

# Energy Council honors Mason-Dixon, Penn Dairies

HARRISBURG — Mason-Dixon Farms, of Gettysburg, and Penn Dairies, Inc., of Lancaster, this week were among six recipients of Energy Conservation Awards sponsored by the Governor's Energy Council.

The awards were presented on Tuesday by Lt Gov. William W. Scranton III, chairman of the Energy Council.

The Energy Conservation Awards Program is open to industries, commercial organizations, local government units, and individuals who have instituted programs and energy saving measures which have resulted in at least twenty percent reduction in energy use over a twelve month period.

The Governor's Energy Council offers these awards to acknowledge special accomplishments in the field of energy conservation and the promotion of energy saving programs.

Mason-Dixon Farms was recognized for its contribution to the energy conservation programs of the Commonwealth through the installation of a manure digester to produce biogas.

The digester produces approximately 38,000 cubic feet of gas per day or 90 percent of the farm's energy needs. The sludge and solids from the digester are used to make bedding for all the animals on the farm and the exhaust from the generator motor is used as a source of heat to make bedding.

Mason-Dixon Farms plans to build a second digester to increase its electrical capacity of one and a half times. It expects to produce enough waste heat for 40 gallons per hour of ethanol fuel and to become totally self-sufficient through the use of renewable resources.

Penn Dairies was recognized for its contribution to the energy conservation programs of the Commonwealth through the installation of a waste heat recovery system.

The system is estimated to save 83,000 gallons of fuel oil in its first year of operation and an additional 11,230 gallons in each future year. The system is designed to reduce the use of fuel oil to heat water and to eliminate all waste disposal to landfill except glass and metal.

## Pulldown of corn stocks expected

DEKALB, Ill. — U.S. corn production for 1979 was a busting 7.76 billion bushel record. The average yield per acre was 109.4 bushels. According to the USDA October 10, 1980 estimate, only 6.47 billion bushels were produced in 1980 due to widespread drought and heat during the critical pollination and grain-filling period.

Due to the short corn crop in the United States, the estimates of reduced corn and wheat production in Russia and other countries of the world, the amount of carryover (ending stocks) at the end of the 1980-81 marketing year (September 30, 1981) is estimated by the USDA to be 704 million bushels - one billion bushels less than the previous year's ending stock.

If 1980-81 U.S. corn usage and exports remain near 1979-80 levels, as projected by USDA, 7.3 billion bushels of U.S. corn will be utilized by September 30, 1981. Approximately 4.1 billion bushels will be used for livestock consumption, 700 million in food and industrial products, and exports will total some 2.5 billion bushels.

Since exports are critical to the economic health of U.S. farmers and a major factor in U.S. balance of payments, let's look at the importers of U.S. corn based on estimated 1979-80 figures and projected 1980-81.

	1979-80 Million Bushels	1980-81 Million Bushels
Japan	450	490
E.E.C	395	390
East Europe	310	300
Other W E	305	310
USSR	235	200
Mexico	160	180
Taiwan	88	90
South Korea	80	100
China	70	100
Mideast/North Africa	70	80
Canada	50	50
Brazil	37	40
Israel	20	20
Others	130	150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>2,500</b>

If the 2.5 billion bushels of corn exported in 1980-81 is valued at \$4 per bushel, we can see that corn could bring some 10 billion dollars into the United States. That is enough currency to offset imports of 33.3 million television sets valued at \$300 each (wholesale), or 1.43 million autos valued at \$7,000 (wholesale).

As the world population continues to grow and as the United States maintains its leadership in producing food to help feed the world's people, U.S. farmers will continue to be very, very important people in the world economies. And, corn will be a very important element of U.S. agriculture.



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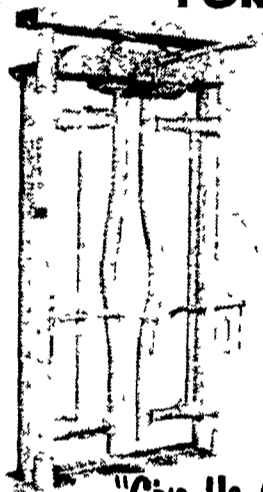


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