

# Manure management meeting discusses options

By JOAN LIESAU  
BART—Managing manure in a better way to keep streams clean was the main message at the Octorara Watershed annual meeting

held on January 19 at the Bart-Colerain School.

The Department of Environmental Resources (DER) is concerned with keeping the manure out of

the streams. "It is typical in Lancaster County to push manure off in piles with no barriers between the piles and the stream" said District Conservationist

Warren Archibald. "When manure is spread on the snow, it loses some of its nitrogen values" he said, "and it melts and is carried into the streams."

Archibald described different alternatives to the daily hauling system. Included in his discussion were earthen-bank storage, covered manure storage and dams for separation of precipitation in open storage.

"A lot of pollution problems come when you are getting the manure on the fields" Archibald said. He cited several examples, such as silt, manure and dirt washing onto roads and streams in heavy rains. "One of the better practices that will reduce manure loss 75 per cent is by using contour strips" he said. "When spreading daily, spread steeper slopes around November." Other areas, "in the center of the strips, should be spread at this time of the year, rather than the closest patches to the barn."

Skidders will break over the strips if you do not have a good outlet of diversion for the extra water. An example

of diversion may be a grass water way. Archibald suggested "For those who want to get to continuous corn, to terrace your farm." The terrace should have a pipe outlet terrace which is higher than a normal terrace. When this outlet fills up, it will drain completely dry within a 24 hour period. The water is then piped down across the hill to a stream or creek. "An advantage to this system is that you are giving the water a little longer chance to get off the fields" Archibald explained.

A panel of three men, Bob Kaufman, Dale Herr and Kenneth Skyles, discussed their systems with the group.

Herr of Kirkwood R1, uses an earthen bank storage. He said the ASCA worked with him to plan his manure

storage facility. With his free stall barn, Herr gets a "pretty heavy slurry" from all the wastes. "Before I hauled it everyday," Herr said he was very pleased with his new system. He can back right down into it when he is ready to spread.

Bob Guhl of W. & J. Dairy Sales, Oxford R2, gave a presentation on the "Acorn" manure managing system.

This system pumps the manure up from the bottom rather than putting it on top of the already existing pile. This keeps the crust which forms on top hard. The crust keeps most of the nutrients in, while keeping flies from breeding and virtually no odor.

"When your smelling manure, your smelling dollars from the nitrogen" Guhl said.

## Order 2 dairy farmers

to receive \$11.42 for milk

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Dairy farmers supplying milk plants regulated under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders during December will be paid on the

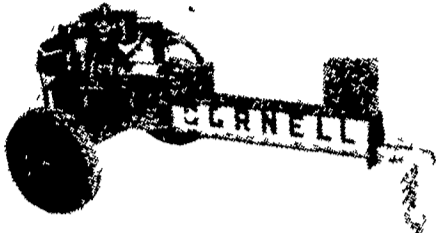
basis of a uniform price of \$11.42 per hundred pounds or 24.6 cents per quart. Market Administrator Thomas A. Wilson, who announced December's price, also stated that the uniform farm price was \$11.54 per hundredweight in November 1978 and \$9.83 per hundredweight in December 1977. The uniform price is a marketwide weighted average of the value of farm milk used for fluid and manufactured dairy products.

## Huber elected

HARRISBURG - James E. Huber, Lancaster, was recently elected chairman of the Finance Committee of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors at their annual budget meeting held in Harrisburg. The Association represents 1458 townships in Pennsylvania.

Huber, owner of Huber's Restaurant and Catering, is chairman of the Manor Township Board of Supervisors, president of the Lancaster Intermunicipal Committee and a member of the Lancaster County Farmers Association.

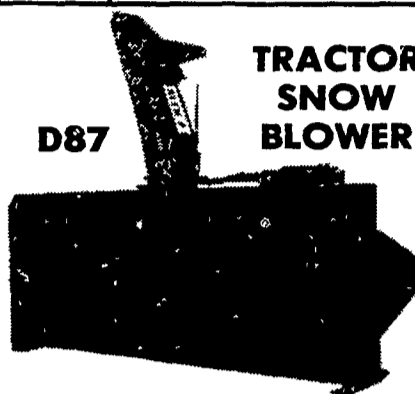
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