



Checking the unique blower-seeder, are left to right, Karl Hellerick, district soil conservationist; Donald Bollinger, SCS director; John Henszey, Chevron

Chemical Co.; H. J. McElroy, San Francisco Chevron Co.; and Newton Bair, Lebanon County agricultural agent.

## New seeder developed

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devised to regulate the flow and the seeder was born.

Preliminary tests indicate the machine is capable of blowing seeds a distance of 60 feet and distributing them evenly. Thus, a strip 120 feet wide can be seeded in only one trip around the field. The seeding rate was between two-and-a-half and three pounds per acre.

The unique cover crop seeding machine will be exhibited at the Lebanon Area Fair next week, August 11 to 15. A working demonstration is planned for Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

The four originators of the blower-seeder calculated the rate of flow needed to

achieve a seeding rate of three bushels per acre by taking ground speed, blower speed and blowing distance into consideration. In experiments, the rate of flow for a 2.5 bushel seeding rate was found to be one bushel per minute while ground speed was constant at three miles per hour. It was found that a valve one and a half inches in diameter allowed clean rye seed to flow freely into the blower at prescribed rates. Damage to kernels was very minimal with large blowers, and not enough for concern when smaller blowers were used.

Detailed information and plans for the device may be obtained from the Lebanon County Extension Service,

located in Room 11 of the Municipal Building in Lebanon. The Extension exhibit at the Lebanon Fair will also make plans for the blower-seeder available.

### Eggs

Cook eggs at low to moderate temperatures, high temperatures and overcooking toughen eggs. Left over egg whites may be held a week to ten days if they are stored in a tightly covered container.

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## Early Haymaking Was a Tough Time-Consuming Task on Farm

A vignette of early haymaking illustrates the advancements that have characterized the historical march of American agriculture.

Haymaking was controlled by the weather and largely performed by the calendar in June or July. Early Saxon calendars listed July as "Heumonath," or hay-month.

Early farmers vigorously debated the best time to cut hay. Some said it was best when the grasses are in flower and others advocated waiting until the grasses went to seed. They didn't have studies to tell them that haying should begin with the early bud stage to take advantage of top nutritive qualities.



Man and scythe were the early hay cutters.

The most skilled of the haymakers were the mowers. Each was armed with his own scythe, suited for his personal height and stature. They set out at early dawn when the dew was thick on the grass.

Their movement through a field was governed by the way the grass leaned or was blown by the wind. The grass should always lean away from the mower.

A good mower averaged about an acre a day, depending on the type of crop. He was instructed to cut as close to the ground as possible since the greatest weight of the stem was nearest the ground. Farmers had no research to tell them that the leaves, particularly in clovers, contained the most nutrition.

But even early farmers recognized the importance of drying the hay quickly and thoroughly. Shortly after the hay was cut, it was shaken out and teded manually once or twice the first day. Towards evening, rakers armed with crude, wood implements gathered the hay in long narrow wind-rows. Then, before nightfall, it was placed in small heaps for protection against dew or rain.

On the second day, as soon as the dew was off the grass, the hay was shaken and teded again. In the afternoon, the rakers returned again and put it in larger heaps for the second night.

This process continued each day until the hay was dried enough for placing in stacks.

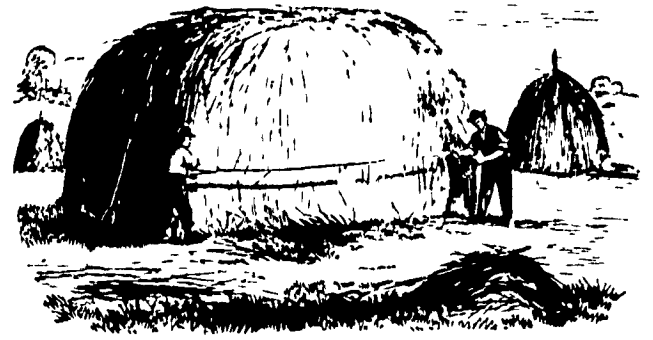
Usually, five other people were needed to work the hay cut by a mower. These included tedders, rakers, loaders, pitchers and stackers. A superintendent directed their work from field to field, often racing against gathering storm clouds.

Compare these pastoral, but impractical haying scenes with the modern methods of today.

Now, one man equipped with a Haybine mower-conditioner can cut, condition and place hay in a windrow or swath all in a single operation.

Later, that same man can operate an efficient baler to package the hay that is dried in a fraction of the time it once took. A bale thrower can make his baler even more efficient by throwing the finished bales into a trailing wagon.

Or an automatic bale wagon again operated by one



Huge hay stacks were measurement of good growing season.



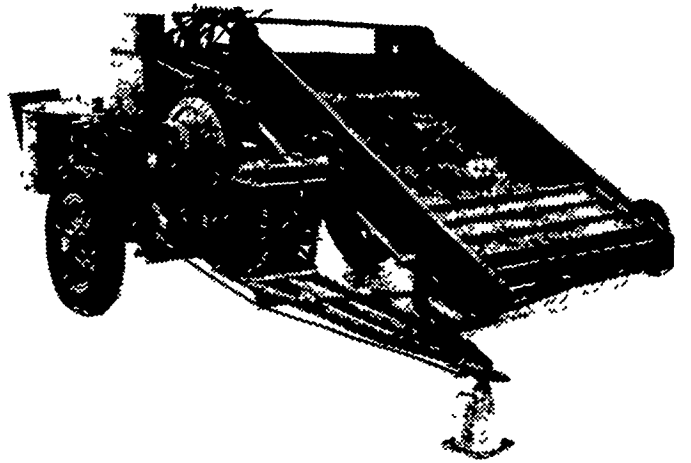
man, can move through field after field picking up, loading, hauling and stacking bales for storage.

If large round bales are desired, modern machinery equipped with rugged conveyor chains can roll the hay into large cylinders suitable for outside storage.

In early days, the farmer

had few alternatives concerning haying. He was completely at the mercy of the weather and the number of good strong workers he could find.

Today, a variety of efficient, modern machinery has eliminated the labor problem and has taken a lot of worry out of the concern about the weather.



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