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TO USE FARM RECORDS

Good farm records are needed for tax reporting purposes and to evaluate the cash flow of a farm operation. However, one of the greatest benefits of good records is to do farm planning in the future. Records should be evaluated at the end of the year and used to make major decisions for

the future. Good managers will spend time during the fall and early winter in going over their accounts to locate the profitable, and the less profitable, enterprises. Expansion seems to be very widespread in recent years; however, to get bigger does not necessarily mean to get better. Farm records can be very useful in making farm plans.

Farm Calendar

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- Monday, November 19
Woodburning Stove Seminar, Arendtsville at 1 p.m.
- ELCO Young Farmers, ELCO Middle School at 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 20
Manure Management Meeting at Upper Bucks Vo-Tech, 7:30 p.m.
- Lancaster County Holstein Association Banquet, Youth For Christ Center, at 6:45 p.m.
- Ephrata Area Young Farmers Association Monthly Meeting at Ephrata High School, 7:45 p.m.
- Thursday, November 22
Happy Thanksgiving.
- Friday, November 23
Del-Mar-Penn Dairy Goat Club meeting at Dr. Stoneback's, Oxford, 7:30 p.m.

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Those in attendance gave a standing ovation to these outstanding families, as Max Smith commented, "I hope this land stays in farm production for 100 more years."

Lane Palmer, editor of Farm Journal, gave a bright farm outlook for the oncoming decade of the '80's.

The devaluation of the dollar, a major cause of the American farmer's prosperity in the 1970's, will continue to be an important factor to a farmer's gain in the 1980's.

According to Palmer, the devaluation of the dollar has enabled American farm commodities to float free in the world market.

Palmer said he believes farm exports are supporting the value of the dollar in international trade, thus curbing inflation.

In the past 20 years, improved corn hybrids, fer-

tilizers, and weed killers have contributed to twice as many bushels of corn being produced in three million less acres, he said.

Therefore, he has no fear of a food shortage. If farmers would be receiving 25 percent more for their farm commodities, everyone would be surprised how many acres of presently untitled farm land could be developed.

Despite the optimistic farm outlook, Palmer is still concerned about the "exodus of people out of farming." How can the family farm be preserved?, is a question that has been asked by Bob Bergland, secretary of agriculture, and many others.

In the next decade, he hopes to see more families remain on the farm and continue to improve the agriculture industry.

Cool, wet autumn dampens fieldwork

HARRISBURG - Cool temperatures and overall wet conditions prevailed across the state during the week ending November 12, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service, holding farmers to five days of fieldwork. Little progress was made during the week.

Field activities included corn and soybean harvest, spreading lime and manure. Some farmers have kept busy by cutting firewood and hunting while waiting for fields to dry.

Fuel supplies tightened slightly, with diesel fuel not rated at 13 percent tight and 87 percent adequate. Gasoline supplies are reported at 10 percent tight and 90 percent adequate, while LP gas supplies are at six percent tight and 94 percent adequate.

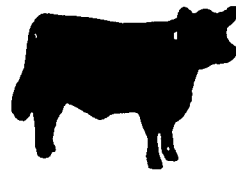
Soil moisture was rated at 54 percent surplus and 46 percent adequate, and is reported as too wet for fieldwork. Northern farm operators rated soil

moisture as 55 percent surplus, central counties were at 56 percent surplus, and southern counties rated 50 percent surplus for the week.

Harvesting of corn progressed to 56 percent done, compare to last year's 73 percent and the five-year average of 75 percent harvested. Some northern farmers report corn is not drying on the stalk.

Farmers in the central and southern regions report corn borer and stalk rot damage. The statewide crop is reportedly high in moisture.

Harvesting of soybeans for beans is now 55 percent complete, a gain of ten percent for the week. Better weather and field conditions should warrant rapid progress in soybean harvest.



Feeder calf sale nets thousands

HARRISBURG - A total of 126 head netted \$62,285 after the last calf crossed the auction block at the 1979 Feeder Steer and Heifer Sale at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition in Harrisburg.

The 110 steers averaged \$1.15 per pound or \$561.77 per head while the 16 heifers claimed an average of 87½ cents per pound or a \$402.62 per head average.

The top selling steer which sold for \$1600 was purchased by high bidder Glen Price of Osterberg, Bedford County. The steer was one of John R. Johnson's fourth place crossbred steer pen. The Lewisburg, West Virginian averaged \$1.63 per pound or \$847.50 for six head.

Mike and Pat Barker of Kendallville, Indiana, received the highest average of the auction for their second place pen of crossbred steers. Their five

head averaged \$1.79 per pound or \$859 per head. The successful bidder for the Barker's top steer was Dale Wener of RD2, Hanover, York County, who paid \$945 for the individual.

The third highest average of the sale was attained by Dunwalke Farm of Far Hills, New Jersey. Their pen of Hereford and Polled Hereford steers brought \$1.41 per pound with an average of \$672 per head. Conrad Stipp of Paulesboro, New Jersey, purchased the high seller of this pen for \$750.

Rolling Meadows Farm of Jermyn, Lackawanna County, took the highest prices in the heifer sale. Rolling Meadows showed the second place pen of crossbred heifers. William L. Brown of RD 2, Edinburg, Virginia, bought the top individual heifer. The pen averaged \$430 per head.

Ag committee to meet

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator Herman E. Talmadge, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, announced Wednesday that the Committee will meet November 27 to consider a House-

passed bill to increase target prices for the 1979 crops of wheat and feed grains. In addition to H.R. 3398, Talmadge said the Committee will consider other amendments to the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, including several pending Senate bills to increase target prices.

Talmadge said the Committee would meet at 8

a.m. for a brief hearing on the legislation at which representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and major farm organizations will present "a brief review of their positions."

Following the hearing, Talmadge said the Committee will meet in mark-up session on the same day and "hopefully report a bill."

The hearing and meeting will be held in Room 324 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

No witness list is available at this time. Anyone wishing additional information can contact the Committee staff at 202/224-2035.



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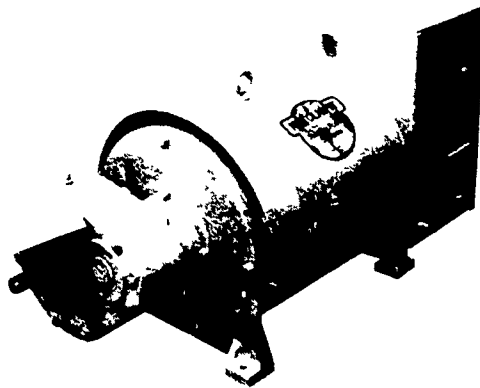
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