

PFU's Zemaitis joins Eastern

HARRISBURG — Beginning July 27, Leonard Zemaitis, the current administrative director for the Pennsylvania Farmers' Union headquartered here, will be changing hats and wearing an Eastern Milk Producer's Cooperative cap as he starts his new job as manager of public and member relations at the Co-op's base in Syracuse, N.Y.



Leonard Zemaitis

In accepting the position offered to him by General Manager Mike Donovan, Zemaitis will be replacing Lisle Dutton. Dutton will be retained on staff, however.

Taking Zemaitis' place at PFU will be Carl Kaufman, former state executive director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

When Zemaitis publically announced his resignation, he said he is leaving Pennsylvania Farmer's Union "on the best of terms." He recalled with pride the accomplishments the organization has seen during the past three years under his direction.

"During the past three years, PFU has advanced as a viable farm organization. We realized more strength than we knew we had several years ago and are a much more credible organization," he said.

While he was administrative director, membership in PFU grew by 2,300, and now stands at

5,300. Zemaitis pointed out the organization now meets the national criteria to charter with the required 5,000 members and sufficient county representation.

He pointed out there are 25 county organizations in the state covering 28 counties. During his time of employment, Zemaitis noted, 5 counties were picked up.

In preparing for their national charter, PFU directors have drawn up a set of bylaws which will be voted on by the delegates at the annual meeting in February.

Zemaitis also pointed out there were two cooperatives formed

within PFU in the past three years. One, York County Fuel, has been formed to develop a corn alcohol distillery, but has experienced numerous growing pains and setbacks.

The other co-op, Northern Tier Farmer's Union Milk Producers, was formed in Tioga County to provide an alternative milk market for producers who were dropped by the Polly-O plant in New York last March.

Zemaitis also reviewed the impact PFU had on the recent beef referendum in Pennsylvania and nationwide. He pointed out the organization's concerted effort to hold public meetings to get the farm public informed, resulting in a 46 percent increase in voter registration. The referendum lost in every county in the state.

"Other farm organizations waffled on the issue or were for it, like the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association," recalled Zemaitis. "PFU feels beef doesn't need to be advertised — Americans consume all the beef we produce."

"When you're promoting something, you either want to sell more of it or sell the same amount for more money," he said, noting the threat of too much demand and imports.

Zemaitis will be in New York by the time one of his pet pieces of legislation is discussed in a hearing on the Hill. HB 767 would prohibit block voting if passed.

Another key issue is the milk referendum, which is one piece of state legislation that Zemaitis predicts to fail.

"With the last assessment dropped, farmers will be receiving the same price for their milk over the next two years. They're going to be in an economic bind — I don't believe farmers think they can advertise their way out of that kind of hole," he remarked.

"If they increase the farmer's base price by 13 cents, every farmer will vote for the referendum. But this perpetual promotion, where there is no farmer control, is a mandatory program that will dip into the farmer's pocket."

Zemaitis boasts PFU's impact on legislation when its members get mobilized.

"As I leave PFU, the greatest thing is knowing when our members get a policy in mind, they don't care what the other farm organizations think — they're not looking over their shoulders."

Yocum urges spraying

LANDISVILLE — Blue mold again has a pretty good hold on some of the tobacco fields of Lancaster County.

The infestation is widespread throughout the county, according to John Yocum, superintendent of the Penn State Southeast Research Lab at Landisville.

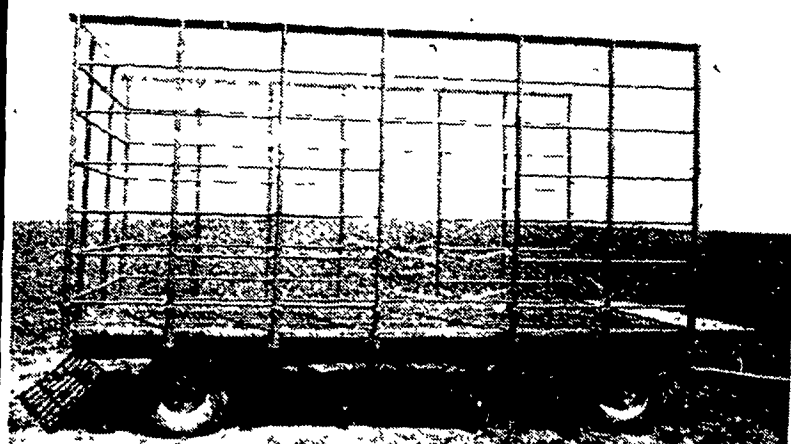
"Anyone who hasn't used Ridomil," Yocum said, "had better spray real quickly."

Farmers who are considering spraying to protect their crop should contact either the County Extension Office or the Research Lab for suggested practices.

The blue mold fungus started to take hold in the county late last week and then spread rapidly due to the rainy weather over the weekend, accompanied by the wet, humid, misty nights.

