

U.S. grain reserve program expanded

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland recently expanded the nation's grain reserve program to make 1977 crop wheat, and 1977 and 1976 crop corn, oats, sorghum, and barley eligible for the reserve.

Previously, only 1976 crop wheat and rice that was already under loan or covered by a purchase agreement was eligible for the program.

The goal of the farmer-held reserve program is to store about 17 million metric tons of feed grains and eight to nine million metric tons of wheat

Mr. Bergland said the department will operate the program by offering farmers three-year loans on their grain and by providing them with storage payments for the duration of the program. Primary emphasis will be on keeping the stocks in farmer's hands, he said.

Department officials said that they are aiming for a feed grain reserve "mix" of about 75 per cent corn, 11 per cent sorghum, eight per cent oats and six per cent barley. Storage payments to participating farmers will be 20 cents per bushel for wheat, corn, sorghum and barley and 15 cents per bushel for

oats. Eligibility to put grain into the reserve will be on a first come first served basis. After the limits have been reached, the program will be closed to new applicants.

Under the program, wheat farmers will be permitted to repay the loan, sell the commodity, and retain earned storage when the national average market price reaches 140 per cent of the current national loan rate for wheat (the "release" level), or until expiration of the contract. Farmers will be notified when the release level is reached. USDA will call in all wheat loans when the

market price reaches 175 per cent of the current national loan rate (the "call" level). For feed grains, the release level is 125 per cent and the call level is 140 per cent.

Under current legislation, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to establish a reserve for any grain he determines to be in abundant supply.

Commodity loans and the grain reserve program are administered by USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) through its county offices

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Adams County DHIA

(Continued from Page 97)

Piper introduced the Somatic Cell Program, a new testing service for monitoring the leukocyte count of milk, which will be offered to 20 per cent of the DHIA membership in the County and in the Commonwealth effective Jan. 1, 1978. Leukocytes or white blood cells are a normal constituent of milk but elevated levels provide warning that the cow is experiencing ill health, frequently in the form of mastitis. When milk samples reaching the Central Testing Laboratory undergo an additional test for leukocyte count, participating dairymen will receive an early warning that some remedial action will be profitable.

Following his presentation, the Board of Directors supervised a drawing of the names of dairymen who wish to enroll in the Somatic Cell program which will cost an additional 12 cents per cow per month. The 20 per cent limitation due to available equipment allows 12 Adams County dairymen to participate.

Charles Klinger, chairman of the Nominating Committee presented a slate of seven candidates for the post of director. The following individuals were elected to serve for the next 3 years:

Thomas Clowney, Gettysburg R9; Scott Whiteford, New Oxford R2, (re-elected) and Kerby Deputy, East Berlin R1, to replace John Hess, Gettysburg R5.

Following the banquet and presentations the board of directors met briefly to reorganize. Elected to head the 1978 board as president was Wayne Rodgers, Get-

tysburg R6. Scott Whiteford, New Oxford R2, was chosen vice-president, and secretary is Ray Dutterer, Littlestown R2.

Twelve herds out of 20 applicants were chosen in a random drawing to participate in the somatic cell testing. They are: Weim Sharr Farms, New Oxford R2; Herbert Kehr, Lit-

tlestown R1; Roy Weaner, Gettysburg R6; Claude Holmes, Jr., Hanover R1; Noel and Holmes, Hanover R1; Ray Dutterer, Littlestown R2; Michael Cunningham, New Oxford R2; John Hess, Gettysburg R5; Adam Lobaugh, Aspers R1; William Korver, New Oxford R2; Grove Brothers, Hanover R4; and Kraybill Miller, Dillsburg R2.

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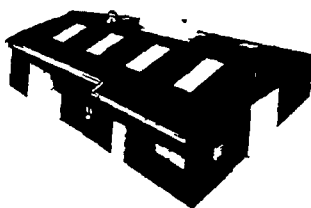
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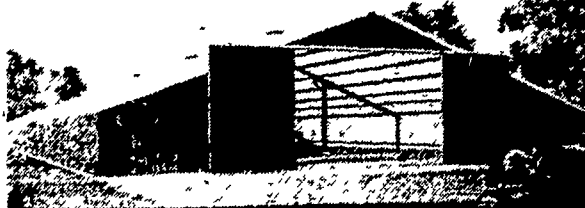
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