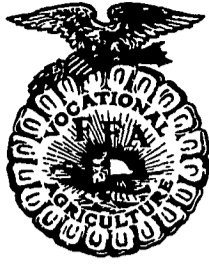


From Local Ag Teachers:



Thoughts in Passing



Editor's Note: The article this week was submitted by Jess Erway, vocational agriculture instructor and Young Farmer advisor at Manheim Central High School.

"Lest We Forget"
This weeks article will center itself around many of the things we already know about the soil. We base our lives around what we own. We take much pride in



Jess R. Erway
Vo-Ag Instructor
Manheim Central High School

these things. But we all know that if care is not taken of them, we will lose them.

Soil is the best example of this that I know of. If we are not careful, one finds himself saying "It doesn't matter how I care for the land. It's value to sell to the real estater will always be the same." But we know this is wishful thinking and not in tune with our desire to be called stewards of the land.

To be the steward, we are a conservationist. A good conservationist is somewhat selfish, for he knows how to save (conserve) what he had and make it work for him, planning every move so that the fertilizer and soil stays with him, not just for himself but for his neighbors. For we must feed others from the soil not just now but in the future.

Let us not forget that just because a few would rob us of our land for secondary importance of our day, that it by no means lessens our responsibility to care for and nurture this most

valuable lifegiving source of life. Water is what we need to raise good crops. And if managed (controlled), land, trees and wildlife are protected

We must, as landowners, be responsible for assessing the need to instill conservation practices upon the land. There are six basic steps to consider for each acre of land:

- 1 Control erosion on cultivated land
- 2 Terrace land to allow for slow movement of the water.
- 3 Plant idle land to a crop (trees).
4. Drain wet land to make productive.
5. Encourage wildlife to help the balance of nature.
6. Construct water-holding areas to slow rapid runoff as well as help supply us with recreation.

Our best efforts can only be accomplished providing we have an adequate method of approach, and that method of development should be a farm plan. This should be done with the aid of trained conservationists. All farms should have a soil conservation plan, if we truly believe that we are Stewards of the Soil.

Stoltzfus Cows Cited

Four cows in the herd of Nathan E Stoltzfus, Gap, have been recognized by the Holstein-Friesian Association for food production levels attained

The actual food production output recorded in the DHIR program is

F-V-F Sample Geraldine 6575996, four-years-old, 22,258 pounds milk, 993 pounds butterfat in 365 days; Pequea Apollo Salome 6467889, five-years-old, 20,008 pounds milk, 854 pounds butterfat in 365 days, Smyrna View Hector Fanny 6624024, four-years-old, 21,437 pounds milk, 836 pounds butterfat in 365 days, Donegal Apollo Eva 6713724, three-years-old, 23,377 pounds milk, 827 pounds butterfat in 365 days.

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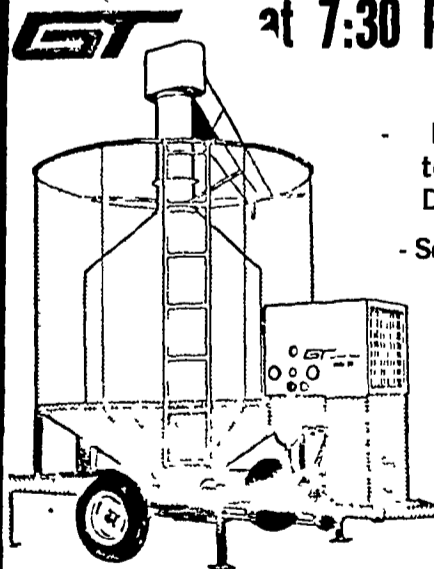
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