



It's been a good year for York County hay growers. Some of the crop got wet, but there was lots of it made and most of it is of good quality. Examining some second cutting alfalfa, above, is David Norman, assistant county agent for York County. There are substantial reports that a fifth cutting of alfalfa is possible, and some even rumor of a sixth crop.

Hay

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Season have made hay fields grow at an unusually rapid pace. Few can recall having made a fifth cutting of alfalfa within the past 10 to 15 years.

According to Paul King and Donald Fantom, both of whom farm in southern York County, hay is definitely in abundance this year in York County. Fantom said "hay is very good in this area." Both farmers raise about 50 acres of alfalfa, and are now in the midst of their third cutting. King described his first cutting as the best of the three since none of it got wet. Fantom put his first cutting in the silo.

The leaf hopper was reported to have been a threat early in the season on the Fantom farm, but a quick spraying program eliminated the pest.

Further north in the County, near East Berlin, the Welsh family farms approximately 1000 acres, of which several hundred are in hay. To date they've put away about 34,000 bales, most of which is timothy. Contrary to reports from alfalfa growers, however, Gary Welsh indicated the quality was good while the crop was short.

Assistant County Agent David Norman described the hay crop this year as "outstanding" as far as yields are concerned and "pretty good" in quality. He credits this year's early season to the possibility that at least 20 per cent of York County farmers may make a fifth cutting.

Most farmers in York County began their first cutting early enough to avoid the rains which have been almost ever-present since early June. Since that time many farmers here, as well as elsewhere throughout the state, have had some of their crop rained on.

Norman, whose original home is in Tioga County, observed that hay seems to be plentiful in southern Pennsylvania, but that there is a shortage of good hay in northern areas.

At the Lehman farm near Wrightsville, the hay mows are full and a fifth cutting is a definite possibility. Approximately 40 acres of alfalfa and 30 acres of clover-timothy are grown here. Lehman described his crop as being "real good" in

still achieve a high rate of fertility.

PMSG and HCG have been registered by the Food and Drug Administration for use in swine; the synthetic releasing hormone has not.



Hay making in York County, with Barry Lehman piloting the rig and neighbor Bill Stoner stacking the bales.

both quality and quantity and added he believed that was true for most everyone in the area.

But the good hay didn't

come along without some problems and extra expenses. Lehman noted he had to spray his fields four times — in April for the

weevil and three times since then for the dreaded leaf hopper. "There were a lot of leaf hoppers around," he said.

Breeding time lessened

COLLEGE STATION, Tex. — Timely injections of hormones could allow sows to be bred three weeks after farrowing without early weaning, according to scientists of USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

In tests at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) in Maryland, ovulation was induced in sows by a single injection of a combination of hormones between the 14th and 17th days of lactation. This was followed by a second injection of an experimental synthetic releasing hormone at one of four doses three

days later. The sows were artificially inseminated 30 hours after the second injection.

Following the second injection at the highest dose, five of seven sows became pregnant.

Hormone induced ovulation in sows would help farmers produce more pigs without resorting to early weaning. Weaning pigs before 21 days of lactation brings sows into estrus (heat) but requires extra costs for housing and management to prevent baby pig losses.

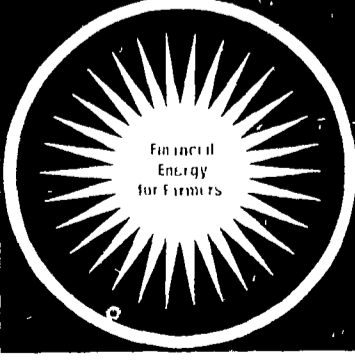
The procedure under study at BARC could also eliminate the necessity of estrus detection because sows could be artificially inseminated after the hormone injections.

Additional experiments will be conducted to determine how soon after farrowing the hormone injections can be given and

Farm Calendar

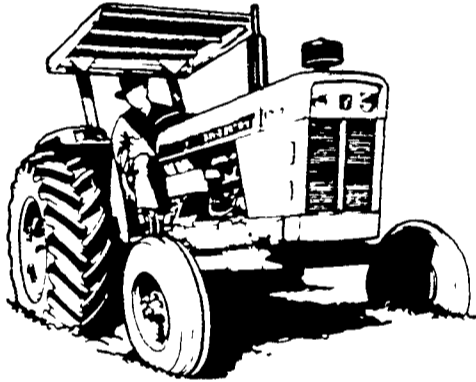

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- County Council meets, 7:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center. Officers asked to arrive by 7:15. Will be preparing for County Achievement Day on Thursday.
- State Plowing Contest at Ag Progress Show, Rock Springs, near Penn State Thursday, Aug. 26
- Ag Progress Show continues at Penn State Research Farm, Rock Springs.
- Lancaster County 4-H Achievement Day, Farm and Home Center. Enter exhibits between 1 and 2 p.m.; 2-5 p.m. afternoon programs; 5-6 p.m. 4-H supper; 4:30-7 p.m. viewing of 4-H exhibits; 7 p.m. evening program in the auditorium.
- Friday, Aug. 27
- Lancaster County Poultry Outing to Mt. Gretna, 6 p.m.



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TRACTOR DEMO DAY

CASE

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Tues., Aug. 31	Wed., Sept. 1	Fri., Sept. 3

3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

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