

# Lancaster Farming

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## Agriculture alive at two big fairs

### Fun, food, and prizes at Solanco

By KENDACE BORRY  
**QUARRYVILLE** - Solanco Community Fair opened to slightly cloudy skies that soon brightened as crowds of people attended and competed in the different contests this past week. A special highlight of the fair was the arrival and tour of Kent D. Shelhamer, Pa. Secretary of Agriculture, the evening of September 14. Unrecognized by some of the wandering fair crowd, Shelhamer toured the grounds of the Quarryville fairgrounds, inspecting the exhibits and examining the

livestock. After sampling the fair's offerings for supper, along with fair officials, Donald Trimble and James Kreider, Shelhamer visited every tent and building to be sure to see all the fair offered. Ending at the baseball field, where the Solanco Fair Olympics were in progress. Shelhamer briefly addressed the crowd, mainly mentioning the Lancaster County agriculture and its success. In the farm crop division of the fair, Judge John Yokum, superintendent of the Penn State Research Center, Landisville, Pa.

gave an estimate on crops after inspecting the entrees. He thought the corn quality is down this year with insect damage and drought and heat effects evident in the ears. The tips of the ears of corn were not filled out. Also the corn moisture seemed to be higher than last year. Yokum also said the later cuttings of hay looked good and that he expects there to be a good crop of tobacco. One highlight of the fair was a new addition to the competition—the Solanco

**YORK** - Nearly 3500 animals and countless entries of vegetables and fruits attracted visitors by the thousands to the York Fair, which concludes its activities today. The 9-day Fair was considered to be another big success, with capacity crowds touring the spacious grounds every day. Not even a few drops of rain, some chilly air, and an overcast sky took away from the competitive and festive mood of the big attraction. This year's livestock entries numbered 1616. Poultry and small animals

accounted for nearly 1800 more lively and noisy creatures. In the Horticulture Building, pumpkins weighing up to 114 pounds amazed young and old visitors alike. Thursday afternoon's visitors and participants of the York Fair had an opportunity to get a glimpse of the Commonwealth's Agriculture Secretary, Kent Shelhamer. He was accompanied by Executive Deputy Agriculture Secretary Neil Buss, recently appointed Deputy

Secretary Frank Bertovich, and Don Lanius, vice president of the York Inter-State Fair. Although it would be difficult to pick and list highlights of the many activities and events which were a part of this year's York Fair, one might make mention of the famous Clydesdales, which performed several times earlier during the week. Results and features on many of the activities of the York Fair can be found in this week's issue of Lancaster Farming.

(Continued on Page 34)

### York Fair had 3500 animals



Pa. Secretary of Agriculture Kent D. Shelhamer, (on right), tours the grounds of the Solanco Fair, Quarryville, with show officials, Donald Trimble, (on left), and James Kreider, (center).



Pennsylvania's Agriculture Secretary Kent Shelhamer, (second from right), inspects the champion Stayman apples grown by Congressman George Goodling of York County. Shelhamer visited the York Fair Thursday afternoon, accompanied by (left to right) Neil Buss, Don Lanius, and Frank Bertovich. Buss and Bertovich are

recently appointed assistants to Shelhamer's Department; Lanius is manager of the Horticulture Building and vice president of the York Fair. All are also farmers. Shelhamer is a Columbia County fruit grower. Bertovich and Lanius own and operate farms and Buss grew up and has worked on farms.

## Loan rates raised, new wheat options explained

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has raised the national loan rates for feed grains (barley, corn, oats, rye and sorghum). The increases are effective immediately.

Below are the new Pennsylvania loan rates applicable to 1977 crops:

Barley	\$1.60 (Bushel)
Corn	2.19 (Bushel)
Oats	1.16 (Bushel)
Rye	1.78 (Bushel)
Sorghum	1.91 (Bushel)
Wheat	2.23 (Bushel)
Soybeans	3.43 (Bushel)

According to Acting Secretary of Agriculture John C. White, the action was taken in response to the

"severe cost-price squeeze that is now adversely affecting many farmers." The raises are identical to those

### Dairy farmer named agriculture deputy

**HARRISBURG** - Frank Bertovich, of Bentleyville, Washington County, has been appointed Deputy Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, it was announced Monday by Agriculture Secretary Kent D. Shelhamer. Bertovich was sworn into office on September 6 by Secretary of the Commonwealth C. Delores

Tucker at ceremonies in the Agriculture Building. Shelhamer said that he is "extremely pleased" with

the appointment of Bertovich, citing the new Deputy's experience in work with farmers and farm organizations. "We have now completed the job of finding the right men to help lead the Department in coming years," Shelhamer said. "For the first time since I became Secretary, we are fully staffed and can get down to working together to meet the problems that are

stipulated in the proposed 1977 farm bill currently before the Congress. USDA's commodity loan

program is administered by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)

through its county offices. Producers who have already put their 1977-crop feed grain under loan can obtain an

additional disbursement, based on the announced increase, by contacting their county ASCS office. In related developments, the ASC offices are encouraging wheat farmers to carefully consider the 1978 Wheat Program options prior to completing 1978 planting of wheat. The 1977 agriculture bill has not been passed by Congress or signed into law by the President, as of September 9, but is expected to become law soon. The 1978 Wheat Program is a part of the 1977 Farm Bill. Briefly, the provisions of

#### In this issue

Farm Calendar	10	Ida's Notebook	49
Editorials	10	Doris Thomas	52
Medicine & Mgmt.	16	Sheep feature	54
Homestead Notes	42	J. Cooking Edition	56
My Thoughts	42	Jersey sale	58
Home on the Range	45	Classifieds	61
Kendy's Kolumnn	48	Ephrata Fair preview	90, 116
Joyce Bupp	48	Horse plowing feature	121

(Continued on Page 26)

(Continued on Page 26)