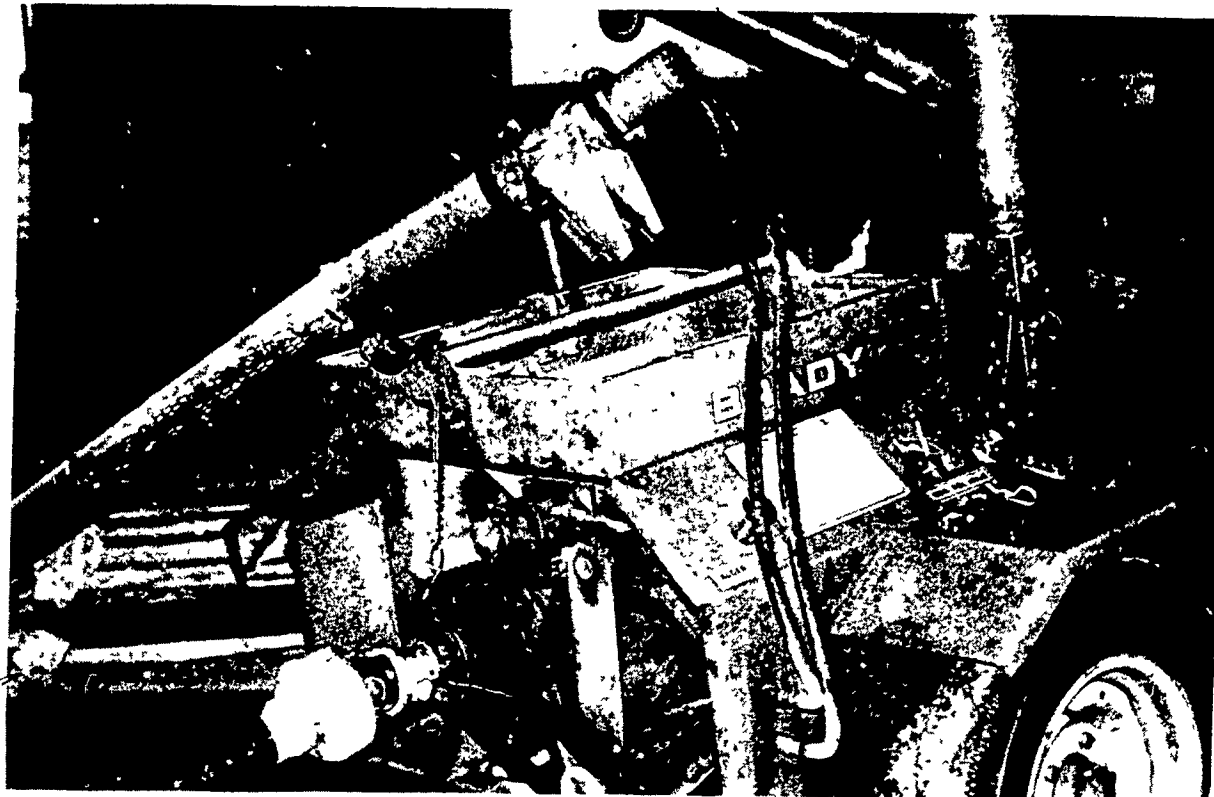


Lancaster Farming

Vol. 17 No. 17

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, March 18, 1972

\$2.00 Per Year



Soybeans can be converted into palatable feed by using either a roaster, a steam flaker or an extruder, like the one

show above. The extruder cooks the bean and then crushes it into a fine meal which is easy for the animal to digest.

Soybeans Growing On Area Farmers

"If more Lancaster County farmers knew about soybeans they'd be planting them. They're less expensive to grow than other feed crops any my pigs and steers are as healthy as they were before." So says one Lancaster County farmer about soybeans. Slowly but surely the soybean is beginning to carve out a niche for itself in the fields of Lancaster County.

"I began to plant soybeans about four years ago" says Brunnerville farmer Paul B. Kline. "I started with two acres. I got a yield that first year of about 30 bushels per acre. I had heard that soybeans were a good, high energy feed and rather inexpensive to grow. I was pleased with the results. I fed it raw to my steers but found this unsatisfactory. I then heard about steam flaking. Since then I have been having my beans steam flaked and my hogs and steers seem to be thriving."

From all indications soybeans seem to be a high energy feed which can be grown at a relatively low cost. Then why aren't more Lancaster County farmers growing them. "Well" said Kline, "I suppose its because there simply hasn't been much information about the soybean and how it would grow in Lancaster County. And since there weren't many farmers raising - soybeans we had very little information about growth results in our area soil. But now more of us are growing soybeans and facts and figures are getting around. I expect that more farmers will begin to grow them as they review these facts."

The soybean, in its raw state, is bitter to the taste. Thus, for animal consumption the bean must somehow be cooked and reduced in size for proper digestion. Kline mentioned the fact that he has his beans steam flaked. Beans also can be roasted or extruded. There are a few roasters, extruders and steam

flaking machines in the area and farmers pay to rent them when they need them.

One other Lititz farmer, who asked not to be identified, began raising soybeans last year. He planted 45 acres and got a per acre yield of nearly 60 bushels per acre. This year he is planning to plant 60-70 acres. This particular farmer raises dairy cattle. He purchased an extruder a year or so ago and finds that extruded beans are the best for his cattle. He noted that his milk yield has been up ever since he began to feed soybeans to his cattle and that the milk is of an extremely high quality. He, too, says that more Lancaster County farmers would grow soybeans if more information were available about them.

