

Lester Erb, left, has good reason to smile. He has just been presented with a Distinguished Service Award from Hoffman Seeds, Inc., Landisville, for his achievements as a sales and service representative. At right is

Ivan D. Kaufman, Hoffman sales manager. Out of more than 500 Hoffman representatives in seven states, only two have been named to receive this award.



Scott Glascock of Cooksville, Md., brushes up his steer for competition held last week at the Timonium Fair.



Trophies for their achievements in sales and service were presented by Hoffman Seeds, Inc., Landisville, to Alvin F. Smoker, Intercourse; Ernest

H. Mellinger, Quarryville; Robert L. Yohn, Narvon, and John C. Polhemus, Biglerville.

## Hoffman Seeds gives awards

LANCASTER - Lester Erb, Elizabethtown, a long-time sales and service representative for Hoffman Seeds, Inc., has been named to receive the firm's highest honor - the Distinguished Service Award.

The selection of Erb, based upon his outstanding service to farmers in the area during the past year, caps a 35-year career with the Landisville seed company. In 1972 he was one of the first to receive the company's Hall of Fame Award.

"Lester Erb has long been

an outstanding Hoffman Seed Man," commented Ivan D. Kaufman, sales manager, in presenting the award. "His contributions as a sales and service representative, and in dedicated service to farmers in his area is especially noteworthy."

The presentation took place in ceremonies at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center where Hoffman representatives from throughout the area participated in a luncheon and program kicking off the 1976-1977 sales year.

Also honored at the meeting for sales and service achievements were: Alvin F. Smoker, Intercourse; Ernest H. Mellinger, Quarryville; Robert L. Yohn, Narvon; and John C. Polhemus, Biglerville.

## Timonium

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Another northern Baltimore County resident, Steven Wilson of Parkton, had the reserve champion dairy steer - a 1,085-pound Holstein.

All six of the dairy steers in the auction sold in a narrow range of \$40 to \$43 per cubic weight, with an average of \$41.

There were 48 beef steers, 37 lambs, and 22 market pigs in the sale of 4-H and FFA livestock at the Maryland State Fair. Excluding sales of champion and reserve champion animals, the sale averages were as follows: beef steers - \$54 per cubic weight; lambs - \$57 per cubic weight; swine - \$55.50 per cubic weight.

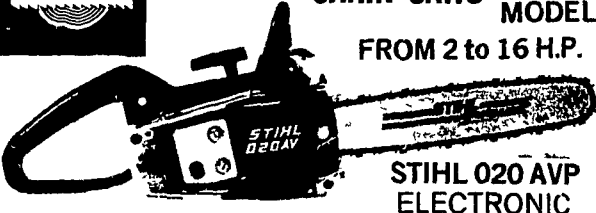
The nation's egg farmers could breed enough extra hens in just nine months to increase egg production 20 percent or 30 percent, according to John R. Pedersen, economics vice president of the United Egg Producers. That's enough extra eggs, for example, to supply every man, woman and child in the usually hungry African nation of Chad with a dozen a day.

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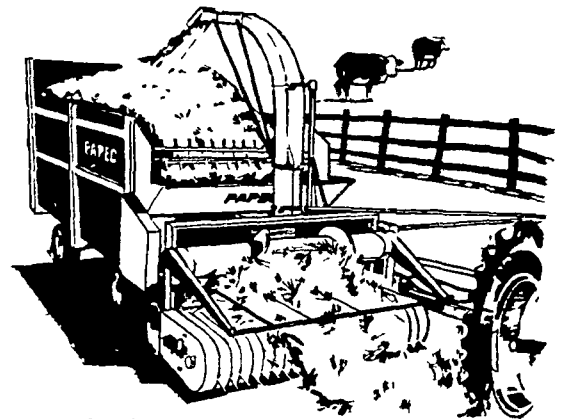
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## Increase slows

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Non-Communist nations' farmers in Asia and the Near East sowed eight per cent more acres to high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice last year than in the preceding year - a sharp drop from the 18 per cent increases in both 1972-73 and 1973-74, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture study.

The study said the fertilizer crisis of 1974-75 probably contributed to the slower rate of expansion.

The Economic Research Service (ERS) study points to a possible dropoff in the rate of adoption of high-yielding varieties in some countries as the amount of available land diminishes. Good water control and adequate supplies of fertilizer are important for maximum yield. The report notes, however, that new varieties are being developed for more environments. And these could widen potential for area expansion.