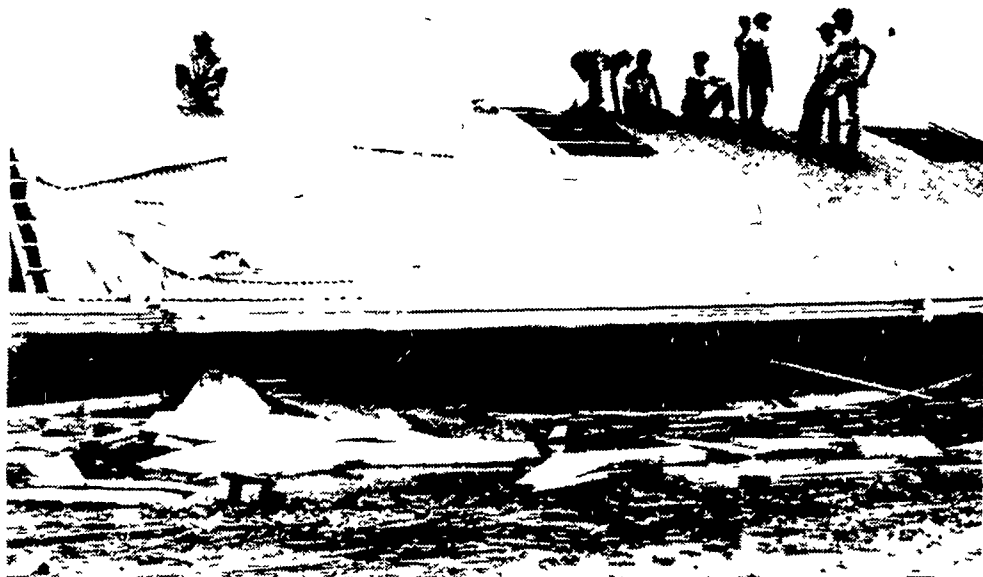


# Lancaster Farming

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\$7.50 Per Year



A house containing 20,000 layers was toppled by high winds Wednesday evening on the farm of Tom Grassel, Conestoga. Grassel said the building was built in 1974 and that it fell during the beginning of the storm. He said he was in the other chicken house on his property when the fierce winds hit and he saw this building collapse. Friends and neighbors pitched in to help clean debris and crawl through the roof to load the chickens Wednesday evening. Debris was scattered over an adjoining field.

## Heat taking toll in poultry houses

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN  
LANCASTER COUNTY —

The unrelenting heat and humidity that have plagued farmers and their livestock in the West and South arrived in Lancaster County this week and began to take its toll in poultry houses.

Mortality rates began to climb Tuesday, particularly among the older and heavier broilers and layers which are more susceptible to the soaring thermometer.

The operation of LeRoy Esbenshade at R7 Manheim lost a couple hundred birds about midweek when the mercury climbed to about 92

degrees in the 60,000-layer house. These were hens in their fifth period about two weeks from being taken out of the house.

In the Mount Joy area John H. Wolgemuth sustained larger losses. Some 1,300 birds were lost in a 60,000-bird house. Again, these losses were inflicted on older hens.

"They were at the stage that they just couldn't withstand the heat," Wolgemuth said.

"Our broilers, which were about four weeks old, didn't seem to mind it at all."

A representative of the Pennfield Corporation involved in the broiler operation confirmed that the older birds, those about six to seven weeks old, were primarily affected. The younger and lighter birds were fairing much better.

He estimated that overall losses among growers may be running about two percent higher than normal among these older and heavier birds.

He cited one case where some 2,400 were lost from a flock of 34,000.

In the South Central U.S. losses have been running much higher. Particularly in the areas of the Mississippi River, extraordinary

damages have been reported to flocks.

Generally, mortality has been running four to six percent, along with five percent drops in production and decreases in egg size.

Jay Irwin, of the Lancaster County Extension staff, said that the most important thing is to get air moving over the birds.

He recommended the use of auxiliary fans when the heat and humidity climb to the danger level.

The movement of 500 cubic feet of air per minute can cool birds, or livestock, by as much as 10 degrees, he said.

"By moving the air, growers can utilize the chill factor in moderating the effects of the heat," he said.

In addition to losses, the heat is also having a material effect on production in the poultry houses.

The continuing toll of the heat and humidity as it spread from the Texas area through the South and into the Northeast was reflected in this week's New York Egg Market. Most prices increased dramatically, particularly in the larger sizes.

