

# Corn is measuring up to expectations

By DIETER KRIEG

An exceptionally favorable growing season, coupled with near excellent results in weed control programs, has produced a corn crop which some farmers are describing as the best they've ever seen. Rumors of an excellent corn crop emerged two and even three months ago, but all doubts have been removed now. With forage harvesters humming, the crop is

being tackled to put into the silo and it's measuring up to be just as great (or even greater) than what was hoped.

A number of farmers in several different counties were contacted on Thursday evening. Following is what they had to say:

York County dairyman, Clair Myers, who on Wednesday hosted a forage field day for the Dover Area Young Farmers, says the corn in his area looks "real good." Approximately 125 farmers from the area visited his farm for the forage field day, to witness as many as six different machines in action. One indication of the fine crop, Myers pointed out, is that some participants in the field demonstrations didn't come equipped with enough horsepower to pull their two-row choppers through the thick corn rows. "Tractors with 70 to 80 horsepower didn't work," Myers declared, "one fellow with a 115 horsepower . . . he could move."

Myers planted 90 acres of corn this year, about 25 acres no-till. Aside from a late-starting grassy condition of some fields, he reports no problems. "The corn is better than it has been for the last three or four years," he said. As for the grass, he's not sure why it might have come up, but adds that the corn was well enough advanced to not be affected by the competition.

Down in the southern end of York County, Walter and Robert Kilgore, report having a wonderful crop of corn — one of the best in recent years — but not necessarily better than last year's. Robert noted that there really hasn't been a bad corn crop in the area since the early 1960's. The two brothers began filling silos on the last day of August and made their judgement on the basis of the acreage it took to get the job done. It was not noticeably less than last year's.

Don Landis at Mount Aetna, near the Berks-Lebanon County line, reports having had excellent growing conditions in his area. The last few days the crop has really become dry due to a lack of rain for several weeks, but the crop is far enough advanced to not be hurt by it. Although Landis has not yet started to fill his silo, he is confident of being well pleased once he moves his equipment into the field. He credits the dry weather in the Spring for the good weed control and abundant rainfall throughout the growing season for the excellent growth.

"The best corn crop we've ever produced, and the best growing season I can remember in my years of farming," is how Daniel Martin of Manheim describes his crop. He says he doesn't remember a year when things worked as favorably as they did this year. "We had rain when we needed it, and it always stopped long enough to get the work done," he explained. Weed control was also good, he added, with the only problem being this:

"Getting enough ground cleared off to seed this Fall." In spite of the lack of rain in recent weeks, Martin reports corn in his area as being a bit on the green side yet, and so far he's not pushing the forage harvester too hard.

Carl Miller, Kutztown, operates 24 farms of all sizes, which gives him a total of 1400 acres. His main farm is pictured on page 1. More than 500 acres is in corn and all of it was put in by minimum tillage methods.

"O yes, it definitely will take less to fill this year," Miller began. "It's the best crop I've had since I've been farming . . . by far." He planted some 90-day corn in late April which he claims is ready for shelling on Tuesday and he's confident of taking 100 bushels to the acre. He's moving into the fields early because of the presently high price — over \$3.00 per bushel — and the fact that mills in his area are anxious to replenish their short supplies. "Corn is scarce around here," he said, referring to stocks at the mills and in the farmers' storage bins.

While Miller is well pleased with his crops, he noted that some of his later corn is not measuring up to the excellence he finds in earlier planted varieties. It's too dry, and a little rain right now would be welcome. Weed control, he said, was no better than in any years previously, in fact in some cases it was worse.

Bob and Jim Pepple are in full agreement that they have a



Silos will be filled in a hurry this year.

very good corn crop on their farms near Oxford. "It's going to take an awfully good crop to beat what we have this year . . . I'll take this year's crop every year," Bob said convincingly. Yields are being reported as being better than they have been for the last several years.

Weed control was described as very good and is being claimed as one reason for the excellent crop. Like the growth of the corn itself, this ties in with the weather. Last year, explained Pepple, the wet Spring prevented good weed control from taking place, but this year's relatively dry Spring made things work properly.

