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Acreage and Livestock Surveys Going To Farmers

A major Department of Agriculture data gathering effort of the year kicks off May 22 - and riding on the interviews with 70,000 farmers and mail contact with thousands of others will be indicators of the nation's 1974 crop acreages, and livestock and poultry members.

Soaring demand for U. S. farm commodities at home and abroad is focusing attention on current agricultural data. The virtual turn-around in production conditions - from too much to too little - which has occurred in the past 2 years has heightened interest in 1974 prospects for farm commodities.

W. J. Fluke, in charge of the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service, explained that farmers' cooperation in the June Acreage and Livestock Surveys will provide farmers, the agricultural industry and the public information on prospective supplies of farm commodities for domestic consumption and export during 1974-75. Producers' answers to livestock and poultry questions will help establish cattle, sheep, hog and chicken numbers, cattle on feed, calf and pig crops, and farrowing intentions for the second half of the year. All of these indicate prospective supplies of

meat, milk and eggs, along with the need for grain and forage to produce livestock products. Answers to questions on crop acreages relate to prospective supplies of feed and forage, as well as food crops for domestic and foreign markets.

The crop acreage report based on the upcoming May 22 - June 4 survey will be released by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service July 11, estimates on livestock will be published starting with the Hogs and Pigs Report June 21.

Farmers Fair Set in Palmyra

Members of a committee planning a Palmyra Farmers Fair have plans in high gear. This event is scheduled for June 6-9 at the Firemen's Park.

Kicking off the opening night program will be Frankie Dee from WAHT Radio with his country and western program. In addition plans are to have carnival rides and amusements for young and old.

Among activities planned is a greased pig race for children. Taking a cue from the saying of looking for a needle in a haystack, they plan a contest for children to seek silver dollars in the haystack.

Local clubs have been contacted to assist with livestock shows and plans are being made for ladies to

participate in cooking and baking contests with ribbons to be awarded for all events

Country and western programs will be featured each day. Plans are underway for several other contests to be conducted during the event which will continue on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening, and Sunday afternoon.

Craig Rothermel is chairman for the event. Committee members include Jay Arnold, Warren Lewis, Terry Von Nieda, James Spittler and Scott Zellers of the sponsoring Palmyra Jaycees.

Farm Machinery

Higher farm income in 1973 resulted in considerable increase in the purchase of major farm machinery. If these machines were needed to reduce labor costs or to improve efficiency, there is no argument of the merits of the purchases. If they were purchased to reduce taxes, it may be false economics. The farmer may have saved 30 custom work has considerable merit and could reduce production costs.

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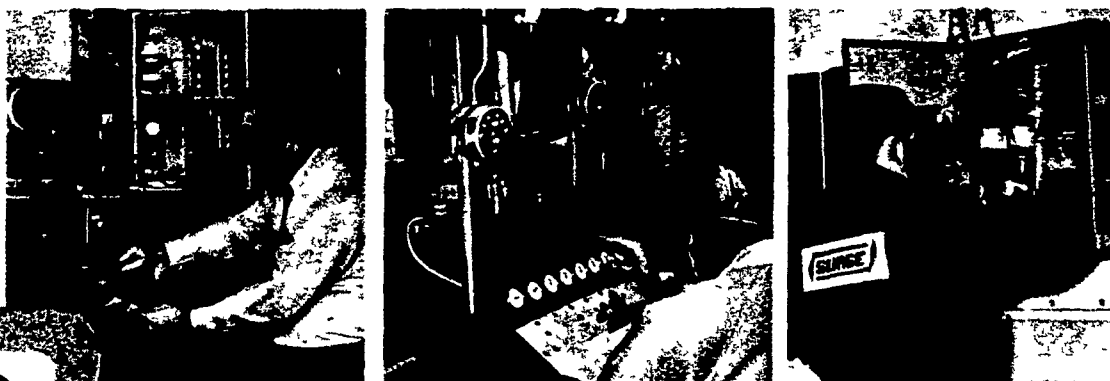
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