Wednesday, Nov. 15 York County 4-H goat project meeting.
Flower Growers' Day at Penn State University, 9

a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Keller Conference Center.

Annual stockholders meeting and banquet of the Federal Land Bank Association of Lancaster and the Lancaster Production Credit Association, at Plain and

Fancy Farm Restaurant, 11:45 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 16 Elizabethtown Area Young Farmers meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the high school. Inter-State Milk Producers

annual banquet, 6:15 p.m. at the Host Farm, Lancaster. Friday, Nov. 17

Farmers Forum of York

County at Rutter's in Red

Saturday, Nov. 18 Annual dinner meeting of the Hunterdon County, N.J. Board of Agriculture, Quakertown Firehouse, 7

p.m. Delmarva sheep management meeting, Denton, Md.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, November 11, 1978—39

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I have been reading the latest issue of your newspaper, and have noted the success of the various FFA members in the farming enterprises. I too have such ambitions. There is a sales advertisement of a property which I am very much

interested in. I have tried various local lending institutions and have been told the property is out of my reach.

The point is that I tried all that I know. Is there anything else that can be done?

> George R. Diller Red Lion, Pa.

Cage broiler research continuing

NEWARK, Del. - In the latter part of the 1960's, broiler producers started taking notice of a practice then catching hold among egg producers - cage management. They saw caged layers producing well in space-saving stacked cages, and wondered whether they too could benefit from the new system, explains Delaware Extension poultry specialist George Chaloupka. The question of cage broiler research was addressed by Maine Extension poultry specialist Harry C. Whelden at the National Broiler Housing Seminar held recently at the University of Delaware Substation.

A number of state Agricultural Experiment Stations soon took up cage broiler research - among them Delaware, Maryland, Georgia, Arkansas, Maine, and Ohio State. The early work was directed toward increasing broiler efficiency both performance and space utilization. Researchers tried to develop systems in which birds could be transported in the cages

handling. The initial work on caged broilers uncovered everal problems. Birds got blisters from the cages. They

developed crooked breasts,

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in which they're grown, so as

to eliminate individual bird

bruises, and sometimes broken wings. Subsequent research has been directed toward eliminating these problems. For instance, Delaware Agricultural Experiment

Station research attempted to determine which floor

materials best protected the

birds from bruises, broken

wings, and other causes of downgrading. Various current research projects are looking into the causes of downgrading attempting to determine if some strains are more susceptible than others, for

example. Still other research combines floor material research with attempts to perfect more efficient systems for broiler cage production. A goal of this type of research is to eliminate bird catching and the problems associated

with it. In spite of the different approaches, Chaloupka says, all broiler cage research appears to be directed toward eliminating difference the downgrading between cage and floor-grown broilers. In the long run, however, cagebroiler production may show its true economic worth when we shift some of our attention to developing new commercial uses for downgraded birds.

Chaloupka explains that though a bird may have to be trimmed of a broken wing, the remainder would be perfectly fine, and could be sold in parts with no sacrifice of quality to the consumer.

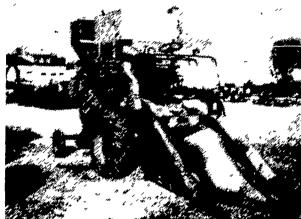
Learning to use costemcient caged brouers in this manner would contribute to our overall goal of economical broiler meat production.





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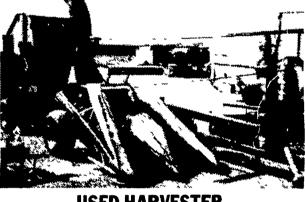
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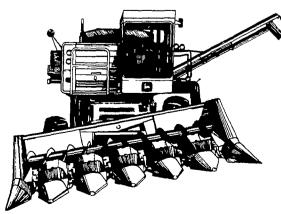
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