

## Mushroom growers

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mushrooms than any place else in the world.

But, they noted, the Taiwanese do not have to contend with the same labor problems, high hourly wages, payments into workmen's compensation and unemployment compensation funds, high taxes, regulations on spray materials, and other factors which are daily facts of life for local producers.

The growers received favorable comments from both of their U.S. Senators, Heinz, and Richard S. Schweiker.

U.S. Representative Richard T. Schulze, Chester County, also promised his support.

Among the early indications of success is the fact the hearings have been moved up so the President thus time around will be required to rule just before the election. Under a normal timetable, the ruling would have come just after the election.

Should the election be a close one, and should Carter need Pennsylvania to gather some more votes in November, it could be the



Ken King, Roy Anderson, Gene Powell, and Lou Caputo plan strategy before making their presence felt in Washington. Growers seeking relief from mushroom imports made the trip which was coordinated by Pennsylvania Farmers Union.

mushroom growers will have a better than even chance of seeing the ITC take some action under Section 201.

What remains to be seen is how the industry will fare after the five year period has expired.

That is a problem which can be worked on in the interim should the growers get the temporary relief they seek.—CH



Robert Mullins, right, assistant legislative director for National Farmers Union, made sure Senator John Heinz knew where Pennsylvania mushroom growers stand. Heinz indicated his support of the industry.

## New 4-H rifle club to start

BRIDGEPORT — All boys and girls ages 13 to 19 in Montgomery County are invited to join a new 4-H Rifle Club to start June 21; 10 a.m. at the Bridgeport Gun and Archery Club, Inc., located on route 202 and Front Street in Bridgeport.

The club will meet on alternate Saturdays up to and including August 16th, all sessions to start at 10 a.m. There is no cost to join the club but all members will be expected to pay for the

ammunition that will be provided. It is recommended that you provide your own ear protection if you have it as supplies are limited.

The program is sponsored by the Montgomery County 4-H Clubs in conjunction with the instructors at the Bridgeport Gun and Archery Club.

For further details and to register in advance, call Steve Behmke at 215/279-4595 or County Agent Nancy Kadwill at 215/277-0574.

## 1980 small grains program closes Monday, June 16

LEESPORT — "Producers of corn, wheat, barley and sorghum should seriously consider signing up for 1980 Federal crop programs," said Mark Balthaser, Chairperson of the Berks County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

He added, "The 1980 Feed Grain and Wheat Program offers all grain producers commodity price and disaster insurance without an insurance premium cost. In addition, farmers will be eligible for price support loans on their crop."

The sign-up period for wheat and barley ends June 16 in southeastern Pennsylvania. Corn and sorghum sign-up must be completed by August 1, 1980.

The program offers crop price deficiency payments to producers if average market prices happen to be lower than crop target prices. For farms that are planted within the farm normal crop acreage the target prices are: Corn \$2.35 per bu.; Wheat \$3.63 per bu., Sorghum \$2.50 per bu., Barley \$2.55 per bu.

For farmers who overplanted the farm normal crop acreage, target prices are Corn \$-0- per bu., Wheat \$3.08 per bu., Sorghum \$2.45 per bu., Barley \$2.29 per bu.

Low crop yields caused by natural disasters such as flood, drought, etc., will qualify enrolled producers for low yield crop payments providing the farm suffered at least a 40 percent yield loss per crop. Low yield payments will be made at one-half of the target price rate. Corn producers who have exceeded the farm normal crop acreage are eligible for corn low yield payments at \$1.03 per bushel. Producers who have been unable to plant their crop due to disaster are also eligible for benefits.

"Farmers should be prepared to provide an accurate statement of planted acreage for each crop when they enroll," Balthaser said. The certified crop acreage and the farm ASCS normal crop yield are the bases for all payments. Producers remain eligible for target price and disaster payments whether the crop is harvested for grain or silage.

Price support loans are available for crops harvested as

grain including high-moisture corn and sorghum. Price support loan rates for Pennsylvania are: Corn approx. \$2.29 per bu.; Wheat \$2.46 per bu.; Sorghum approx. \$2.02 per bu.; Barley approx. \$1.69 per bu.

All producers of grain should enroll according to Chairperson Balthaser. No set-aside is required in 1980.

Program sign-up and crop certification is being conducted by all county offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. The program offers price and disaster insurance to all producers who enroll.

For further information contact your local County ASCS Office



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