

# Peach situation

(Continued from Page 1) until after April 15," William noted.

With 500 acres of trees to be concerned about, the

Blevinses are happy to report that the erratic spells of warm and chilly weather have thus far created very little damage on their hilly orchard. They report some bud damage from back in January when the mercury dropped to the zero mark, but not much since then. A few cherry buds were also killed off at that time.

Earlier this week Blevins had a crew of 25 men begin pruning work. He admits it's a little late, but notes that the delay is due to their trying to minimize occurrences of "Canker" disease. It'll take an entire month before all of their trees are trimmed.

With the warm weather having continued throughout

the past week, peach trees in the area are now close to "the pink stage." In fact a few are. How they'll do from now on depends largely on how cold it will get and what kind of a wind accompanies those temperatures, Eugene, a former Master Farmer, said. "We feel much better now than we did a month ago, however," both brothers agreed.

At the National Peach Convention last month in Hershey, producers from all over the country indicated that the national crop wouldn't be much better than 75 per cent. Extremely cold weather in northern states had killed off much of the buds, and southern areas were concerned about the early arrival of Spring. New York, for example, lost all of

its peaches due to -68 degrees F. temperature.

The event in Hershey, which was later highly praised by the National Peach Council, was called the largest trade show ever by NPC president Paul McPherson of New Park, York County.

Producers in Hershey had indicated the crop may be short in some areas this year, but according to the Blevinses' report for southern York County, there should be no reason why demand should outstrip the supply here. They believe their 90 per cent estimate for their own orchard is pretty much applicable of others in the area as well.

Explaining the weather situation somewhat, McPherson pointed out that peach trees need 750 to 900

hours of chilled weather — that is below 45 degrees Fahrenheit. Some areas in the South did not have that.

The trend in marketing peaches, if there is one, said McPherson, is towards direct marketing to the consumer. His labor costs have risen approximately 75 per cent in the last four to five years; corrugated boxes are up 200 per cent within the same time span; and transportation costs are up by 40 to 50 per cent. The direct marketing idea has meant more money for the producer and a fresher crop for consumers, he said. He's selling about one-third of his crop directly from the farm and another 10 to 15 per cent to roadside stands.

Approximately 90 to 95 per

cent of the Pennsylvania peach crop is for the fresh market, McPherson said. There is no national check-off program, although individual states do have promotional programs. That and "favorable government regulations" are still big issues in the industry the NPC president said. OSHA regulations have given most producers reason for concern.

## Now is the time

(Continued from Page 10)

you drive toward Harrisburg on Route 283, the large flock of sheep that graze just west of Mount Joy belong to Bill Longenecker, another producer of lambs from western ewes. Local shepherds are to contact me for more information.

### To Use Calf Hutches

The raising of dairy calves is a very important part of local dairy producers; also, this is often a highly neglected practice on too many farms. Our dairy expert in this office, Al Bair, is trying to promote this system of raising calves and I'd like to give him some help. To have a separate hutch for each calf outside and away from the main barn has many merits - the biggest one is that calves are healthier and a higher percentage of them are raised. A recent chat with Abe Barley Jr. at Washington Boro, R1, indicated that Abe and his brother, John, are sold on the calf hutch method and are constructing 50 units for their small calves. Our County Agent Tour into Wisconsin last fall included one of their good dairymen sold on raising his replacements in calf hutches. If a small dairy calf can withstand the weather of Wisconsin, it should be really comfortable in southeastern Pennsylvania.