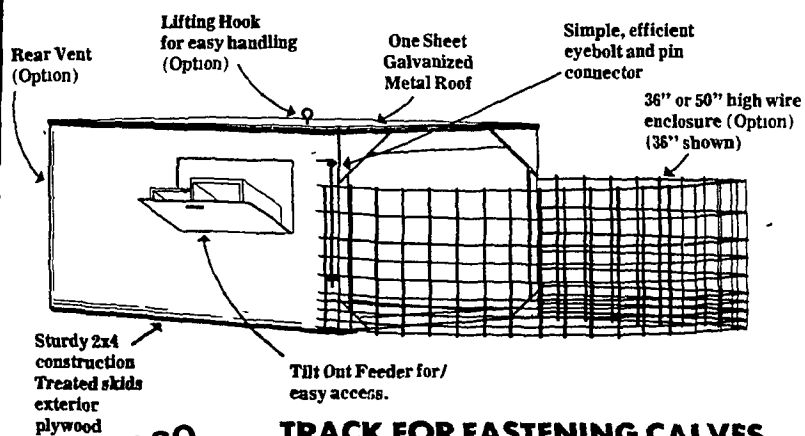
Blue mold has been a serious problem for tobacco growers the past few years. Two years ago it cost growers several million dollars in reduced yields. There are increasing indications that a new strain of the fungus is affecting the local crop — one which develops and spreads at warmer temperatures.

CUSTOM BUILT HAY WAGONS



Built with steel racks, oak frame and floor. Order now for early delivery.

Compare the Stoltzfus Woodwork Calf Hutch



ALSO AVAILABLE: TRACK FOR FASTENING CALVES CHAINED TO CEILING OF HUTCH

Dealers: (Calf Hutches Only)

Adams County:
LIPPY & RINEHART SALES
Glen Lippy, Littlestown, Pa.
717-359-5793 or:
John W. Rinehart, Taneytown, MD
301-346-7326

Berks County:
JOE RUTH
RD #4133 Fleetwood, Pa. 19522
215-944-7571

Lebanon County:
UMBERGER'S MILL
Rt. 322, RD#4 Lebanon, Pa.
717-867-5161

Chester County:
ZOOK'S FARM STORE
Honey Brook, Pa.
215-273-2943

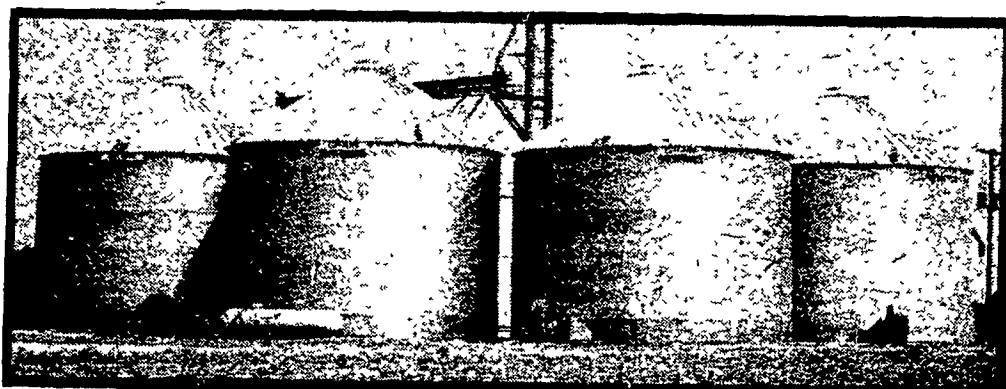
MFD. BY: **STOLTZFUS WOODWORK**
RD 2, Box 2280, Gap, PA 17527
717-442-8972

★ DEALERSHIPS AVAILABLE IN SOME AREAS ★

THE SYSTEMS PEOPLE ▶ Your Headquarters For Augers, Drying and Grain Equipment



GRAIN SYSTEMS, INC. FARM BINS



AIRSTREAM Aeration and Drying Equipment

WE STOCK

- GRAIN BINS
- FEED BINS
- PORTABLE AUGERS
- VERTICAL AUGERS
- TRANSPORT AUGERS

- U-TROUGH AUGERS
- FLEX AUGERS
- AUGER FEEDERS
- GRAIN DRYER
- AERATION FANS
- GRAIN SCATTERS
- CHANNEL LOCK FLOOR

- BIN SWEEPS
- PIPE SPOUTING
- MOISTURE TESTER
- MOTORS, BELTS & PULLEYS
- GRAIN CLEANERS
- IN BIN STIRRING SYSTEMS

★ FULL LINE PARTS DEPARTMENT ★ WE SELL, SERVICE & INSTALL



EQUIPMENT, INC.
RD 1, Rt. 272 S., Herrville Rd.,
Willow Street, PA
Phone: 717-464-3321

Serving The Grain Industry For Over 20 Years