

# AAM farmers continue fight for 100% parity

LANCASTER — The issues vital to American Agriculture Movement's campaign this season include 100 percent parity for farmer. Farmers are currently receiving 63 percent parity, the lowest percentage in 48 years.

"The term 'parity' refers to the relationship between the price the farmer gets for what he sells, in relation to the price he pays for what he buys," explains L.A. Davidson, President of AAM.

"Right now farmers are receiving 37 percent less for their products than it costs to produce them. Agriculture is the only industry in the country that operates on this economic format."

Willis adds, "The country's largest producers aren't being paid for what they produce. Today the farmer is feeding his fellow Americans and half the world for less than it costs him to produce the food."

The United States last year provided the world, outside of the U.S., with 70 percent of all their imported course grains and 40 percent of all wheat world wide.

In 1977, the U.S. farmer fed twice as many people as the average farmer world wide and fed the U.S. for a smaller share of their spendable income than the farmer of any other country. Farmers in other countries receive 10 times as much for wheat, and 4.5 times as

much for corn than the American farmer.

Why then, do food prices continue to escalate?

Jack Cothran, Alabama AAM'er, explains, "87 percent of the increase in food prices occur after the product left the farm. Most inflation occurs at the manufacturer, wholesaler and retailer, not on the producer's farm. For instance, the U.S. consumer pays more for a bread wrapper than the farmer got for the grain in the loaf."

Inflation seems to be pricing the farmer out of business. He is mortgaging his home and refinancing his crop loans too in order to keep farming.

Fuel prices increased 83 percent from 1979 to 1980. Fertilizer has increased 35 percent, parts for machinery 100-300 percent. But the farmer receives less for his product today than he did 30

## Applications due for N.J. farmer deer permit

TRENTON, N.J. — The Special Farmer Deer Permit applications are due in the Trenton office of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife during the period of September 8 to 22, inclusive, according to the Hunterdon County Extension Service.

Forms and details are available at all New Jersey extension offices.

There is no fee for a

years ago.

"The government's intervention in determining food prices has made it impossible for the farmer to sell goods on the free enterprise system", says Cothran.

Although 100 percent parity may result in a slight food increase, a 10 percent gain in income for the farmer only produces a 3.6 percent rise in food spending for the consumer.

Today the average American spends 15 percent of his disposable income on food. Canada spends 21 percent, France 23.6 percent, Britain 31.6 percent and Portugal 46.5 percent.

The AAM is here to receive legislative recognition for the American Farmer", Willis stated. "You can always cut back on fuel consumption, but the human body needs fuel we cannot live without."

Special Farmer Permit. Permits will be issued on an individual basis to qualified occupants of a farm, defined as an area of at least five acres and producing a gross income in excess of \$500.

Permit will be void if more than one application is submitted, whether for a Special Farm Permit or for a licensed quota Special Deer Permit.

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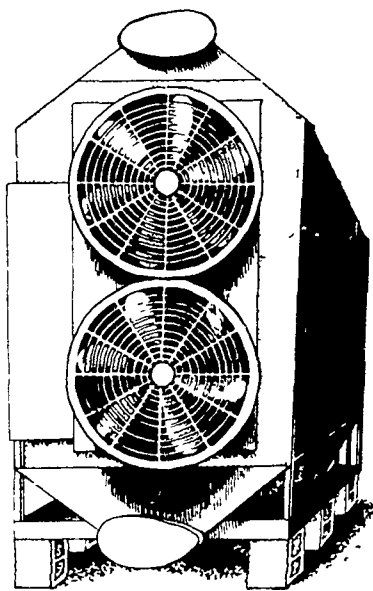
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