

ASCS programs viewed on Central Pa. farms

HARRISBURG — Officials of the State ASC Committee, recently toured farms in the Central Pennsylvania area to obtain views of farmers and governmental representatives on how to improve ASCS programs.

Participating in the tour were Louise Rinker, chairperson of the state committee; Committeeman Clayton Winebark, Indiana County, and Raymond Kerstetter, Snyder County; Carl L. Kauffman, Executive Director of ASCS; and program specialists and district directors.

The first stop was at the Gerald Holman farm, Perry

County, where a sod waterway and stripcropping were installed. No-till and conventional tillage practices were used. Holman uses an "in-bin" grain dryer and bins for his grain operation.

A quick stop was made on the way to the next farm to observe a rye cover crop seeding in corn being made by helicopter on a farm operated by Charles Beaver. A modern "in-bin" dryer with automatic unloading set-up was seen plus strips, tile and diversions that were installed. Beaver uses the facility loan program, commodity loans and the grain reserve.

A large dairy operation was explained at the Delmar Brofee farm, where the tile practice and stripcropping are popular on 550 acres of cropland.

A drive-by was made at the Larry Beaver farm to see his grain drying equipment. Larry uses a continuous flow automatic dryer. This part of the tour was in a large grain-producing valley and several different grain drying systems were explained and observed.

The Juniata County Commissioners, and the Perry and Juniata Counties ASC Committees visited with the State Committee.

The next stop was at the Marvin Peoples Farm to see a manure pit, sod waterway and silo under facility loan.

The Phillip Koser Farm had stripcropping, a drop box and sod waterway installed.

The tour continued in Snyder County to the Neil Hornberger Farm to see an animal waste structure. From there the group observed a drop inlet and sod waterway at the Albert Apple Farm. The group assembled for dinner in South Williamsport with other agency personnel, farmers, committeemen and local officials present from Perry, Sullivan, Lycoming and Tioga Counties.

On the second day of the

tour, the group stopped to see a sod waterway on the property line of Gantz and Swartz, Lycoming County. The next stop was on the Swartz Farm to see a spring development and drop inlet used to improve the use of pasture. Another sod waterway and diversion were being developed on this farm. Technicians from the Soil Conservation Service were thorough and explained each practice in detail.

In Sullivan County the first stop was at the William Frazier Farm to see an aerial rye cover practice. Drought-stricken corn was also noted here. Very few corn ears were noted on stalks.

James Middleton, aid to Congressman Raphael Musto, and Carmel Sirianni, State Representative for the 11th District, accompanied the tour in Sullivan County.

The Sullivan County Special ACP Project of timberstand improvement and conservation practices was explained by the Forester Glenn Erb, on the farms of John Harvey, Mike Klem, and John McMahon.

A stop was made at the John Young Farm where a diversion and stone lined waterway had been installed with tile as a component and seeded with birdsfoot trefoil.

The next stop at the Ronald Wilkens Farm showed improved pasture

management by using three drops inlets and a diversion terrace.

Arthur Rohe was in the midst of potato harvest and explained how a plan of diversion terraces had stopped a serious erosion problem on his farm.

The animal waste facility on the George Lambert Farm was designed for filling and emptying by gravity. Diversion terraces were in use here to prevent surface water from entering the animal waste.

John George, District Conservationist of Soil Conservation Service, explained the construction of the various conservation measures.

Manheim crowns farm show queen

MANHEIM — Vicki Shearer, a 17 year old senior at Manheim Central High School, was crowned the 1980 Manheim Farm Show Queen during ceremonies Monday night.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shearer, Manheim R4, and lives on a dairy farm. Vicki was selected Farm Show queen by her classmates from among a field of three contestants.

She is active in student council, pep club and hockey.

The new queen was crowned by last year's Farm Show Queen Sheri Buchen.



Vicki Shearer, Manheim's 1980 Farm Show Queen, is crowned by Sheri Buchen, last year's queen.

The other two contestants were Chris Ebersole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Ebersole, Lititz R2, and Gail Graybill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clair J. Graybill, Manheim R5.

☺ have a nice weekend... ☺

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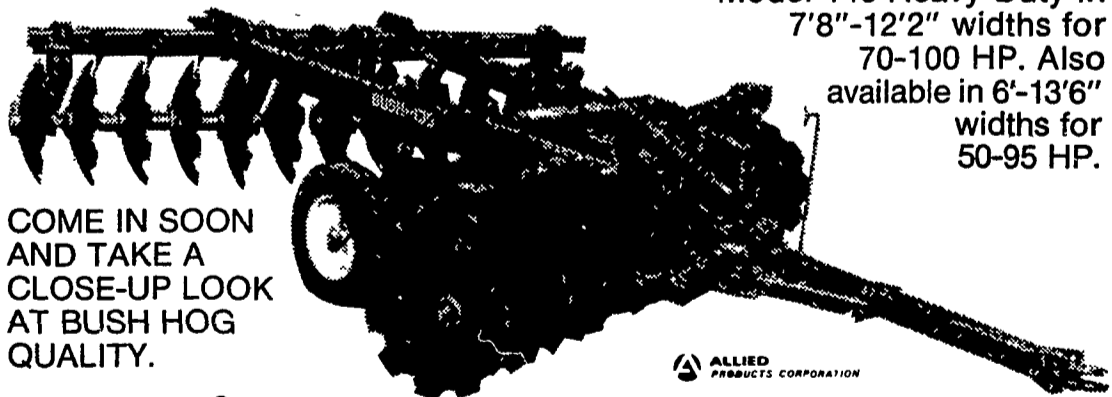
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