

USDA names set-aside, grain program

WASHINGTON D.C. — Acting Secretary of Agriculture John White today announced a 10 per cent set-aside in acreage of corn, sorghum and barley and other details of the 1978 feed grain program.

"Announcing this conditional action today will give us the opportunity in January and February to review the world and domestic situation again and revoke the set-aside if conditions change substantially," said White.

White said the Department has decided on a set-aside program for these reasons:

"Current farm prices are below the effective loan rate and estimated cost of production. World coarse grain production exceeds world consumption by 8 million tons. This means stocks at the beginning of the 1978-79 marketing year will be nearly 80 million tons.

"Domestic 1977 coarse grain production appears to be a record, and carryover stocks are expected to rise to 43.5 million tons. We predict that at the start of the 1978-79 season we will have the largest stocks since the summer of 1972.

"We conclude that a 10 per cent set-aside will reduce U.S. production by an estimated 7 million tons; that's 3 per cent of U.S. production and 1 per cent of total world coarse grain production. The set-aside should result in a 4 million ton difference in U.S. stocks or a 5 per cent change in total world coarse grain

stocks. This is not expected to have an effect on consumer food prices.

"To remove excess grain from the market to help insure our ability to remain a reliable supplier to other nations and to protect consumers, the 17-19 million ton feed grain reserve will be captured prior to the 1978-79 season.

"The feed grain set-aside also supports good conservation. It is an effective tool to take the pressure off farmers to use their marginal lands to raise crops and provide encouragement to farmers to concentrate production on prime agricultural lands. It will result in less erosion, less environmental damage, and improved water quality — all leading to the protection of renewable resources."

White also announced that national program acres in millions of acres will be 67.6 for corn; 13.7 for sorghum and 7.4 for barley. National program acreage is based on projected domestic and export use, less imports, divided by the national program yield, and adjusted for desirable carryover levels.

He further stated that there will be no land diversion payments; there will be no limitation on planted acreage; and that oats will not be included in the feed grain program.

Participation in the feed grain set-aside program is voluntary. Non-participants, however, are not eligible for price support loans, disaster

payments, or deficiency payments. Participants must "set-aside" one acre for every 10 acres actually planted for harvest in 1978. Under "cross-compliance" rules a farmer who does not participate in the set-aside is ineligible for loans and payments on other crops.

Producers who voluntarily reduce their corn and sorghum acreage by 5 per cent, or barley acreage planted for harvest by 20 per cent, in 1978 from that planted in 1977 are guaranteed target price protection on the normal production from their entire acreage and qualify for loan programs on all they produce.

To be eligible for loans, purchases and payments, if applicable, on crops included in the normal crop acreage, the producer must comply with the feed grain set-aside if corn, sorghum or barley is planted for the 1978 harvest.

The Department is proposing that acreage designated as set-aside under the '78 feed grain program must be in an approved vegetative cover crop such as annual or perennial grasses and legumes or small grain which is not allowed to mature. It also proposes land eligible is any cropland that was tilled within the prior three years in crop

Duroc Association forms

FREDERICK, Md. — Twenty Duroc enthusiasts met at the Chat & Chew Restaurant in Frederick, to reorganize the Maryland Duroc Breeders Association.

This organization which has been inactive for the last ten years, will be brought back to existence by the following breeders. President, James Boone, Keymar; Vice-President, Raymond Martin, Keymar; and Sandra & Douglas Lechluder, Laytonsville, will team up as Secretary-Treas.

production other than hay or pasture. Summer fallow is not included.

Publication of final regulations on these proposals is being deferred until all comments received are evaluated.

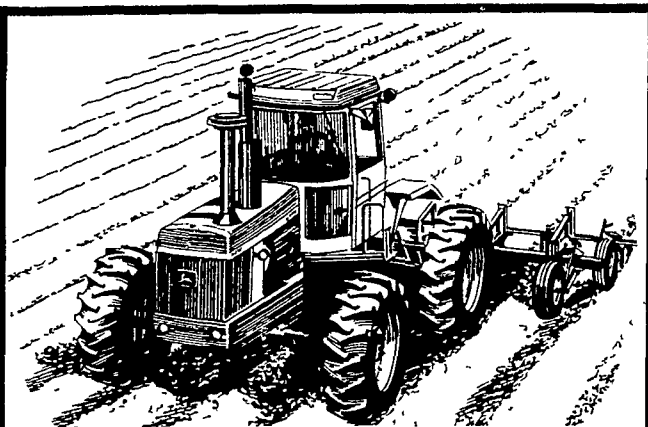
The five directors are, J. Quinton Johnson, Salisbury; Earl Wyand, Williamsport; Mike Malone, Hampstead; Donald Morrison, Dayton.

The Maryland Duroc Association will hold their first annual picnic next July. A Maryland Duroc Queen will be selected at the picnic.

Anyone interested in joining the Maryland Duroc Association should contact Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Lechluder, 7815 Rocky Road, Gaithersburg, Md. 20760.

Teachers Writes

On the first day of school, each first-grader arrived home with a note from their new teacher. It read: "Dear Parents: If you promise not to believe all your child says happens at school, I'll promise not to believe all he says happens at home"



We've got a new 8430 4-wheeler in now; stop and see how it fits your needs

The increased power and traction of a new 4-wheel-drive tractor are really attractive. But how can you justify the cost of a new 4-wheeler, if all it can be used for is primary tillage? Well, many times you can't. That's why John Deere 8430 and 8630 Tractors are designed to do much more than pull a plow. These tractors take big power (275 engine hp/225 PTO hp in the 8630, 215 engine hp/175 PTO hp in the 8430) and put it to work on a season-long basis. They're loaded with the kind of features that make them productive throughout the year. Take the 1000-rpm independent PTO, Load-and-Depth Control draft-sensing hitch, rack-and-pinion wheel tread adjustment, and variable-ratio power steering system. These are just a few examples of row-crop features that let you get full use of 4-wheel-drive power. Stop in for a lot more reasons why a John Deere is a good investment.

LANDIS BROS., Inc.

1305 Manheim Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601
PH: 717-393-3906



She has farm needs too. Farm Credit understands, and they can help.

A new kitchen, a washing machine, a freezer, furniture, her own car. Farm needs? They are to us. Farm Credit Service knows that running a farm is more than a man's job . . . and it takes more than seed and fertilizer. For your financial requirements . . . farm or personal . . . see your local Farm Credit Representative. He's ALWAYS ready to help with a PCA loan to fit your needs or hers.

YOU GET A LOT MORE THAN CREDIT FROM YOUR OWN FARM CREDIT SERVICE.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COUNTY OFFICE.

