

Fruit fair begins July 28

NORTH EAST - The 1976 Great Lakes Fruit Progress Days, one of the largest outdoor fruit industry shows in the East, is just around the corner with activities scheduled for July 28-29 here in Erie County, according to William Klantz, general chairman of the event.

The biennial show is sponsored by the Erie County Horticultural Society

in cooperation with the Pennsylvania State University. It takes place at the corner of Route 5 and Cemetery Road on the property of Penn State's Agricultural Experiment Station.

The two-day show, open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day, will be bigger and better than ever in 1976. It will attract fruit growers

from Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Michigan and Ontario, Canada.

Many events have been scheduled for the show. Some 100 exhibitors from all over the East will be on hand displaying products vital to fruit production. Everything from "A" to "Z" will be displayed ranging in size from small hand tools to giant mechanical har-

vesters. Equipment demonstrations will be held both days of the shows. A night spraying demonstration using fluorescent dyes will be held on the 28th.

Other events include tours of wineries, Welch, Keystone, grape vineyards and orchards. In addition, wagon tours of research plots at the Agricultural Experimental Station will be available. The tours will be conducted at various times both days.

America's Bicentennial will not be ignored at Fruit Progress Days. A special feature of the show will be an exhibit of antique machinery and equipment used in fruit farming. Other exhibits will feature a variety of topics in home economics and suburban farm operation.

A good old fashioned chicken barbeque will be held in the evening of the 28th. Serving begins at 5 p.m. and ends at 6:30 p.m. Also, the food tent is being operated from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day during the show.

Persons in the market for a used piece of farm equipment should remember and attend the used equip-

ment auction to be held in the afternoon of the 29th beginning at 2 p.m.

For the daring persons in attendance, watch for the Massey-Ferguson hot air balloon, which will be on hand offering rides to the top of a tether and back. Offering an even more spec-

tacular view of the show and adding to the excitement will be a crop spraying helicopter.

All displays and tours are free. Admission is free.

For further information contact the Erie County Horticultural Society, P.O. Box 204, North East, Pa.

Food prices dip slightly

HARRISBURG - Retail food prices in Pennsylvania dipped slightly in June, following two months of sharply rising prices, according to the monthly supermarket survey report released Tuesday by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The average retail cost of 15 "shopping bag" items sampled throughout the Commonwealth in June was \$9.54, a drop of four cents from the \$9.58 average recorded for May. Prices had risen an average of 44 cents from March to May.

The study, prepared by the Department's Bureau of Rural Affairs, showed that the average retail price for June was highest in the northeastern part of the state at \$10.06. The lowest recorded average of \$9.13 was in the southeast central region that includes the

Harrisburg, York, Lancaster area.

Items decreasing in price were, potatoes, from 27 to 17 cents a pound; canned corn, from 35 to 34 cents a pound; shortening, from 58 to 51 cents a pound; bread, from 39 to 38 cents a pound loaf; and a dozen large eggs, 82 to 78 cents.

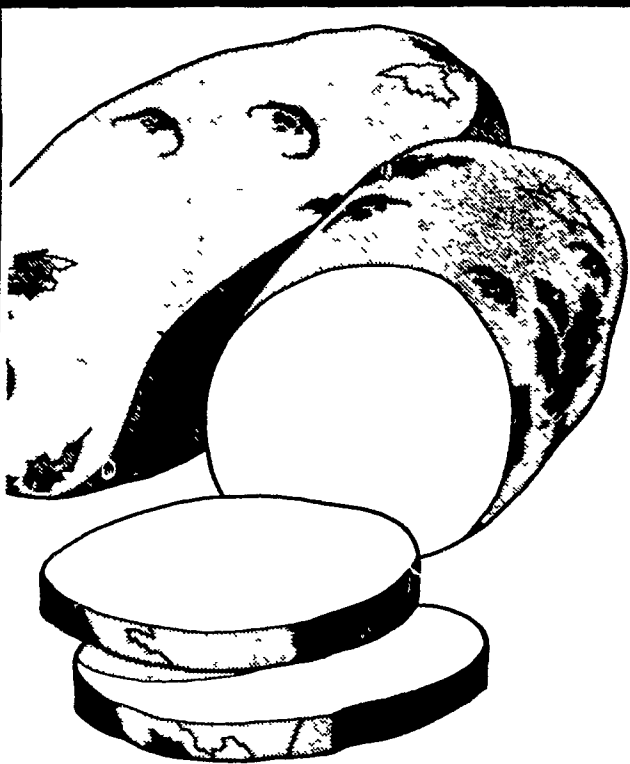
Items increasing in price were, canned peaches, 33 to 34 cents a pound; fresh pears, 47 to 49 cents a pound; coffee, \$1.61 to \$1.67 a pound; cornflakes, 56 to 57 cents a pound; ground beef, 98 cents to \$1 a pound; American cheese, \$1.53 to \$1.55 a pound; and a four roll package of toilet paper, 78 to 79 cents.