### To Wait For Dry Soil

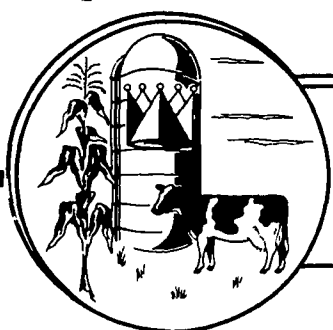
Following church services two weeks ago one of my good garden friends, Ben Funk on Pilgrim Drive, said that he was ready to make garden; the question concerned whether he should go ahead and plant. Since that was the early part of March, I tried to discourage him from doing too much planting at that time. In most cases I doubt if the soil would be dry enough to work up nicely. However, I was surprised earlier this month when Mrs. Dorothy Fry of Stevens R1, Pa. told me that some of her neighbors made garden the last few days in February; how about that for getting "spring fever?" The type of soil and the location of the area would have much to do on how early the soil should be worked; heavy clay soils are slower to dry out and low areas have rather poor drainage. Be patient and allow the soil to dry before working.

### Add Sour Cream

If your mayonnaise is too thick, thin it by adding some sour cream. Never freeze mayonnaise, cold will cause it to separate.

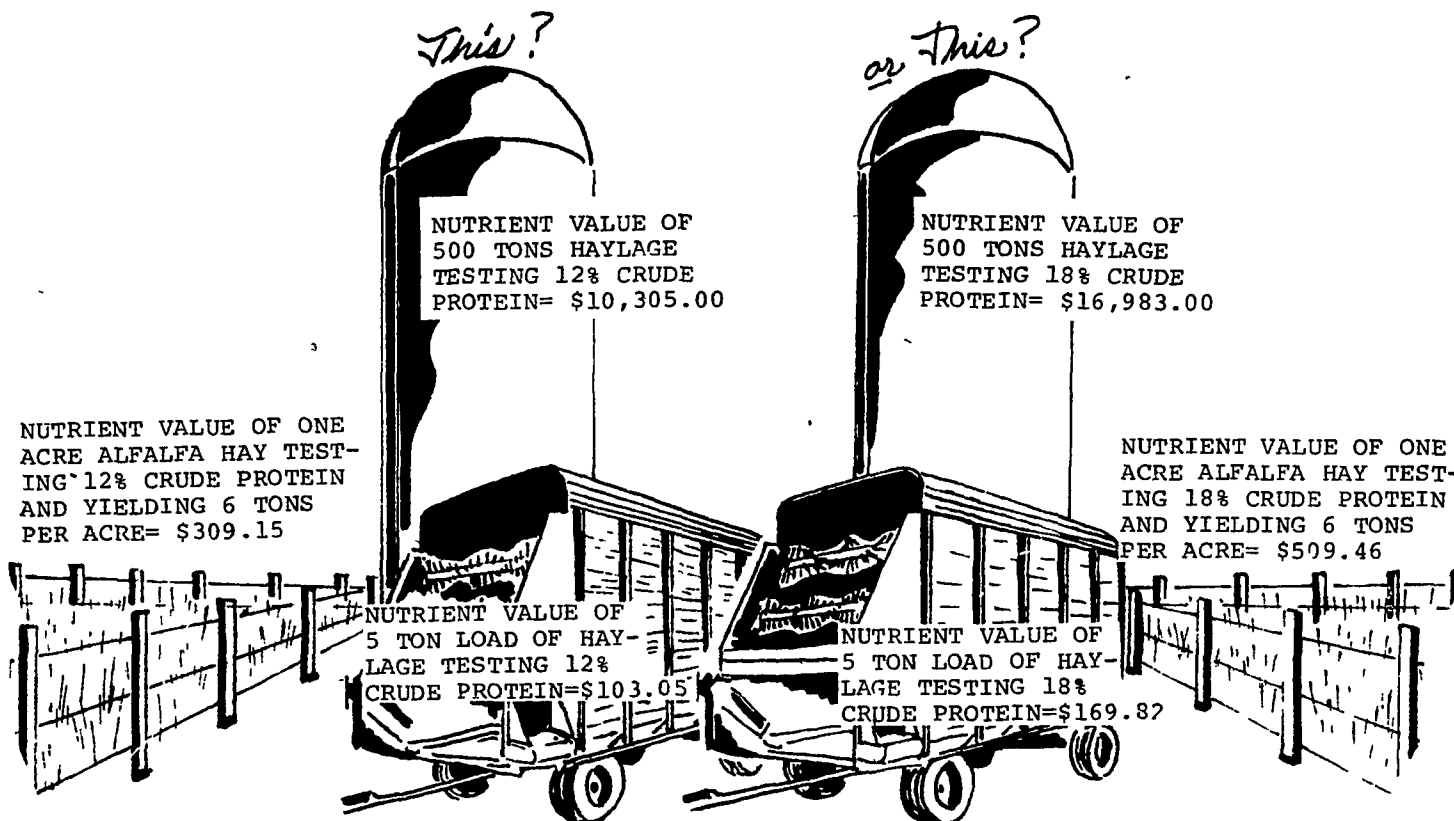
### Simple Solution

To remove burnt-on food from enamelware, boil two tablespoons of baking soda for each quart of water in the utensil.



**AGRI-KING**  
KEY TO PROFIT

# Save Protein In '76



The above examples show approximate loss of actual nutrient feeding values including.....digestible protein, energy, vitamins, and minerals based on soybean meal at \$200.00 per ton and shelled corn at \$1.40 per bushel. Crude protein values are based on 10% dry matter.

PROFIT POTENTIAL OF ALFALFA HAY DESERVES YOUR ATTENTION !

GROW THE PROTEIN YOU NEED, AND SAVE THE PROTEIN YOU GROW ! HOW ??

## HARVEST IT THE AGRI-KING WAY!

## USE SILO-KING . . . IT WILL HELP YOU BEAT THE WEATHER.

This is your last chance to get Silo-King at the low winter price.

