

Bradford County Short On Fuel

A serious fuel shortage is pending in Bradford County, Pa. according to numerous reports received by Eastern Milk Producers, the county's largest milk cooperative, from dairy farmer members in the area.

John C. York, the cooperative's general manager, announced last week that Eastern will organize a Citizens Committee to investigate, develop and place in force, a program designed to alleviate the problem. He stated that findings from such an effort

would be presented to the President of the United States, if necessary.

An example of the precarious fuel situation is that of Gordon Seeley, Troy, Pa., who has been servicing large numbers of dairy farmers for 35 years and is regarded as one of the most reliable distributors of gasoline in the county. He is unable to obtain gasoline to service these accounts.

Efforts made to correct this

problem have been to no avail. Last month, Seeley received only two loads of gasoline. This month, he hopes for one load.

"If these farmers are forced to go to other sources for their supply so urgently needed to harvest hay crops, it will undoubtedly be more costly, to say nothing of the added difficulty," York stated.

In April of this year, the milk feed-price ratio was 124, which represents a decrease of 12.1 percent from the ratio of 141 that prevailed a year ago. Index of costs has gone up by 12.9 percent from a year ago also. These figures show the adverse effect of spiraling costs of producing milk.

These conditions, compounded by a fuel shortage which is spreading across the Commonwealth, could sound a death knell for many farms, not only in Bradford County but throughout much of the heavy dairying sections of Pennsylvania.

York called on all civic minded citizens to make a special effort to correct the problem. He said that Lorton Blair, an Eastern member from Columbia Crossroads who first brought attention to the problem might act as Chairman of Eastern's proposed Citizens' Committee.

Corn Blight Fungus Grows On 26 Hybrids In USDA Studies

A corn blight fungus that grows on both normal hybrids and those susceptible to southern leaf blight needs to be watched carefully, according to scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The fungus, called Helminthosporium "X" until completely identified, produced symptoms like southern corn leaf blight on 23 normal hybrids and three hybrids carrying Texas male-sterile cytoplasm in greenhouse and laboratory studies by scientists of USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) at Ames.

Southern corn leaf blight swept through the corn belt from south to north in 1970 reducing the U.S. crop by an estimated 15 percent. This blight is caused by a fungus, Helminthosporium maydis, race T. Hybrids bred from parent corns carrying Texas male-sterile cytoplasm are especially susceptible to race T. Hybrids

carrying normal cytoplasm are more resistant.

In June, August and September, 1972, Dr. Jack R. Wallin, ARS plant pathologist, and Daniel V. Loonan, technician, obtained 43 isolates of the different Helminthosporium fungus from corn growing in Illinois, Indiana, Nebraska, South Dakota and 17 counties in Iowa

"Infection was light in fields where the fungus was found," Dr. Wallin said. "No economic damage was noted."

The scientists tested H. "X" in the greenhouse on hybrids of both male-sterile and normal parents. All isolates produced symptoms typical of race T infection. H. "X" produced lesions (injuries) more slowly than race T. On normal corn, however, it produced spores (reproductive bodies) more rapidly than race T

Under controlled conditions in the laboratory, spores of H. "X" germinate more slowly than those of H. maydis and appear to require higher temperatures. "This may be significant in the development of the fungus in the field," Dr. Wallin said

Mr. "X" is darker than race T of H. maydis and produces clusters of four to five spores where race T generally produces a single spore.

The ARS scientists first isolated H. "X" in May 1972, from a 1971 Connecticut corn leaf lesion. In June 1972, they found it on normal cytoplasm corn near Ames. They did not conduct statewide surveys in July and conducted only limited surveys in August and September.

Aerial Ladder Equipped

FARM PAINTING

We Spray it on and Brush It In!

FOR FREE ESTIMATES
CALL COLLECT 717-393-6530
OR WRITE

HENRY K. FISHER

2322 Old Phila. Pike
Lancaster, Pa. 17602

How to
nail down
6%
interest
for 6
full years.

For as little as \$100, Commonwealth now offers a two-year, 5¾% interest savings certificate of deposit. Because that interest is compounded continuously, you earn an effective interest rate of 6% per year.

At the end of the first two years, the certificate is automatically renewed for another two years unless you tell us otherwise. The same thing happens after four years. So, at your option, the effective annual rate of 6% is guaranteed for six years.

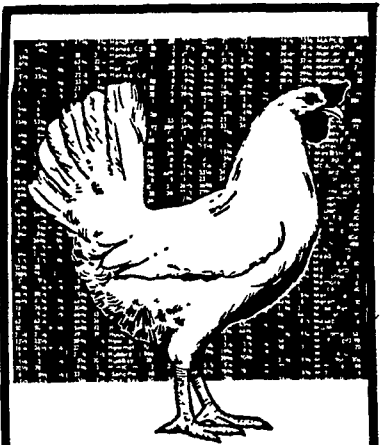
Of course, Commonwealth has other ways to save—all useful, each designed to fill a special need. But this new certificate is, quite simply, as good a deal on savings as the law will let us offer.

Stop in soon and nail that down.

Insured to \$20,000 by the
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

**Commonwealth
National Bank**

Lancaster • Centerville • Lancaster East • Landisville • Lititz • Manheim Township • Millersville
Rohrerstown • Elizabethtown • Willow Street • Additional offices throughout South Central Pennsylvania
Member FDIC



sustain top
production
with the
**BABCOCK
B-300**

Keeping production up... costs down... is the profit key in poultry operations. And more and more records on commercial flocks of Babcock B-300's... "The Businessman's Bird"... show sustained production of top quality eggs... often with an additional 20 to 30 eggs per bird housed over other strains. Come in... look at the records and the B-300... "The Businessman's Bird".



**BABCOCK
FARMS, INC.**

Telephone (717) 626-8257

Telephone (717) 626-8561