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# Water

(Continued from Page 1)

The proposal more or less rejected the map prepared by the state in favor of one prepared by the County. Funk, who serves as vice-chairman of the Lancaster County Conservation District, suggested that the locally prepared map was much more accurate. Under the proposal, urban and suburban "sprawl" would be limited to those areas where it is already taking place.

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The areas would simply be broadened.

Lancaster County's growth pattern was seen developing as a result of the high prices its land is commanding. Quarryville area dairyman, Ken Rutt, commented: "The best farm land is also the best land for development and sewer land."

That situation has caused many farmers to hold out for the top dollar, since developers generally can afford to pay higher prices for land than a farmer could. It was pointed out that some farmers aren't even selling farms to their sons now because they can make a lot more money letting the farm go for houses and shopping centers.

An exception was quickly made as it was noted that the County's Amish communities have retained their farm lands, rather than give way to developers. "And

they've had to sacrifice for it," remarked Aaron Stauffer, chairman of the County's Conservation District.

The group was not by any means opposed to further growth within the County, acknowledging that to do so would be totally unrealistic. But they did attempt to find a program which would strike a happy medium between preserving valuable farm lands while also allowing sewer lines to be extended to more homes.

It was no easy task as questions about what to do with the additional sewage came up, and who would eventually police the plan. In answer to the latter question, Kelso predicted that the Department of Environmental Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency would hold some strings — largely through its funding programs.

Kelso noted, however, that DER is conscious of the need for more discussions on the

local level, which is why this particular meeting and others have been called.

Referred to as the Comprehensive Water Quality Management Planning Program, (COWAMP), the plan is expected to have a major impact in the County. Other counties included in the same district along with Lancaster County are York, Cumberland, Perry, Dauphin, and Lebanon.

The study presently being undertaken is allegedly not much more than "a study of earlier studies." The idea behind it is to have a large water resource planning program for the entire state. What's done within the program will ultimately affect the growth and prosperity of housing developments as well as agriculture.

Most of the comments made Tuesday evening centered around the fact that there's more to "intensive farming" than just the soil itself. Pasture land, orchards, and vineyards on hillsides are examples of "specialized" agricultural lands. Economic and weather conditions are to be taken into consideration.

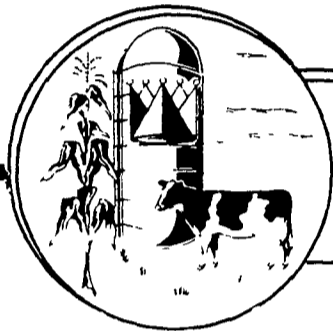
If and when COWAMP goes into effect, it will replace the County's Comprehensive Sewage Plan. Kelso expressed confidence that DER would accept suggestions which came out of the meeting Tuesday evening.

Stauffer remarked at one point that Lancaster County has lots of land suitable for development which can't be farmed. Funk noted that there are 60,000 acres suitable for development within a five-mile radius of Lancaster, but that land isn't being touched. He explained that much of this (both here and elsewhere across the country) is due to developments being built according to what is "cheapest for the short run, rather than best for the long run."

Don Hershey, Manheim area farmer, pointed out that developers frequently buy land outside of town because there's less red tape involved and expenses are considerably cheaper when compared to costs in or adjacent to cities.

One member on the panel noted that the Chamber of Commerce continues to invite industry into the County... does this make sense? "Industry comes because we have a good labor market," replied someone else. Clifford Holloway, Peach Bottom, indicated he had seen reports that when population decreased, taxes went down too.

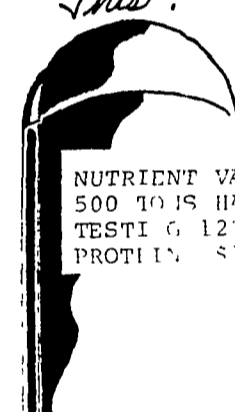
More meetings are to be held later in various parts of the County, concluded Kelso.



## AGRI-KING KEY TO PROFIT

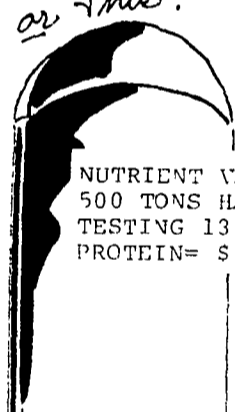
# Save Protein In '76

*This?*



NUTRIENT VALUE OF  
500 TONS HAYLAGE  
TESTING 12% CRUDE  
PROTEIN = \$10,305.00

*or This?*



NUTRIENT VALUE OF  
500 TONS HAYLAGE  
TESTING 13% CRUDE  
PROTEIN = \$16,983.00

NUTRIENT VALUE OF ONE  
ACRE ALFALFA HAY TESTING  
15% CRUDE PROTEIN  
AND YIELDING 6 TONS  
PER ACRE = \$509.45

NUTRIENT VALUE OF  
5 TON LOAD OF HAY-  
LAGE TESTING 12%  
CRUDE PROTEIN = \$103.

NUTRIENT VALUE OF  
5 TON LOAD OF HAY-  
LAGE TESTING 18%  
CRUDE PROTEIN = \$169.30

The above examples show approximate values of crude nutrient factors including... digestible protein, energy, vitamins, and minerals based on soybean meal at \$70.00 per ton, and shell corn at \$1.40 per bushel. Crude protein value is based on 10% dry matter.

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### American Viewpoints



Everyone has his superstitions. One of mine has always been when I started to go anywhere or to do anything never to turn back or to stop until the thing intended was accomplished.

L. Lysses S. Grant