

## Roger Platt Named Crop Production Winner

Roger L. Platt, a 20 year-old high school graduate from Berlin, has been named state champion in the 1974 FFA Crop Production Proficiency Award program. As the Pennsylvania champion, Platt is now eligible to compete against other state winners for regional and national honors. The Future Farmers

of America Crop Production Proficiency Award program is sponsored by the Producers of Funk's G-Hybrids in cooperation with the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

The award program applicants are judged on their crop production during the previous year. In addition to production, other criteria

includes leadership development, overall achievements in FFA work, the scope of the individual's supervised crop program, his inventory, skills and competencies developed. Also considered by the judges are a complete financial statement, experience in marketing, activities related to the crop program, full supporting evidence, school and community activities.

Platt's Crop Production program in 1973 consisted of 215 acres of haylage and silage corn. His 115 acres of haylage averaged 7.7 tons per acre. One-hundred acres of corn for silage averaged 20 tons per acre.

Both the haylage and corn are sold to his father as dairy cattle feed.

For 1974, Platt has switched from silage to 100 acres of high moisture ground ear corn. He states, "I feel if I feed high moisture ground ear corn, I can cut way back on grain which has to be purchased."

Work in the crop production program has shown Platt the value of a good set of farm records. "With good records, I can look back at the end of the year and tell which projects were the most profitable within my operation."

Platt has formed a partnership with his father on the 325 acre home farm. He rents the land used in his crop program. Under the partnership agreement, young Platt has a 50 percent interest in machinery and equipment on the farm. They maintain a 100 head dairy operation.

"I think the signs for my future in agriculture are good," he says. "While there are a number of discouraging signs, one of the good ones is that this country will have to have food and that will make the farmer increasingly im-

portant in our economic setup."

Platt and other FFA Crop Production Proficiency Award program winners from states throughout the nation will be judged for regional or national honors. Announcement of the top four individuals in the

country will be made at the 47th National FFA Convention in Kansas City in October.

Platt is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde L. Platt, R4, Berlin, Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Brothersvalley FFA Chapter -- Doyle E. Paul, Advisor.

## Twin Valley FFA'ers Compete at Dairy Show

Two members of the Twin Valley Future Farmers of America participated in the South Eastern Pennsylvania Regional Dairy Show held recently in Harrisburg. Pennsylvania state FFA secretary Terry Murray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Samuels of Honey Brook, exhibited his Ayrshire junior yearling TOWER VIEW FLASHY HAZELTINE and his Ayrshire two year old cow CONEBELLA COUNT'S DOROTHY. Eleventh grader Larry Stoltzfus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stoltzfus of RD1 Elverson, exhibited his Holstein intermediate calf BROOK-HONEY NEEDLE ADA. Terry's Hazeltime animal received a blue ribbon and was selected as Junior Ayrshire Champion. Terry's Dorothy animal also received a blue ribbon. In addition Terry received fitting and showmanship ribbons. Larry received a red ribbon for his animal and

also a fitting ribbon. All animals receiving blue ribbons are eligible to be shown at the Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show later this month in Harrisburg. The animal which Larry exhibited is a chapter chain animal donated to the chapter by former chapter President and Pa. Sentinel Nevin Mast. The purpose of a chain animal is to get a young member interested in raising and showing dairy animals.

While Terry and Larry were competing in Harrisburg, the chapter window display entitled "SOYBEANS - FOOD, FEED, FUTURE" was on display at the Reading Fair. The exhibit, which shows some of the numerous uses of soybeans in food products and in industry, received first place in its class. It had previously received fourth place at the Kutztown Fair.

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