The prices were up more than 10 cents a dozen in some sizes.

The effects of the weather were also being felt in the future's grain markets.

## UDF asks shippers to forgo

### 75% of June milk check

BY CURT HARLER

PITTSBURGH — United Dairy Farmers Cooperative Corporation has asked its shipper members to forgo about 75 percent of their June milk checks.

Pittsburgh National Bank is calling a series of demand notes which, at the call date, totalled approximately \$365,000. Because of this UDF was unable to meet the first June milk check due farmers.

According to UDF President Ernest Hayes, shippers have agreed to consider the money which would be withheld from their June checks as a loan to be repaid over 18 months to two years.

But other indications are the current financial difficulties could result in UDF's bankruptcy if all does

not go well since the organization is not 100 percent a co-op, but a unique mixture of co-op and proprietary handler.

The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board considers UDF a cooperative under Pennsylvania law. It has both farmer and consumer members, located in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Consumers pay dues to join the co-op and receive patronage refunds on their purchases, thereby saving money under the PMMB minimum price regulations.

It isn't quite the same for farmers. UDF is considered a pool plant under Federal Order 36, and not a cooperative.

UDF never became a farmer cooperative under Capper-Volstead Act provisions and so is required

to pay the minimum Federal Order price for all milk received just like any other proprietary handler.

Any assessment against the farmers' milk checks can not be considered a reblend or co-op assessment, but would result in a handler's payment falling below the Order 36 blend price, an Order 36 official said.

According to Federal Milk Marketing regulations, the Milk Market Administrator for Order 36 will have to take action to correct the underpayment if UDF carries through with any loan scheme that brings the farmers' payments below Order 36 minimum June payment.

Officially, the Federal Order had received no word of the proposed loan by dairymen to UDF. But

numerous farmers had called asking about the loan.

The Order would consider any such move an underpayment to producers and it is Order 36's responsibility to see area farmers get their minimum price.

"A promise to pay is not

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## Goat owners lack rep on Advisory Board

### Title 7 ruling affects goats

BY PAT KAUFFMAN

HARRISBURG — Dairy goat owners across the state will need to comply with the Bureau of Animal Industry's new Title 7 regulations on the importation to Pennsylvania from other states and Canada of any goats beginning October 15 this year. Those most affected by the new rulings will be owners who purchase from small out of state herds which are not on whole herd TB and Brucellosis testing programs.

Additionally, it appears that goat owners in the state were not represented on the Secretary of Agriculture's Animal Health Advisory Board when the new Title 7 regulations were adopted in December.

Title 7 regulations stiffen existing regulations on Brucellosis and Tuberculosis testing for cattle, goats, and buffalo entering the state. Where previously animals were required to be

individually tested and certified free of the diseases, animals entering the state must now originate from herds on a whole herd test program for Brucellosis. Only animals imported for immediate slaughter are exempt.

Roberta Molaro, editor of the Pennsylvania Dairy Goat Association's newsletter, Keystone, said that for her herd and many others in the state, the new regulations will only make mandatory those precautions they already practice with their herds.

She said most goat owners with herds in the state are currently on whole herd test programs and must get proper certification on animals from other states.

Roberta said that some states, possibly New York, handle their testing programs somewhat differently than Pennsylvania and there may be some inconveniences when purchasing animals from those states. According to Dr. John Dick, Bureau of Animal Industry, there have not

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## Lebanon farmer gives up as grain bin comes down

BY SHEILA MILLER

CAMPBELLTOWN — As a result of receiving a letter of complaint against him and the location of his grain bin on Tuesday, July 8, Harvey W. Krall, a South Londonderry Township grain farmer, decided to give in to the powers of the local law and the county planning commission.

"I'm giving up, but they'll soon learn they can't raise food in a rule book," Krall said.

The official notice, issued out of District Justice Lee Lehman's office, Palmyra, informed Krall once again that he was in violation of the township's zoning regulations by having his grain bin located 40½ feet off Hinkle Road.

The zoning requirement for Krall's farm, which was zoned light industrial by the township planning commission in 1973, is that the structure had to be 100 feet from the road.

Despite the fact that there were silos located next to the grain bin, about 80 feet from the road and the grain bin was located for ease of filling and unloading into the silos, and despite the fact that Krall owns all of the property on both sides of the township road and there are no close residences near the grain bin, Krall was found in violation of the ordinance by Judge G. Thomas Gates on March 17.

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