

# Lancaster Farming

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## FARM TRENDS

A summary of market  
and commodity news  
for the past week

by Dick Wanner

### 60-Cent Tobacco?

Tobacco buyers have already been reported out in the field, looking over the Lancaster County crop now hanging in the sheds. Bids have started this year at 50-cents a pound, which is about the price the crop sold for last year. Bidders started around the 40-cent mark for the 1972 crop, a fact which area growers haven't forgotten. There's some talk about holding out for 60-cents. Could be a record year for tobacco growers.

### A Deluge of Outlooks

If you wanted to hear prognostications, this was a good week to hear 'em. The Neppco convention in Hershey was awash with predictions for the future, beginning with U. S. Under Secretary of Agriculture J. Phil Campbell. Lou Moore was his usual entertaining and informative self Wednesday night at a hog and cattle outlook session at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center, and there was even a little crystal balling at the Shaver seminar on Monday at the Ramada Inn.

Perhaps one of the most listened-to speakers at the Neppco convention was John H. Frazier, Jr., president of the National Grain and Feed Association, and a partner in Hennesy & Associates, Chicago. Frazier is a respected spokesman for the feed industry, and his views on future developments are said to be more often right than wrong.

Frazier sees an abundance of corn, wheat and soybeans next year, and says that one of the most important factors in the marketplace will be a tremendous wheat harvest in Russia. "The Russians are going to harvest 47 million tons of wheat more than they did last year," Frazier told the poultrymen. "That's up 1.8 billion bushels, or an increase that's bigger than our entire wheat crop. They spill more wheat than we grow," he said. Frazier pointed out that the good Russian crop will take a lot of pressure off domestic wheat prices.

Nor does Frazier see any problems with the corn and soybean supplies. Soybean harvests in the major producing states are 90 percent harvested, he pointed out, so that this year there'll be very few beans left to mold in the fields. A plus factor in this year's crop is the low moisture content of the beans as they come from the fields. Excellent harvesting weather dried the beans down nicely, Frazier pointed out, and he expects Midwest fuel requirements for crop drying to be down some 50 percent from last year.

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## Poultry Producers Flock To Hershey

Poultrymen were wise indeed to shun export controls on the feedgrains they use in their production, unlike producers in other farm industries, the nation's second ranking federal farm official told egg producers this week.

"Poultrymen know that export controls are simply another form of price controls and that the imposition of price controls on an industry's raw material also will, in all fairness, mean price controls on its products," U.S. Undersecretary of Agriculture J. Phil Campbell told 300 poultry leaders at the 14-state convention of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO) at the Hershey Hotel Tuesday.

Egg producers and allied industry from throughout the northeast came together for three days to view the latest in poultry equipment, products and available services and to hear top experts on subjects ranging from new promotional ideas to outlook in the industry to the use of dried poultry manure as a vital, nutritional feedstuff for poultry. Educational sessions were at the Hotel Hershey and the commercial exposition at the nearby Hersheypark Arena.

"And where do we go from there?" Campbell asked. "I think we have learned by now what havoc price controls can wreak on an economy, how they discourage production and cut back on supplies.

"Continually cheap grain means continually cheap broilers and the poultry industry knows this. The cattle and swine industries learned it a long time ago. And prices that will bankrupt producers will bankrupt the flow of supplies in very short order."

Campbell pointed out that prospects for continued growth in

demand for poultry products remain bright. Trends indicate, he said, that the consumption of poultry meat will increase from last year's 52 pounds per person to 62 pounds by 1985 in the United States. Prospects are bright, too, he observed, for poultry consumption, especially in the more developed nations, because of the growing affluence of consumers in those lands.

"Without exports, American farmers last year would have had

to cut their rice production by two-thirds, their wheat production by nearly 75 percent, their soybean production in half, their tobacco and cotton production by 40 percent and their feed grains a third.

"There can be no doubt—policies that cut back production and prevent American farmers from operating at their optimum efficiency—are forces that operate to push prices upward."

National associations promoting the consumption of eggs, chicken and turkeys would like to spend a little less and enjoy it more — by enticing

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### Farm Calendar

Saturday, November 3  
Holstein State Office Open House,  
State College.

Monday, November 5  
7:30 p.m. - Agway Garden Spot  
Annual meeting, Farm and  
Home Center.

Tuesday, November 6  
9:30 a.m. - Chester County  
Extension Workshop, Men's  
Knit Jacket, Malvern.

6:45 p.m. - Lancaster County  
Holstein Association Annual  
meeting and banquet, Good 'n  
Plenty Restaurant,  
Smoketown.

7:30 p.m. - Ephrata Young  
Farmers Officers meeting,  
Ephrata Junior High School  
ag office.

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## 4-H'ers Cited During Annual Dairy Banquet

A smiling Donna Akers left the annual 4-H Dairy Awards banquet Thursday night with not one, but two, silver trays. The Solanco sophomore turned in the year's best 4-H dairy project book, and for that achievement received a trophy from Richard Stein, representing John W. Eshelman and Sons, Inc. Donna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Akers, Quarryville.

Four other youngsters were also honored for their efforts at producing good project books and they, along with Donna, received silver trays from Robert Gregory, representing Pennfield Corporation.

The other four winners who were surprised and honored at the banquet were: Brenda

Eshleman, 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Eshleman, Elizabethtown RD1; Debbie Crider, Little Britain; Barbara Aaron, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Aaron, Quarryville RD1; and Warren Schmuck, 16-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. Larry Schmuck, Peach Bottom RD2.

A total of 68 4-H'ers were honored for scoring 35 points or more out of a possible 45 points. About 260 4-H'ers, parents and sponsors attended the banquet.

Numerous other awards were also presented at the banquet. Following is a list, by category, of those receiving trophies.

Junior Showmanship—Rhonda Shope, Elizabethtown, Ayrshire; Judy Witmer, Willow Street,

Brown Swiss, Carol Balmer, Lititz, Guernsey; Karen Schmuck, Peach Bottom, Jersey; Cathy Geroge, Lancaster, grand champion junior showman.

Senior Showmanship—Linda Sue Witmer, Willow Street, grand champion senior showman; Warren Schmuck, Peach Bottom, Ayrshire; Marlin Stoltzfus, Ronks, Guernsey; Rhoda Stauffer, Ephrata, Holstein; Larry Aaron, Quarryville, Jersey.

Junior Breed Champions at County Round-Up—Russell Wilson, Elizabethtown, Ayrshire; Lois Wanner, Narvon, Brown Swiss; Mary Kirk, Peach Bottom, Guernsey; Sandra Frey, Beaver Valley Road, Lancaster,

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Donna Akers accepts a silver tray for having the year's best 4-H dairy project book Thursday night during the annual 4-H dairy awards banquet at the Good 'n Plenty Restaurant, Smoketown. Presenting the award is Richard Stein of the John W. Eshelman feed company.