



Ag.

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## Quality hay may be scarce

By Dieter Krieg

Good quality hay may be scarce this year, according to reports gathered in Delta, Manheim, The Brogue, and New Holland. The crop does not seem to be as plentiful this year due to wet weather, some disease problems, insects, and poor growth. Prices are high.

Paul Hively, farmer and hay dealer at The Brogue, York County, says he has been receiving calls every week from people who need and want hay, indicating that their

own crops have not done as well as in previous years. He buys most of his hay in southern York County and sells in an area which includes Lancaster County and northern Maryland communities.

"It seems like a disease got into the alfalfa," Hively remarked. The disease, anthracnose, has been reported over many parts of southeastern Pennsylvania and is cutting yields considerably. Characterized by plants turning yellow and wilting, it has become a prime target for research at Penn State University.

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## Tobacco surprises growers

By Dieter Krieg

In spite of isolated reports of black shank disease, and early fears of a poor crop, most Lancaster County tobacco growers are being pleasantly surprised by their yields. It is not by any means as good as last year's crop, they report, but it's better than what they expected. Yields range from "half of last year's crop" to a ton per acre. This information is based on talks with farmers in the Lititz, Manheim, New Danville, Strasburg,

Lancaster, Paradise and New Holland areas.

Black Shank disease has affected some county fields, and the situation is described as "worrisome" to say the least. It is contagious, and if not contained or eliminated, it could easily spell disaster for Lancaster County tobacco growers. An estimated five percent of the crop is affected with the fungus disease, with most reported cases coming from eastern portions of the county.

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## Tomatoes ripening fast

By Dieter Krieg

The biggest problem with tomatoes this year is getting them in at the right stage, says Don Snyder of Snyder's Packing Company, Delta. The York County firm is presently swamped with tomatoes. The big shipments at the cannery are not necessarily due to a large harvest, however. High temperatures have brought on faster than usual ripening, and if it keeps up, the tomato picking season may be shortened somewhat.

The 1975 crop is not as big as last year's, a development which most growers blame on the weather. Quality is down slightly and prices have dropped. Our report comes from Delta and The Buck.

Robert Findley grows several fields of tomatoes between The Buck and Rawlinsville in Lancaster County. He reports that he's getting a "fair crop" compared to last

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## Meats judge wins at state

By Melissa Piper

HEMPFIELD — Cathy Brubaker has been a busy young lady this summer serving as an officer on three 4-H clubs and also being a member of the Lancaster County Meats Judging Team.

Cathy, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glen S. Brubaker, 345 Running Pump Rd., has been a member of the Red Rose Baby Beef Club for the past several years and this year served the club as the secretary.

Although raising beef has been a favorite project of the 4-Hers, Cathy has also been a member of the Landisville 4-

H Sewing Club and served as president for that organization this summer. And although being an officer for two clubs kept her busy, Cathy was also elected as secretary of the county council.

"It was a lot of work, but I enjoy being in 4-H and

helping out," she noted.

"There was a lot to do in County Council as we helped plan a lot of the county activities such as Achievement day and dress revue."

Although a participant herself, Cathy helped to coordinate the dress revue for county 4-Hers and

narrated the program and fashion show. For achievement day, the young lady helped in the food stand which occupied almost a whole day.

While her counties activities kept her quite busy, Cathy also agreed to be on the meats judging team for which competed at Penn State during 4-H State Days.

"I had practiced last year and two years ago for meats judging team but there were never enough interested 4-Hers to make a team."

"This year we had enough people interested and decided to give it a try." "We didn't have a whole lot of

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