A good population stand and good growth is being reported. Also, the crop is holding its greenness longer than last year. The ears are drying off nicely, but the stalk and foliage are retaining moisture, Pepple said. "It's making real good

silage, I'm very pleased," he added. As was reported by several others, some of the later corn does not quite measure up to the earlier planted varieties, but it's still nothing to complain about.

Richard Maule, near Quarryville, will start filling silo today (Saturday). He has lived on his farm for all his life, and as a grandfather several times over, can bring quite a few growing seasons into his memory. "I have never seen better corn on this farm . . . the corn is thick, the ears are large, stalks are thick and tall . . . we'll fill silo in a hurry," he exclaimed. Weed control was excellent.

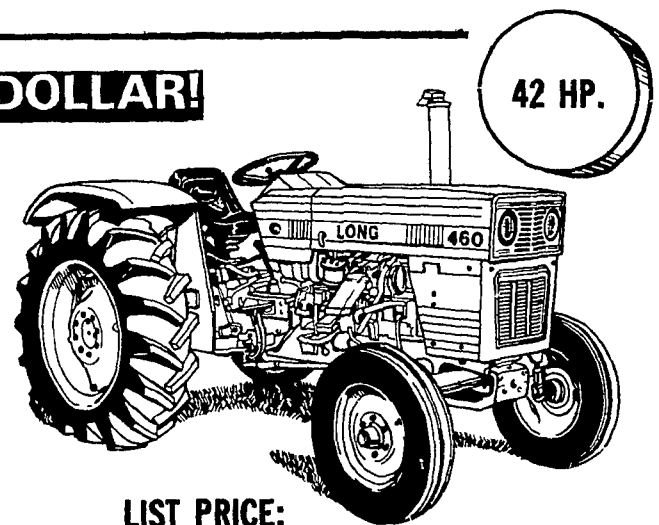
Lester High, who farms in northern Chester County, south of Pottsville, reports that corn in his area is good. It's been maturing rapidly lately due to lack of moisture. Weed control was good.



COME & SEE  
The OTHER Blue Line!

MORE TRACTOR PER DOLLAR!

LONG 460  
THE  
TRACTOR OF  
THE YEAR



The Long 460 is precision engineered for outstanding quality, performance and economy. The heavy-duty three cylinder engine is designed to give years of maintenance-free, smooth-running service.

LIST PRICE:

Including 600x16 with 13.6x28  
MATV, Power Steering, Hose  
Kit and Heavy Duty Battery

\$5,832

F.O.B. Tarboro, NC



COME IN AND SEE US SOON!



**NORMAN D. CLARK  
& SON**  
Honey Grove, Pa.  
717-734-3682

**COLUMBIA  
EQUIPMENT CO.**  
Bloomsburg, Pa.  
717-784-7456

**I. G. AG SALES**  
Silverdale, Pa.  
215-257-5136

**LEISERS, INC.**  
3608 Nazareth Pike,  
Bethlehem, Pa.  
215-691-3070

**MAIDENCREEK  
FARM SUPPLY**  
Blandon, Pa.  
215-926-3851

**MELROSE  
FARM SUPPLY**  
Rt 16 West,  
Greencastle, Pa.  
717-597-3138

**NEVIN N. MYER  
& SONS, INC.**  
Chester Springs, Pa.  
215-827-7481

**RHODES  
EQUIPMENT  
CO., INC.**  
Southampton, Pa.  
215-677-6000

**SCHOENECK INT'L  
EQUIPMENT**  
Schnecksville, Pa.  
215-437-4813 or  
767-3806

**WENGER'S INC.**  
S. Race St.,  
Myerstown, Pa.  
717-866-2138

THE TOP PERFORMERS

**TODD**



SEEDS

SEED CORN Varieties with winning profitable yields.  
HAY-CHOW Green chop, hay, haylage or grazing. A sweet stemmed variety.  
SILO-CHOW High quality, more palatable forage.  
GRAIN HARVEST VARIETIES Producing top yields of high test weight grain.

Quantity and early pay discounts.

Your Todd Dealer Knows The Top Performing Varieties For Your Farm.

Order now and Save.

**TODD HYBRID SALES**

P.O. Box 66 • Abbottstown, PA 17301 • Ph 259-9511