At this price you can treat your haylage for as little as 73¢ per ton and your hay for less than \$1.85 per ton.

This opportunity ends March 31, 1976 so contact your local Agri-King serviceman right away.

**Southeastern Penna.**  
George F. DeLong  
Regional Manager  
225 West Woods Drive  
Lititz, PA 17543  
Call Collect 717-626-0261

**Eastern Lancaster Co.**  
Melvin Herr  
RR2 New Holland, PA 17557  
Ph. 717-354-5977

**North Western Lancaster Co.**  
Earl B. Ginder  
RD2, Manheim, PA 17545  
Phone: 717-665-3126

**Southern Lancaster Co.**  
Henry DeLong, Jr.  
RD1 Box 106  
Quarryville, PA 17566  
Phone: 717-284-2683

**Southwestern Lancaster Co.**  
Ben Greenawalt  
RD2, Conestoga, PA 17516  
Phone: 717-872-5686

**Chester Co.**  
William Windle  
RD1, Atglen, PA 19310  
Phone 215-593 6143

**Lebanon Co.**  
Marvin Meyer  
RD2, Box 157  
Annville, PA 17003  
Phone: 717-867-1445

**Northeast Berks Co.**  
Roger Heller  
RD1, Robesonia, PA  
Phone: 215-693-6160

**Lehigh & Northampton Co.**  
Thomas Heist  
Main Street  
Alburtis, PA 18101  
Phone 215 965 5124

**South Central Penna.**  
James L. Yoder  
Regional Manager  
RR1, Box 81  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
Call Collect 717-264-9321

**Adams Co. Area**  
Menno N. Rissler  
RR4, Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Phone: 717-528-4849

**Eastern Franklin Co.**  
Eldon Martin  
RD5, Waynesboro, PA 17268  
Phone 717-762-3576

**Cumberland Co.**  
Martin E. Ebersole  
R5 Carlisle, PA 17013  
Phone: 717-776-7324

**Western Washington Co., Md.**  
Charlie Campbell  
Newville, PA  
Phone: 717-776-7573

**Eastern Washington Co., MD**  
Earl H. Moyer  
RD5, Box 277  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Phone 301-739-5199