Workman's Compensation Bill Becomes Effective May 1

Agricultural employers must provide Workman's Com-' pensation coverage for their employees under provision of a bill signed into law by Governor Shapp on March 29.

Previously, agricultural employers were free to decide whether or not they would carry Workman's Compensation coverage.

Consumers Want to Know

by MARGARET SPADER Director of Consumer Affairs National Association of Manufacturers

Sometimes I feel I'd like to object to a TV commercial. How can I find out what agency prepared the commercial?

You can write or telephone your objection to the television station and it will be forwarded to the agency. The same procedure is recommended for misleading advertising on radio, or in newspapers and magazines. The new law covers all agricultural employers with an annual payroll of \$150 or more. Under the new law, which becomes effective May 1, the only employees for which coverage is not required are domestic household workers.

Workman's Compensation insurance provides payment to employees involved in workrelated accidents to offset loss of income and medical costs. The insurance also provides for deaths and disability payments. By providing Workman's Compensation insurance, employers are protected from lawsuits that could result in heavy damages if an employee is injured.

The insurance can be procured from an insurance company or from the State's Workman's Compensation fund. Premium rates are uniform regardless of the carrier.

> Jay W. Irwi[,] Associate County Agent



These established grape vines are being raised by Tom Hampton, Holtwood. These vines have been harvested for several years, and Hampton anticipates the oncoming crop will be the largest yield to date.

Grape Growing

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It was reported that equipment expense for harvesting is minimal. Sharp cutters and baskets are the primary equipment needed.

The ripened product must be moved to market immediately, not stored. The grapes should be picked at the peak of flavor for proper sugar and acid contents.

One Lancaster Countian began raising grapes as a hobby several years ago. Thomas Hampton, Holtwood, began with 150 vines. Presently he has about 2,500 vines. He reports he has had a very good demand for his crop. However, this year will be his first year to have a reasonably large crop, due to the age of his vines.

Hampton has six varieties, one table variety and five french hybrids. The varieites are: Foch; Aurora, a white grape; Seval Blanc, a white grape; Seidel-13053, a red grape; Seidel-7053, and Steuben, a table variety which is an American hybrid developed at Geneva, N. Y. testing station.

These varieties, reports Hampton, are early season harvesters, late August to early September. Other varieties available may be harvested until early November. Hampton feels the grape crop is excellent for a cash crop after the initial investment is made and the vines mature. He states an acre of mature vines may gross \$1,000. Tonnage will depend on the variety and weather conditions. There is a potential yield of four to seven tons per acre, reports Hampton. The Erie Research Farm reports yields of one and one-half to six tons per acre, depending on the variety, or an average yield of about four tons per acre.

Hampton works closely with Carl W. Haeseler, head of Pennsylvania Grape Research at the Northwest Research Center in Erie County.

He reports it is necessary to spray about five times in a season, depending on insects, diseases and weather conditions When the vines are young,

labor is necessary to remove water shoots, pruning, tieing, and training the vines. At about four years of age, spraying and cultivating in summer are necessities When the vines are older, most labor comes in the winter to prune and the the vines, thus making this a good crop for farmers

Presently, availability of root stalks is a bit uncertain Hampton reported root stalks probably need to be ordered a year in advance, particularly for those interested in a large number to plant Presently, nurserymen are sold out.

There are many unanswered questions on grape growing But for those of you with a pioneer spirit, the quest for the unknown, here may be a real challenge and potential cash maker — for you.

As comparisons, grapes should compare very favorably with tobacco crops, say Yocum and Hampton



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> Not responsible for accidents day of sale Refreshments by Wesley Methodist Church

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> CHARLES C. MYERS Owner Black and White Holstein Farm R. AUSTIN BACKUS, INC. Sale Managers and Auctioneers