

Lancaster Farming

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The "frost" was really heavy on the pumpkins at Mas' Farm Market, along Rt. 501 on Wednesday morning. The freak snow storm that hit the northeast broke Lancaster County's record for the most snowfall. The previous record was Oc-

tober 19, 1972. This same snowstorm dropped a foot of snow in West Virginia, and gave the residents of northern Virginia eight inches of snow to shovel.

Wet weather may have lowered State's corn yield

SHEILA MILLER
LITZ - Sections of Pennsylvania were hard hit rain off and on over the two weeks. Isolated showers of hail and heavy rains have damaged crops and made harvesting and planting difficult, or impossible. From Saturday, September 29 to Monday, October 1, the southeast received 2.7 inches of rain, reported Gordon of the Millersville College Weather Bureau. During the month of September, it has rained every day, for a total of 2.59 inches in ten days. This precipitation included the heavy rain which fell on Wednesday. Other local reports

gave measured rainfall ranging from 3-4 inches.

These areas of isolated downpours have affected farmers throughout the southeast. Most of the fields have been saturated and farmers have not been able to get into the fields to plant their winter grains or harvest corn for silage. The final impact this wet weather may have on soybean and grain corn yields remains to be seen.

Glen Smith, statistician for the Crop Reporting Service of the Pa. Dept. of Agriculture, reported that as of September, the yield for field corn grain for 1979 was identical to that of last year. He noted that in the state, there were 1,190,000 acres of corn planted for grain. The estimated yield was 95 bushels per acre, or 113,050,000 bushels.

Statewide, there was an increased number of acres planted for corn. In 1978, farmers planted 1,615,000 acres of field corn; this year 1,640,000 acres were planted. According to the PDA, farmers did not report any intended increase in the acreage planted for grain. Therefore, the increased acreage must be in corn planted for silage.

There were no available

statistics on corn yields for silage this year over last year. However, in 1978, farmers planted 410,000 acres of corn for silage.

Farmers in the northeast have been reporting that even before this wet Fall

weather set in, they were experiencing about 15 percent production loss in corn yields. Now, with the wet conditions keeping them out of the fields, the loss is expected to go higher still.

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Curt Harler joins staff

LITZ—Curt Harler, RD 2 Lewisberry, is the new editor of Lancaster Farming.

Curt comes to Lancaster Farming from Pennsylvania Farmer magazine where he worked as assistant editor, associate editor, and most recently managing editor.

A 1971 graduate of Penn State, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in general agriculture and a Bachelor of Arts in journalism. He earned his Master's degree at Ohio State in agricultural economics and rural sociology.

A native of Bucks County, Curt is married to the former Marjorie McMonigle. They have two daughters, Jennifer Ann and Rebecca.

Curt is active in many farm organizations in-

cluding the Master Corn Growers Association, Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council, the state Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association and others.

"Lancaster Farming will continue to recognize the farmer as its first and foremost customer," he said. "We intend to inform our readers about the weekly news of farming."

"We will continue to provide up-to-date market information. And Lancaster Farming will champion the farmer's cause editorially in matters of farm policy, legislation, taxation, and other areas of rural interest."

Curt brings with him a wide and diverse background both in agriculture and in jour-

nalism. He is a member of Alpha Zeta honorary agricultural fraternity. While living in Ohio he worked on a large hog and grain operation.



Curt Harler

He was feature editor of the Penn State Daily Collegian, wrote for the Ag Hill Breeze, edited the Ohio State Department of Education's newsletter and most recently spent seven years covering crops and farm news in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and West Virginia.

His personal interests include tennis, caving, mountaineering, bicycling and supervising his wife's work in the garden.

The Harler family plans to relocate in Lancaster County as soon as possible, preferably in the Lititz area.

He says he is looking forward to his work with Lancaster Farming and especially with the farm community which he says he always finds "interesting, informative and exciting."

Kauffman and Keener share dairy titles

MANHEIM - The Manheim Holstein show was swept by two young men who work and compete with each other. Steve Kauffman, the 17 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kauffman, R1 Elizabethtown, captured the grand champion breed laurels, while Arlen Keener, the Kauffman's herdsman, took the reserve honors and swept the grand fitting and showing honors.

Steve Kauffman's four year old, "Pennsprings R. Maple Dimples," took top

honors. Being rated very good in the Holstein records, it has always placed first in its class. Most recently, Kauffman earned the grand championship of the Pa. Junior Dairy show's FFA competition.

Last year the female was chosen reserve champion at the FFA regional show in Kutztown.

"Pennsprings Ruffian Sadie", a junior yearling, also owned by Kauffman took the junior championship at the Manheim (Turn to Page 19)

Md. co-op told plant back on track

By **JOYCE BURP**
Staff Correspondent

NEW PARK—The mood was cautiously optimistic as officials of the Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers began their series of 14 district meetings this week. York County's District 7 dairymen-members met with the Baltimore milk market administrators during a dinner and business session at the Centre Presbyterian Church on Wednesday evening.

Of major interest to members was the situation at Holly Milk, the manufacturing processing plant jointly owned by

MCMP and sister cooperative Interstate Milk Producers of Southampton. A series of setbacks, including fire on April 21 in the milk powder drying equipment, has delayed operation of the plant at total capacity.

"We have assured our customers that Holly Milk is back," emphasized Ralph Strook, manager of MCMP. According to Strook, most of the major problems appear to be history, with the plant now running up to 97 percent of operational capacity.

That Carlisle facility should be showing a good (Turn to Page 18)

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