Both farmers and other experts agree that soybeans should be planted around May 15. "The soil must be warm," said Kline. "If you plant too soon you simply will not get the yield you want. The beauty of planting in mid-May is that you can get your corn crop in first, then plant your soybeans." One farmer noted that he raises very little corn now because economically it pays him to grow soybeans and buy most of his corn.

One problem has been noted for

this year. "I understand that seed is going to be hard to get," says Kline. "More farmers are purchasing soybean seed so the demand is up. But the seed quantity is down because of weather conditions in the seed growing area. It seems that too much rain caused excessive moisture which affected the germination of the seeds. I'd advise anyone to is going to purchase seed to get their order in now."

Soybeans are not grown locally for human consumption. Kline said that at this time there are no outlets for them locally. But he foresees a time when there may be a demand.

The advantages of raising soybeans are many. They are fairly inexpensive to grow. They are a high energy feed which seems to be satisfactory for a variety of animals. The farmer can raise his own feed instead of buying it and this saves money. It is apparent that as more information becomes available to Lancaster County farmers about soybeans and that information is shared that more area farmers will begin to grow this most underrated of all beans, the soybean.

Conservation District Plans Two Pollution Meetings

Two educational conservation meetings will be sponsored by the Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District. The first will be held in the agriculture room at Elizabethtown Area High School at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, and the second meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. April 4 in the Mastersonville Fire Hall.

Subjects to be discussed are

pollution and its abatement, the clean streams law, and some suggestions as to what citizens can do to reduce or prevent pollution.

The meetings are open to anyone, farmers and urban residents, who recognize pollution in the form of soil erosion, animal wastes, or other problems related to pollution.

All are urged to attend.

Carcass Show Winners

The Lancaster County Swine Producers released the spring carcass show results held in February at Union Stock Yards in Lancaster.

Named grand champion was Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, champion carcass with a crossbred gilt weighing 210 pounds, loin area of 6.4 per cent, ham loin 45.07 per cent, and back fat of .9 per cent.

The reserve champion was Lawrence Arnold, Lebanon RD1, with a Duroc gilt weighing 215 pounds, 6.8 loin area, 44.07 ham loin percent, back fat 1.2 per cent.

Third place went to John Strawbridge, Stewartstown, with a cross bred gilt weighing 207 pounds, 7.1 loin area, 43.05 ham loin percent, back fat 1.1 per cent.

Fourth place went to Dutch Valley, Manheim, with a cross bred gilt weighing 218 pounds, loin area 5.8, ham loin per cent 41.95, back fat 1.3 per cent.

Fifth place went to Paul Gehman, Denver, with a cross bred gilt weighing 208 pounds, loin

area 5.8, ham loin per cent 41.71, back fat 1.1 per cent.

Along with the carcass show there was also an evaluation contest. Winners were: Mark Nestleroth, Manheim RD3; John Henkle, Strasburg RD1; Clair Hartman, Gratz, and Richard Sholley, Jonestown RD2.

It was reported to be the best carcass show in records for loin area, ham loin percent and back fat average.

Calf Raising Meetings

Two barn meetings on calf raising and the handling and management of replacements have been planned for Tuesday afternoon, March 21.

At 1 p.m. at the farm of John B. Groff, Mount Joy RD1, a calf stall barn system will be reviewed. Groff installed a new 42-individual calf stall barn on slats, connected to the liquid manure system.

At 2:30 p.m. the new free-stall, swing gate heifer barn with automatic silage feeding system at the farm of Nelson H. Hershey, Columbia RD2, will be examined.

Two Extension specialists from Penn State will lead the discussion and describe the installations on display. Jerry Bodman, Extension engineer, will discuss housing methods and equipment. Steve Spencer, dairy specialist, will discuss the feeding and management of heifer calves.

4-H Calendar

Tuesday, March 21

7:30 p.m. — Lincoln Community 4-H Club reorganizational meeting, Mt. Airy Fire Hall.
7:30 p.m. — Sequoia Riders Horse and Pony Club, Pineview Stables.

Thursday, March 23

7 p.m. — 4-H Play Tryouts, Farm and Home Center.
7:30 p.m. — Elizabethtown 4-H Pig and Rabbit reorganizational meeting, Elizabethtown Trust Company Building.

Saturday, March 25

8 p.m. — 4-H Hoagie Sale Day

NewAddress

The department of agricultural communications at the Pennsylvania State University has been moved to new headquarters.

The new campus address will be Room 444, Agricultural Administration Building, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa. 16802. The telephone number will remain the same, Area Code 814, 865-5487.

In This Issue

Ag Teachers Report	6
Classified Ads	40,41,42,43
Egg Meeting Report	15
IFYE Report	8
Market Section	2,3,4
Sale Register	34-39
Women's News	26,28,29,30
What's New	12

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. — Southeast Pennsylvania Ayrshire Club barn meeting, Kennard Henley farm, Cochranville.

Saturday, March 25

6:30 p.m. — Pequea Valley FFA banquet, cafeteria, Pequea Valley High School.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster Beekeepers meeting, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District annual banquet, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Pequea Valley FFA banquet, cafeteria, Pequea Valley High School.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District annual banquet, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Pequea Valley FFA banquet, cafeteria, Pequea Valley High School.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster Beekeepers meeting, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District annual banquet, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Pequea Valley FFA banquet, cafeteria, Pequea Valley High School.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster Beekeepers meeting, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District annual banquet, Farm and Home Center.

6:30 p.m. — Pequea Valley FFA banquet, cafeteria, Pequea Valley High School.