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Also discuss autumn olive

Farmers win multiflora rose concessions

BY CURT HARLER
HUNTINGDON — A group of Huntingdon County farmers may have accomplished in one day what farm organizations, lawmakers, secretaries of agriculture, and the rest of the state's farmers couldn't do in 25 years.

They obtained a commitment from the Pennsylvania Game Commission not to oppose declaring Multiflora rose a noxious weed. They also won concessions on autumn olive.

Multiflora rose, promoted since the early 1950s as an ideal game cover and as a living fencerow, has turned into a nightmare for many Pennsylvania farmers.

The Commission says multiflora makes an excellent game cover. But farmers complain it gets so dense a rabbit couldn't run through it. Added to that are problems with birds who spread the woody plant through their droppings.

The Huntingdon County group actually had plenty of

help from farm groups, politicians, the ag department, and others when it came to Harrisburg to sound off on multiflora rose.

They organized a bus trip to the Capitol and brought their state representative Samuel E. Hayes, Jr., R1 Tyrone. Hayes, well informed by his constituents, took over the questioning.

It didn't hurt that Hayes was House Majority Whip and moves up to Majority leader January 1.

He obtained from Penn-

sylvan Game Commission Executive Director Glenn L. Bowers an agreement that the Commission would go along with having multiflora declared noxious.

Hayes also obtained a
(Turn to Page A23)

Lancaster farmers elect ASC representatives

LANCASTER — Farmers recently selected representatives in their respective communities to serve as committeemen for the Lancaster County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service during the ASC elections.

These community committeemen inform farmers about ASCS programs, remind neighbors of signups, referendums, and deadlines, provide information about local conditions including disasters, and assist in local problem cases when requested. The length of term for community committeemen is one year.

The community committeemen when elected serve as a delegate to the county convention to select the county committee which serve a three year term. David McMichael, Lancaster, R6, was reelected to serve another term on three member county committee.

He had previously served to fill the unexpired term vacated by Vincent Hoover, New Providence.

Paul Kline, Brunnerville Road, Lititz, and LeRoy Welk, Quarryville, R4, will continue to serve their unexpired terms as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

The County Committee, is responsible for ad-

ministering the assigned ASCS programs, and see that the day to day operations are carried out effectively, efficiently and impartially. Their task is similar to that of a board of directors of a cooperative or other organization.

Ray Brubaker, County Executive Director of ASCS

(Turn to Page A38)

In this issue

SECTION A: Editorials, 10; Farm Credit amendments, 15; Perry junior Holstein, 17; Bradford extension awards, 19; Gold mine in Holstein breeding, 34.

SECTION B: 5.5 tons soil loss per acre, 2; Centre County DHIA, 4; Liming boosts nutrients, 8.

SECTION C: Homestead notes, 2; Joyce Bupp's column, 5; Home on Range, 6; Christmas for children, 10; Sheila's shorts, 14; Farm talk, 15; Adams DHIA, 23; Cheapest sheep programs, 28; Tobacco outlook, 32; Energy council honors dairies, 34.

SECTION D: Grange opposes proposal, 2; Beef outlook, 6; Dairy business, 8; Lebanon DHIA, 9; Bird damage, 18; CNI proposal, 20; Mifflin DHIA, 24; Spotlighting changes, 28.

Talks AMPI, not local co-ops

AMPI president visits Eastern farmers

BY JANE BRESEE
Staff Correspondent

EAST TOWANDA — The President of the largest dairy co-op in the United States came East Tuesday to make contact with dairymen in Pennsylvania.

Irvin J. Elkin, president of Associated Milk Producers, Inc., promised dairymen in the troubled northeast Pennsylvania dairy market, "AMPI will continue in the future to be the most effective and largest dairy cooperative in the United States."

Elkin's four-stop speaking trip, included a dinner meeting at the Country Club in East Towanda Tuesday.

His visit, sponsored by Keystone Harvestore, adds another chapter to reports first made in Lancaster Farming in October that

AMPI and Northeast Dairy Cooperative Federation, Inc. had begun talks which could lead either to a joint venture between the two or to the eventual merger of the co-ops.

When asked by a radio station reporter if AMPI wanted to get control of Eastern Milk Producers' Milk, Elkin replied, "I don't want to go into specifics." And he didn't.

But the speech-making trip did give Elkin the chance to address the northeast Pennsylvania dairy farmers.

Elkin climaxed his lengthy speech by saying that AMPI will continue to increase its share of the dairy market. "It must grow or die," he said.

Twelve mergers were made this year making an additional 4000 new members. The mergers were approved by the Justice Department while at the same time 3000 farm members were lost because they went out of business.

"We will continue to work for improved income for all dairy farmers in our country", Elkin said. "For there is one poll and one market — the United States consumer."



Irvin J. Elkin

Elkin was born and reared on a dairy farm near Amery, Wisconsin which he now operates in partnership with his son, Brian. He milks about 40 holstein cows and farms 200 acres of corn, alfalfa and small grain.

He started his association with dairy cooperatives as a member of the Turtle Lake cooperative's creamery and was on the board of directors when it joined with 60 other cooperatives to form AMPI in 1969. In 1974, he was elected president of the AMPI Cooperative Board and spends one-half to three-quarters of his time working in that position. He was

(Turn to Page A24)

Farmers to hold meeting on area bridge conditions

QUARRYVILLE —irate farmers and farm businessmen have grown tired of talking about the horrid condition of roads and bridges in Lancaster County.

This Monday they plan to do something about it. A meeting has been set for December 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Refton Fire Hall, along Route 222 at Refton, to see what can be done about the problem.

Gibson E. Armstrong, Pennsylvania State Representative from the 100th District, will be among those attending. Armstrong lives at R1 Refton.

In addition, officials of the Pennsylvania Department of

Transportation have agreed to attend the meeting, to hear about the problem first hand, and to offer what suggestions or answers they can.

Of special interest to the group meeting Monday is the railroad bridge on Route 372 at the East end of Quarryville.

The bridge is posted with an 11 ton weight limit, far too low to handle much of the truck traffic passing along the main road through Quarryville.

In recent weeks, a milk hauler has been slapped with a \$3900 fine for overweight and a farmer was fined in

excess of \$1000 for the same thing.

"This is a thorn in the side of agricultural businessmen and farmers," says Ken Herr, a farm machinery dealer who, along with others, must plan a way around weight limits posted on bridges along roads which the Department of Transportation maintains can not support more weight.

Problems with bridges have occurred in several other areas of Lancaster County, including some posted spans in the Elizabethtown-Maytown area.

(Turn to Page A36)