

Earl Butz urges farmers to get on conservation bandwagon

WASHINGTON - Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz last week called on farmers and ranchers to make a "personal commitment" to apply soil and water conservation practices during the coming crop year.

"Soil erosion from wind and water is still a serious threat to stepped-up food

production so essential to this country and to the world," Secretary Butz declared.

Though hundreds of thousands of farm operators already have become voluntary "conservation cooperators" with their local conservation districts and applied conservation practices "thousands more

farmers and ranchers need to take this step this year," he said.

The Secretary pointed out that "the personal investment a farmer makes in conservation usually increases the value of his farm. It's money well spent by the farmer."

The Secretary warned that "if we don't find a way to get the job done on a voluntary basis, somebody is going to try to make soil conservation a mandatory thing - and that could turn into a bureaucratic nightmare."

"The goal for the nation," Secretary Butz said, "is to preserve and improve our capacity to produce food and fiber and to help clean up our lakes and streams."

He added that a "commitment to conservation" also is needed from land developers and builders, "since construction projects also are subject to serve soil erosion if left unprotected."

Secretary Butz declared that "a conservation crusade would require no new agency to put it into effect, since leadership is already there" in some 3,000 local conservation districts.

"The research, experience, and technical help also is there Soil Conservation Service scientists and technicians, county extension agents, and others.

"What is needed now is the determination of the men and women who use the land to apply conservation practices - minimum tillage,

strip cropping, contour plowing, terracing, range reseeding, and the like. Farmers also need to keep land in grass and trees that can't be adequately protected as cropland.

"Our farm and ranch lands are the most valuable asset in this country," the Secretary said. "From them comes the food on our tables and the shirts on our backs. They also provide us with our most important export commodities."

But he warned that billions of tons of topsoil continue to be washed or blown away annually through careless farming and construction practices.

"A lot of that soil ends up as sediment in rivers and lakes, polluting water and resulting in expensive dredging bills. We've known for many years how to keep the soil on the land - but too many people haven't bothered to apply the knowledge."

He praised many soil conservation "cooperators" who already practice conservation farming and ranching and asked them to join "in urging their neighbors to get aboard the conservation bandwagon."

"Farmers are always more willing to listen to toher farmers than to so-called experts anyway," the Secretary said.

A voluntary conservation drive of the dimensions the Secretary has in mind could keep an estimated 1 to 2 billion tons of soil on land that might otherwise be eroded away each year.



TIPSY...An old Navy floating drydock 81 feet was squeezed through the 80-foot wide Government Locks between Puget Sound and Lake Union recently by tipping it at a 38 degree list. It will be used to build a fleet of ecology vessels.

NELSON WEAVER & SON

Box 152-R2 Lititz, PA

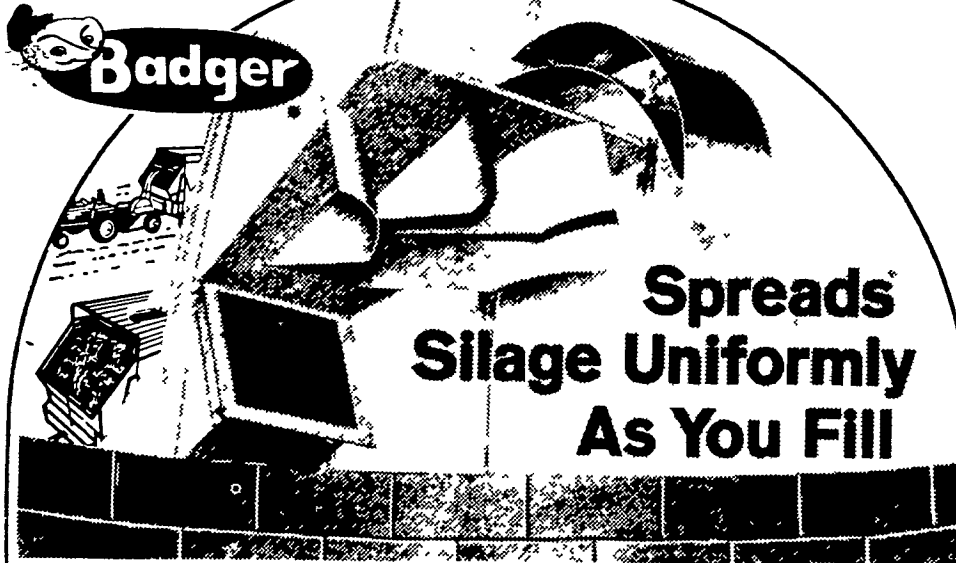
Corn Storage Available

Custom corn drying Also buyer of new corn & soybeans.

49% SOYBEAN MEAL

BULK or BAGGED
PHONE 717-626-8538

FARMING IS BETTER WITH BADGER



Spreads Silage Uniformly As You Fill

BADGER LEVEL-FLO SILAGE SPREADER

Poor silage distribution can give you a silo full of problems. Avoid them by installing a Level-Flo Silage Spreader. It mounts in the roof for permanent installation—lets you fill uniformly to the top. Exclusive design is virtually plug-proof. Spreader hinges up to let you fill roof area. Top quality construction. Models to fit silos up to 30 feet in diameter. Put the Badger Level-Flo Silage Spreader to work in your silo. See me for details.

SHOW-EASE STALL CO.

523 Willow Rd
Lancaster, Pa
Ph 299 2536

RALPH KETTERER

Perkasie, RD 2
Deep Run Road
Ph. [215] 766 8531

GRUMELLI'S FARM SERVICE

Mechanics Grove
Quarryville, Pa
Ph 786 7318

ISAAC W. HURST

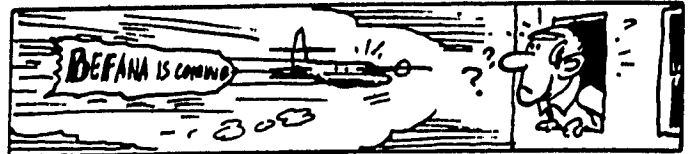
RD #2
East Earl, Pa
Ph [215] 445 5767

CARL L. SHIRK

R.D.#5
Lebanon, Pa
Ph 274 1436

LLOYD E. KREIDER

RD #1
Cochranville, Pa
Ph [215] 932 2934



Befana is the name of the good fairy of Italian children, who is supposed to fill their stockings with toys when they go to bed on Twelfth Night.

Take It From Me...
MOPRO
Liquid Supplement

FOR TODAY'S MOST ECONOMICAL MILK AND BEEF PRODUCTION

VALUE PLUS — COSTS LESS

FULL SERVICE DEALER
MOPRO LIQUID SUPPLEMENT
PENNFIELD FEEDS
AVAILABLE FROM:
ELMER SHREINER
T-A GOOD'S FEED MILL
RD1, NEW PROVIDENCE, PA
PHONE (717) 786-2500

WENGER'S FARM & INDUSTRIAL TOY CENTER



PEDAL TRACTOR WITH TRAILER
INTERNATIONAL — JOHN DEERE — FORD



COLD WEATHER MEANS HARD STARTING
GET YOUR STARTING FLUID

Now SOLD IN CANS OR CASE LOTS

10 SPEED BICYCLES
ONLY A FEW LEFT
\$59

WENGER'S FARM MACHINERY INC.

South Race St.
Myerstown, PA Ph. 717-866-2138