

Wheat causing confusion, concern

By Dieter Krieg
LANCASTER — With hot and reasonably dry weather finally arriving in the area, wheat growers in southeastern Pennsylvania wasted no time in climbing aboard their combines and

are at long last bringing in their crop.

As noted in a story on page one, the wheat situation is critical, and millers did report instances of diseased wheat arriving at their facilities. Don Parks of PennAg Industries, who released the news item, added in a telephone interview that out of 11 grain samples sent to USDA for testing, seven had evidence of tombstone blight.

Tests showed that the samples were affected with the disease up to a level of 2½ per cent. "The literature indicates that a five per cent level is dangerous," Parkes noted. He emphasized his concern over these developments, adding that

the danger could increase even further if wheat is stored and toxic substances develop. He cautioned farmers who are thinking of feeding their feed to livestock and poultry.

This week's survey of the wheat harvest indicates again that yields are lower — in some cases a loss of 40 and even 50 per cent is reported. Test weights are also lower, approximately 40 to 45 pounds per bushel.

A spokesman from Pennfield's York mill estimated that 40 per cent of the wheat in his county is still out. While damage is widespread, the amount of sprouting and disease reported is not too serious at this point. The spokesman

believed 90 per cent of the crop could still go for flour.

Commenting on the incidence of disease in York County fields, the spokesman said "there's quite a bit of it around." He observed that York County farmers had cut wheat prior to the Fourth of July, and the crop showed damage even then and was light in weight.

Lancaster County millers are requesting that farmers dry their wheat. One miller expressed surprise that damage of wheat coming to his mill was not more severe. "It is not as much as we expected," he said. However, it is considerably lower in weight, shrinkage, yield and quality than normal.

The wheat harvest in Lancaster County is expected to average approximately 40 to 50 bushels per acre, according to reports received by Lancaster Farming. About one third of the fields remained unharvested on Thursday, estimates indicated.

Another York County miller described the wheat coming to his mill as being "very poor" — low in weight and high in moisture. "We wanted to be very particular about what we take," he continued, "and we didn't want to be taking wheat that's sprouting, but we had to." He opinionized that the southern parts of the county were in worse shape than northern sections. "We can't get a lot of it," he said disappointedly.

Farmers are in a state of confusion, according to some grain handlers, because they're faced with refusals at the mill and seed outlets. Early varieties of wheat are reportedly hardest hit. "The longer you let it go, the worse it's going to get," the dealer concluded.



Elected to the office of sentennial at Cedar Crest High School FFA, Ray will be making sure that the transactions are carried out properly.



Ray Moyer, an FFA'er from Cedar Crest High School in Lebanon, has been active in corn and dairy projects.

Lebanon pullers listed

(Continued from Page 1)

Results of Lebanon Valley Tractor Puller held Friday, July 18.

5000

1st - Joe Schott, Lebanon;
2nd - Larry Frey, Conestoga.

7000 lb.

1st - Harry Frey, Conestoga; 2nd - Charles Bomgardner, Annville; 3rd - David Frey, Conestoga; 4th - Joe Schott, Lebanon; 5th - Roger Frey, Conestoga.

9000 lb.

1st - Craig Frey, Conestoga; 2nd - Herb Frey, Marietta; 3rd - Curt Stoltz, Lebanon.

12,000 lb.

1st - Robert Myer, Womelsdorf; 2nd - Paul Kreider, Lebanon; 3rd - Lester Lansing, Lebanon; 4th - Joe Schott, Lebanon; 5th - Robert Myer, Womelsdorf.

1st - Tom Bedgar, Freeland, MD; 2nd - Gene Martin, Lebanon; 3rd - Robert Myer, Womelsdorf; 4th - John Risser, Hershey; 5th - Paul Kreider, Palmyra.

15,000 lb.

1st - Tom Bedgar; 2nd - Charles Lefever, Landisville; 3rd - John Risser, Hershey; 4th - Harry Frey, Marietta; 5th - Erwin Engle, Marietta; 6th - Cyrus Bomberger, Lebanon.

18,000 Turbo

1st - John Risser, Hershey; 2nd - John Leeper, no address; 3rd - Charles Lefever, Landisville.

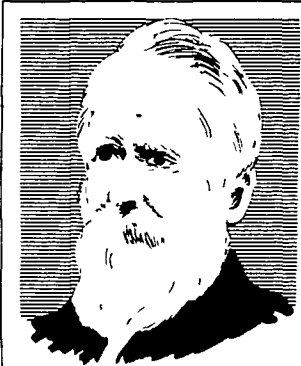
Lebanon

also about the different clubs from across the country." One of the main discussions of interest to Ray were the many ideas put forth on increasing membership.

Asked what he might consider some areas of FFA that needed improvement, Ray answered, "I think it would be nice to have more projects available for members." "There are a lot more today than before but there are also more interests."

Ray will no doubt be using some of his ideas, gained at the conference, as the new school year begins. For as chapter parliamentarian, the youth will be asked to make sure that all transactions are carried out in the proper and correct manner.

Until school begins, American Viewpoints



He serves his party best who serves his country best
Rutherford B. Hayes
1877

however, Ray will continue working on his parents dairy farm.

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