

# No set-aside needed for 1981 feed grain program

LANCASTER — For the second year in a row, U.S. feed grain producers will not need to set aside acreage to be eligible for the farmer-owned reserve, commodity loans and target price protection, according to Paul B. Kline, Chairman of the Lancaster County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

"Feed grain producers need only to be sure they plant within their normal

crop acreage on all farms in which they have an interest to be eligible for program benefits in 1981," Kline said.

The normal crop acreages are currently under review and may be adjusted in cases where appropriate to more adequately reflect farmers' current cropping programs and the application of best farming practices, Kline said.

Jim Williams, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, said: "With world coarse grain production likely to be down slightly from last year's crop and the demand for grains continuing to rise, the U.S. Department of Agriculture expects a drawdown in stocks and higher prices."

"The provisions of the 1981 feed grain program will allow U.S. farmers to respond to domestic and world market requirements but still provide them with price and income protec-

tion," Williams said.

Chairman Kline says producers should remember the importance of good farming practices as they plan for 1981, and he recommends against bringing fragile lands into production. Farmers who plant these lands in 1981 will not have this acreage added to their farms' normal crop acreage in subsequent years.

Price support loan will be at least \$2.25 for corn and other feed grain loan prices would be based upon a feed value relationship to corn.

Feed grain target prices for 1981 crops will be announced next spring but will be at least equal to the 1980 levels of \$2.35 per bushel for corn, \$2.50 per bushel for sorghum and \$2.55 per bushel for barley.

To qualify for full target price protection, farmers cannot plant more corn, sorghum or barley in 1981

than was considered planted in these crops this year. Farmers who exceed this acreage will be subject to an allocation factor that can reduce their target price payment, if any, by up to 20 percent.

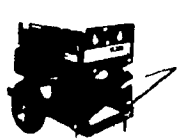
National program acreages of 90.1 million acres for corn, 15.4 million acres for sorghum and 9.7 million acres for barley have been announced. The

national program acreage is the number of acres for each crop needed to be planted to meet projected domestic and export requirements, as well as provide for an adequate carryover.

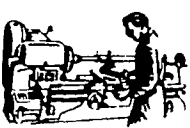
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