

# Lancaster Farming

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Animal agriculture, but the poultry business in particular, is being jeopardized by movements to stop growth near residential areas, even if the land in question is zoned agricultural.

## Rural growth finds farmers, neighbors at odds

By DIETER KRIEG

**GILBERTSVILLE** — Pennsylvania's farming industry may be fractured if rural residents with little or no agricultural understanding have their way. According to some, that fracture is already starting to take shape. If the problem remains unchecked, the ultimate results will be discouraging and expensive for farmers, while consumers will have to pay considerably more for their eggs, chicken, milk, and meat.

In two separate, but similar cases, a poultryman near here, in upper Montgomery County, and another near New Providence in southern Lancaster County, are

facing opposition from neighbors. Both farmers are poultrymen with hopes of expanding their respective operations. Their neighbors don't like it. The problem, according to Lancaster County Agricultural Agent, Jay Irwin, is one of education. He claims that many residents in rural areas don't understand agriculture and its importance. He also suggests that these same people-of-

times are misinformed as to what really does go on out on the farm. For example, he notes that some terrific progress has been made in

the management of poultry flocks to keep offensive aspects such as odors to a bare minimum. But the

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## Emergency credit program approved

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A Senate-House Conference Committee Monday approved a bill authorizing up to \$4 billion for a new program of emergency credit for farmers who need help to survive the economic squeeze which has gripped many segments of the Nation's agriculture in recent years.

The Conference bill, the broadest farm credit measure passed by Congress

in recent years, also includes provisions which would:

- Bring major credit programs of the Farmers Home Administration

Following suit with cattle prices, hog market figures took a noticeable drop over the past several weeks with some producers reporting a

(FmHA) into line with current needs by raising loan ceilings.

-Create a special new FmHA farm real estate loan

program for low-income farm families including new owners or operators.

-Extend a special cattle industry credit program for

one year, through September 30, 1979.

In addition, an amendment to the bill would

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## Hog prices drop, growers not worried

By JOANNE SPAHR  
**LANCASTER** — Following suit with cattle prices, hog market figures took a noticeable drop over the past several weeks with some producers reporting a

dip of as much as \$5 to \$8 per hundredweight from May's top figures. The hog futures market also showed a rapid decline with prices plum-

meting 12 points in a little over a month. Both markets showed signs of recovery this week.

With hog prices going

hand-in-hand with beef markets, swine producers watched this Spring as auction prices peaked as

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## State revising indemnity ruling

By JOANNE SPAHR  
**HARRISBURG** — The state is currently in the process of amending its indemnity law for market swine passed for cooking or condemned with swine tuberculosis or with tuberculosis-like lesions. Whereas, formerly, the farmer was paid an indemnity if a packer found problems with his hogs, the state is now trying to change the law so that the packer, directly, and not the farmer, receives the indemnity.

"This is done to protect the farmer, not just the packer," explains Dr David Ingraham, director of the

Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. With the (Turn to Page 22)

## Area potato growers optimistic despite widespread beetle problem

By KENDACE BORRY  
**LITITZ** — The potatoes planted throughout the Lancaster Farming area are looking rather good at the moment, farmers report, but there is a problem occurring with the Colorado potato beetle.

"He eats the vine really bad," John S. Thompson, Shrewsbury, York County,

commented. "We haven't been hit by the beetle yet, but I've heard of several growers who have. I imagine that the insect will probably come into our fields but we should be able to keep it under control."

The farmer who grows 125 acres of potatoes commented that his crop looks "real good", growing right

on schedule, and he has hopes for a good crop. He stated that there was a good stand in his fields this year and that if all goes as planned, his crop should be better than some of those in past years.

Eugene Manifold, Airville R1, has 90 acres of the crop in the ground. Earlier in the (Turn to Page 32)

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