

# AFBF favors aggressive marketing

DES PLAINES, Ill. — Farm Bureau will take an aggressive attitude in an effort to see that farm producers get adequate prices for their commodities in order to compete with other industries and still make a fair profit.

That was the gist of recommendations that came out of the resolutions committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation meeting here recently. The recommendations will be considered by the voting delegates at the AFBF annual convention in Houston, January 8-12.

"We support the principle of keeping farmer to consumer channels open and will continue to oppose the efforts of any group which, by force or intimidation, denies buyers the freedom of

choice in the market place" the resolutions committee said.

The committee recommended that Farm Bureau take aggressive steps to solve marketing problems through the expansion of existing marketing projects and the development and implementation — either directly or through affiliates — of new Farm Bureau owned, managed or controlled programs.

In other action, the committee recommended that Farm Bureau make every effort to prevent the new farm bill from being administered in ways that would make farmers dependent on government payments on a continuing basis or establish a government controlled stockpile of agricultural commodities.

"We favor a market oriented agriculture because we believe farmers will fare better under the market system, than under any type of government managed system," the committee said.

The committee added that a sound national farm policy should assure farmers unrestricted access to domestic and world markets and programs to help farmers obtain needed crop and market information.

Any support programs, if needed to avoid disaster, should be carefully designed and implemented to avoid conditions that are self-perpetuating to protect our competitive position in world markets to avoid undue interferences with market directed adjustments in production and marketing, the committee recommended.

The committee is com-

posed of presidents of state Farm Bureaus, Women's chairman and Young Farmer and Rancher chairman, and is chaired by Robert B. Delano, Warsaw, Va., president of the Virginia Farm Bureau and vice president of AFBF.

The voting delegates at the Houston meeting in January can accept, amend or reject any of the recommendations submitted by the committee.



Ethel McGarvey, corresponding secretary for the Lancaster County Poultry Association for over 20 years, retired recently from their service. In honor of her work, LCPA president Harold S. Musselman presented her with a plaque and \$100.

## Pa. crops fluctuate

HARRISBURG - Based on acreage, utilization, and production data, Pennsylvania produced more wheat and potatoes but less rye, oats, and barley than the revised 1976 crops according to the Crop Reporting Service.

Potato acres harvested at 25,500 are down 2,500 while yield is off five hundredweight (cwt.) The result is an 11 per cent cut in production to 6.4 million cwt.

Wheat acres harvested were off 10 per cent to 270,000 but a yield increase partially offset this, giving a one per cent production drop to 8.9 million bushels.

Oats acres harvested were off 5000 to 350,000 while yield rose two bushels to 53. Production near 18.6 million bushels is up two per cent.

Harvested acres of barley and rye were unchanged at 125,000 and 12,000 respectively. Barley yield rose seven bushels to 50 placing production up nearly

one-sixth to 6.3 million bushels. Rye yield rose five bushels to 31 pushing production up nearly one-fifth to 372,000 bushels.

At the United States level Fall potato production is estimated at 304.4 million cwt., one per cent less than last year's record setting crop of 307.4 million cwt. U.S. production of Winter wheat is down two per cent to 1.5 billion bushels, while all wheat output is off five per cent to 2.0 billion, both due primarily to less acres harvested.

Reduced rye acres harvested were more than offset by a yield increase with a resultant 14 per cent rise in production to near 17 million bushels. As both harvested acres and yield are up the U.S. oats crop rose 37 per cent to 748 million bushels.

An increase in acres harvested offset a yield decrease in barley resulting in a 12 per cent production increase to near 416 million bushels.

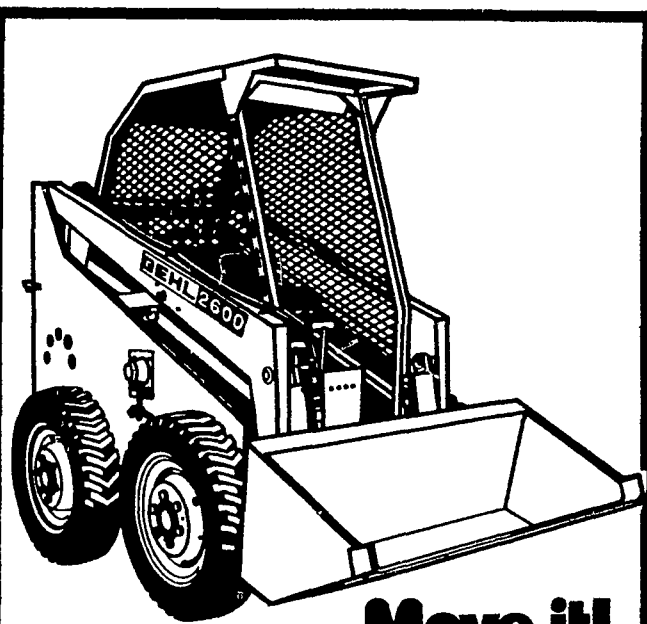
## Hereford meeting set

HARRISBURG - As the result of increased interest

in Hereford cattle in Pennsylvania, a meeting for the purpose of re-organizing the Pennsylvania Hereford Association has been set.

The meeting will be held in Room B of the Pennsylvania State Farm Show, Harrisburg, January 11, 1978 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting follows the Hereford breeding cattle show which commences at 8:00 a.m. the same day.

All Hereford breeders and interested parties are invited to attend. For further details contact Glen Flickinger, Route 2, Northumberland, Penn.



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