the old-fashioned single hitch, but at the Farm Show demonstration the six-line hitch will be used. That is a line to each horse in the hitch.

Lapp calls that "modern

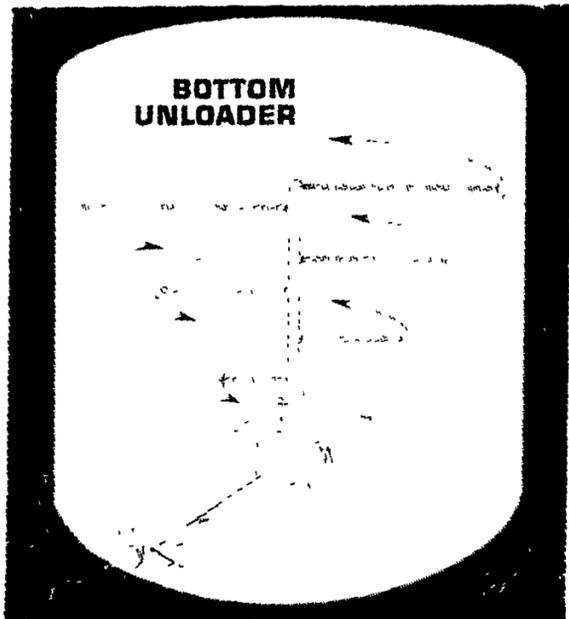
driving at which I am not the best." So he will defer to his youngest son, Elvin, 16, "who is quite good at it," for the Farm Show demonstration.

While Lapp utilizes the tractor in his farming, he prefers horses when he can take the time to use them and especially in preparing the ground, discing and harrowing.

"My soil is on the wet side and frequently I can begin working it a couple of days earlier with horses than I can with tractors and not pack it."

Even at the 56th edition of the Farm Show, Horses (Draft Breeds) are, perhaps with a salute to nostalgia, Department 1 of the show's 25 premium classes. A total of \$4,225, sixth highest in show awards, will be offered as premiums in the Horses department.

The six hitched demonstration is limited to two contestants. So Lapp and William Howard, Mt. Pleasant, will be vying for \$100 first prize and \$80 second prize. Howard will be driving six Percherons.



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New Holland Plans Info 72 Meetings

Equipment, economics and ecology are three topics that form the nucleus for New Holland's INFO 72 Farmer Meetings to be held by many dealers this year.

Billed as an opportunity for an "old fashioned farm community get-together," dealers are ready to show farmers the latest in agricultural equipment, and what New Holland has been doing to tell the true farm story among urban and suburban dwellers.

INFO 72 meetings are designed to show what New Holland is doing to inform non-rural residents about the part agriculture plays in keeping food costs down and our ecological scale in balance.

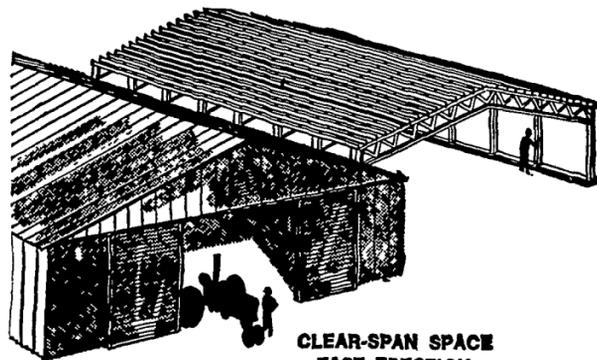
To add a festive touch to the INFO 72 meetings, dealers have been provided posters, banners, invitations and advertising materials. A new "Agri-Newsreel" has been produced which includes segments showing haymaking at several bustling North American airports, the design and creation of "Ball," a huge sphere sculpted from nearly 22 miles of baler twine, the rough and tumble of 4-H Rodeo in South Dakota, and several more subjects including demonstrations of some of New Holland's latest equipment.

Dealers have been encouraged to gain community participation for their meetings. In its guidelines, New Holland suggests that local extension agents, vocational-agriculture teachers, bankers and conservationists be enlisted to help tailor the

meetings to the specific needs of the community.

New Holland Farmer Meetings are usually held during January, February and March.

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Farm Show Brief

The 1972 Pennsylvania Farm Show will offer a record total of \$74,658 in premiums to exhibitors. That's quite a jump from the modest \$735 in premiums offered at the first show in 1917.

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