

Twin Valley FFA Banquet Held

The sixth annual banquet of the Twin Valley FFA Chapter was held recently in the Twin Valley High School cafeteria.

The banquet was brought to order by Frank Stoltzfus, president, using the official opening ceremony.

The theme of the Future Farmers of America this year is "Youth with a Purpose." Jay Zimmerman, Ephrata, state regional vice president, gave a short address on the FFA theme.

The Honorary Degree was presented by the FFA officers to John Abrams, Ira Mast and Frank Houck, using the official Honorary Degree Ceremony. This degree is presented to the three most outstanding people who have helped to advance agriculture in the FFA most during the year.

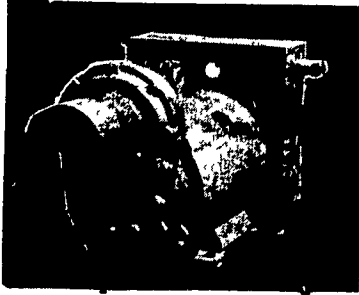
Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Kurtz, Rev. Donald Ray, and Carl Hack. These certificates are presented to people in the community who contribute their time and effort to help the FFA organizations.

Ronald Frederick, vocational agriculture teacher, presented Foundation medals and awards to FFA members. Among those receiving awards were:

Ronald Smoker, Chapter Star Greenhand; Nevin Mast and Herman Arters, dairy farming; Tom Beiler, agriculture production placement; William Ford, sales and service placement.

Richard Kurtz, Fish and Wildlife management; Beth McDonald, state band; Terry Murray, poultry farming and dairy farming; James Stoltzfus, Chapter Star Agribusinessman and agricultural mechanics.

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1972 Crop Outlook

With spring planting just around the corner, Pennsylvania farmers have been surveyed again as to their intentions on acreage devoted to principal field crops.

The only one to show a decline is corn, according to the report from the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service, a joint venture of the Pennsylvania and U S Departments of Agriculture.

Projected acreage is 1,460,000, almost one per cent below last year but a bit more than farmers had been planning as recently as 60 days ago. Although the Commonwealth was particularly hard hit by the Southern corn leaf blight last year, huge surpluses elsewhere in the country are reflected in the current plans.

Soybeans continue their strong comeback in the state with 43,000 acres scheduled for planting in 1972, a 26 per cent jump over last

year and the largest acreage allotted to this crop in 15 years.

Tobacco growers are also taking bold steps ahead encouraged by above-average prices received for their 1971 harvest. Anticipated acreage is 17,500, three per cent more than last year. This would be the first increase since 1959.

Potato farmers in Pennsylvania increased their acreage by about four per cent last year. They plan to stay with that total, 36,500 acres, in 1972.

Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Jim McHale emphasizes that these figures are only intentions of farmers and are subject to change based on weather conditions at planting time, current prices, stocks on hand and the individual farmer's reaction to reading this published report.

Broiler Chicks Off, Improved over 1971

The placement of broiler chicks into production feeding fell off sharply in Pennsylvania but the overall trend is still improved over last year.

The Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service said the 1,129,000 placements were down 16 per cent over the same period in 1971 but the current 10-week average is two per cent ahead of a year ago.

The setting of eggs to hatch broiler-type chicks was similarly off from the previous week, down 10 per cent to 1,820,000 but up six per cent from a year earlier.

Paul Oldham, livestock farming and Soil and Water Management; Frank Stoltzfus, Chapter Star Farmer, Crop Farmer, Livestock Farmer, public speaking and Chapter scholarship.

Frank Stoltzfus presented potted plants to Mrs. Mast, Mrs. Houck, Mrs. Kurtz, Mrs. Fredericks, Mrs. Frey, Mrs. Samuels, Mrs. Haller, Mrs. Stoltzfus, Mrs. Beiler, Mrs. Good, and Beth McDonald, the first girl in the Twin Valley vocational agriculture department.

Nevin Mast, vice president; Frank Stoltzfus, president; and Ronald Fredericks, vo-ag teacher, narrated two home movies of FFA activities for the past year, followed by brief remarks and meeting adjournment using the official closing ceremony.

Richard Kurtz
Reporter

The monthly report on egg production of all types showed a whopping 14 per cent increase from 1971 figures for a total of 306,000,000 eggs. Much of the boost is attributed to the extra day for February in the Leap Year Calendar.

Pennsylvania is the fifth leading state in the nation in the production of eggs.

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