

Farm Credit Banks hold problem-sharing forum

By JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent
COCKEYSVILLE, Md. — In an effort to seek how they can best serve the needs of young farmers of the mid-Atlantic area, the Farm Credit Banks of Baltimore hosted a Young Farmers' Forum on November 20 and 21 at the Hunt Valley Inn.

Almost 30 local Farm Credit offices from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia sent representatives to the problem-sharing forum. Participants were encouraged to offer honest and frank opinions about their borrowing experiences with the cooperative's lending system.

Laying the groundwork for better understanding of the member-owned credit system, Baltimore Farm Credit administrative personnel explained briefly the cooperative's purposes, philosophy and operating methods.

Chairing the forum was vice-president Donald L.

Shiflet. David Martin, assistant director of training explained "Who is Farm Credit?" "Where does the Money Come From" was answered by Vice President and Treasurer Gerry Maynard.

Regional assistant Vice-President Ron Byrd outlined details of "How We Make Credit Decisions" and Robert Carpenter, general manager of the Central Valley Federal Land Bank and Production Credit Association related his "Experiences with Young Farmers."

Then the floor was thrown open for a two-hour recommendations session. Three young farmer spokesmen were selected to condense and present a summary of that open forum to management and board members who attending the evening reception and dinner.

The general consensus of the session was that the Farm Credit district is too conservative. Participants

recommended that each local and district elect one young farmer to be an at-large active voting member of the Board of Directors. Another suggestion was that each elected director be limited to two three-year consecutive terms.

In an effort to continue evaluating the problems of young farmers, conferees

advised local boards to sponsor similar forums on county-levels. There were also requests for help in making management decisions, including financial counseling services, appropriate night courses, access to experts in related areas, a farming referral service to connect established farmers with

young farmers needing capital and loan officers paying more frequent farm visits to assess long-range credit needs.

Under the weight of escalating farm costs and climbing interest rates, young farmers expressed a need for longer payback terms on operating loans and a speed-up of processing

time for applications. Investigating the possibility of establishing interest rates in relation to the risk taken was also recommended.

One final suggestion was that local association managers be periodically evaluated to determine if policies are fully-serving the expanding needs of the farm community.

Poultry nutritionist joins U. of D. staff



Dr. William W. Saylor

NEWARK, Del. — Dr. William W. Saylor, a specialist in monogastric nutrition from Butler county, Pa., has joined the research and teaching staff of the University of Delaware's department of animal science and agricultural biochemistry.

Saylor, who holds both his

M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in animal nutrition from Penn State, also earned an undergraduate degree in dairy science from the same institution.

At Delaware, Saylor expects to conduct research on trace mineral metabolism in broilers — a subject related to this earlier work in Pennsylvania. Among other things, he may be studying the possible toxicity of trace elements ingested by birds raised on recycled litter materials such as shredded newspapers or recycled urban waste.

"But my major emphasis right now," says Saylor, "is on identifying the practical nutritional problems of the poultry industry on the Delmarva peninsula."

According to department chairperson Dr. John K. Rosenberger, the nutritionist will also be teaching a basic course on feeds and feeding.

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