

Certain Farm Workers To Have Minimum Wage

Under the amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act, which became effective May 1, many farm employers are required to meet new minimum wage standards.

The new wage rates apply to farm laborers working for employers who used more than 500 man-days of farm labor in any calendar quarter of the preceding year. "Man-day" is interpreted as any day during which an employee performs

agricultural labor for at least one hour.

The minimum for approximately 88,000 farm workers previously entitled to \$1.30 an hour was increased to \$1.60 on May 1.

Future increases will bring their minimum to \$1.60 on Jan. 1, 1976; \$2.00, Jan. 1, 1978; \$2.20, Jan. 1, 1977; and \$2.30 on Jan. 1, 1978.

A total of 538,000 farm workers are now entitled to minimum wage protection. Although commuting hand

harvest workers paid on a piece rate basis continue to be exempted from minimum wage requirements, they now must be included in the 500 man-days count.

Farm workers who continue to be exempt from minimum wage coverage include:

- Members of the employer's immediate family
- Hand harvesters who are paid on a piece rate basis provided that 1) they commute daily from their homes to their places of employment and 2) they have been employed in agriculture less than 13 weeks during the previous calendar year.

- Migrant hand harvesters 16 years of age or under who are employed on the same farm as their parents provided that 1) they are paid on a piece rate basis and 2) the piece rate is the same as paid to workers over 16 years of age on the same farm.

- Employees principally engaged in range production of livestock.

In addition, certain full-time students and handicapped workers may be employed at rates less than the statutory minimum wage under specially-issued certificates.



Lancaster County's 4-H County Council met May 15 at the Farm and Home Center to elect officers for the 1974-75 term, and to lay plans for a council-sponsored roller-skating party June 12 at the Overlook Rink near Neffsville. All 4-H'ers and their friends are invited to the party, which

lasts from 7:00 to 10:00 and costs \$1.00. The officers elected during the meeting were co-presidents Joseph Lefever and Christine Erb, seated. Standing, left to right, are Betty Jo Bitler, assistant secretary, Gary Akers, treasurer, and Karen Greider, secretary.

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FARM PAINTING

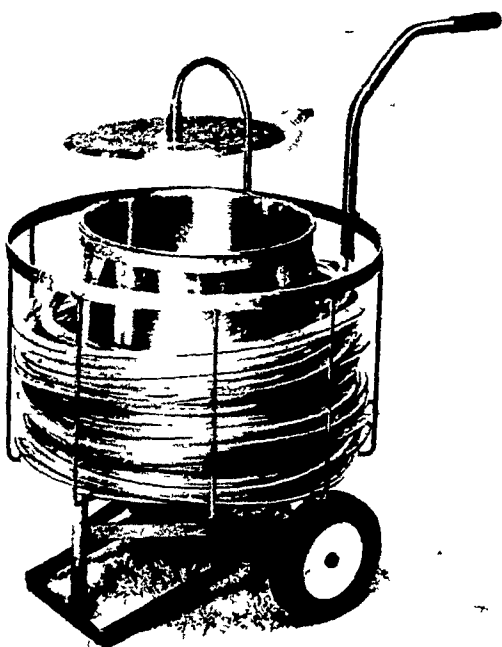
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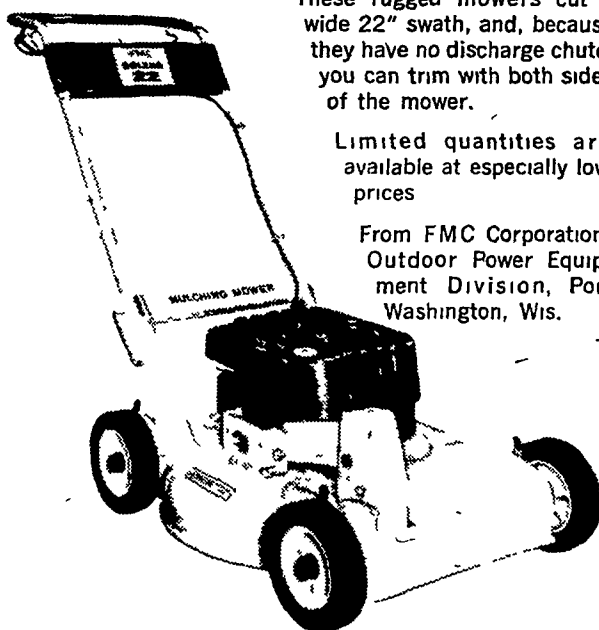
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