Cabbage, sugar and chicken remained about the same in price.

Shoppers in urban stores enjoyed a five percent savings over the cost of the same shopping bag in rural

stores. This price spread percentage has prevailed in previous months. The average price statewide in urban stores in June was \$9.34 compared with \$9.87 in rural stores.

A comparison in prices between storebrand and namebrand items was made with nine of the 15 shopping bag items. Storebrand items averaged a nine percent savings in June with an average cost of \$6.06 compared with \$6.65 for namebrand items. The same percentage spread existed the previous two months.



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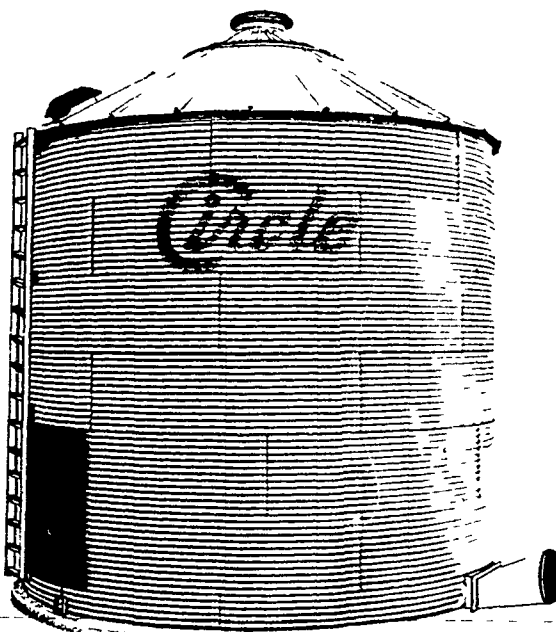
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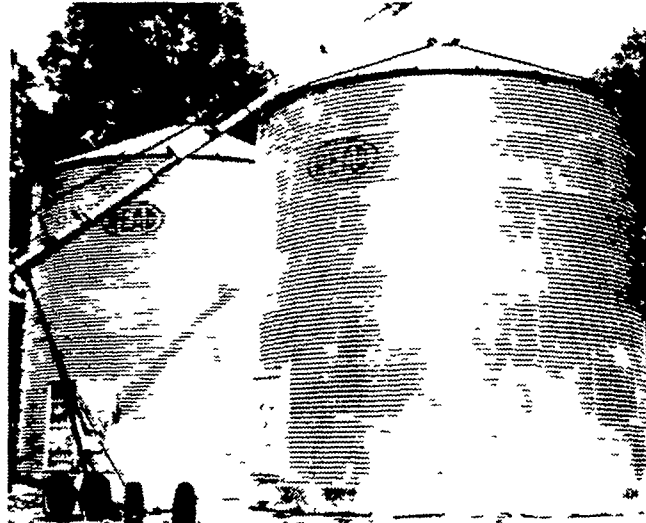
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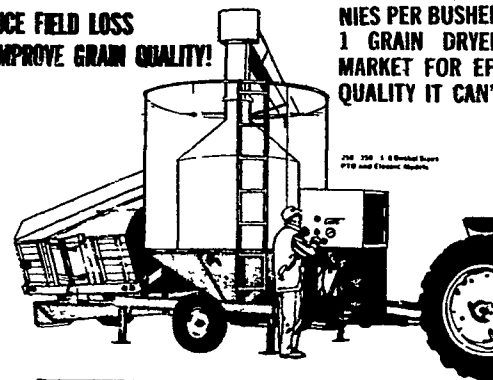
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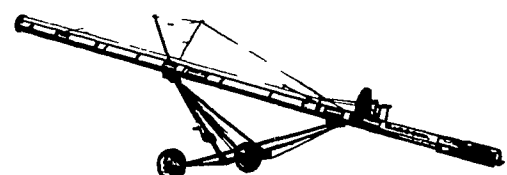
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