

OUR READERS WRITE, AND OTHER OPINIONS

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available. Here are some quotes and Biblical references taken from the booklet:

"Our faith must stretch further into the future than a cycle of the season. We believe that the fertility of the good earth can and must be preserved for the benefit of future generations, but the task can be accomplished only if, by faith, we pursue those policies and practices that have demonstrated their effectiveness." (Hebrews 11:1-2)

"Our task, as custodians of God's creation and stewards of His resources, is to manage the assets that have been committed to our care so that they will produce the greatest good in the eternal scheme of things." (Ecclesiastes 3:1,2,6)

"Culture deteriorates from diminution of high principle; correspondingly, it declines under the stress of hunger or inadequate shelter. The six inch crust of topsoil contains the raw materials for adequate production of food and fibre, but if it is mismanaged and permitted to erode, the tragic results will be a weakening of our culture and a challenge to our spiritual commitment". (Philippians 4:8)

"The 'Faithful Messenger' mentioned in Proverbs 25:13 must convey the information that the food does not somehow originate magically in the supermarkets to

be exchanged for the currency of those who work at jobs that seem far removed from the fertile fields. It is formed in the green leaves of plants by the process of photosynthesis and no matter how it may be altered as it passes through the food chain, and the processing and distributing systems its source is the soil".

"The task before us is so great and the time for its accomplishment is so short that we cannot afford to waste effort in emphasizing our differences. Those who would exercise an effective stewardship over God's resources are seeking a common goal." (Romans 8:28)

"Those who are dedicated to wise stewardship over the resources of the good earth hold tenaciously to the concept that 'the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein. This concept is not for a span of a year or a generation. The dream of adequate supplies of food and shelter must cover a period that extends far into the future, because this is the only world we have and the total heritage of our decedents.'" (Proverbs 16:3)

We can preserve brick, concrete, antique, but only (green) soil, air, water, natural resources sustain and produce.

Robert K. Mowrer
Director for Lancaster
County Conservation
District

Generally, the technology for controlling erosion is relatively simple. In a democratic country where the land is privately owned and conservation programs are voluntary, the implementation and rate of application of this technology are complicated and slow. However, the establishment of conservation practices on cropland through voluntary efforts over the last 40 years is producing an estimated reduction of erosion amounting to one billion tons annually.

Misunderstanding

There is a misunderstanding of Dairylea's support of the Pennsylvania referendum.

On March 16 a letter was mailed to all Dairylea Pennsylvania members explaining the proposed Pennsylvania referendum on milk advertising and nutrition education. Included with the letter was a self-addressed postcard to provide an opportunity for members to indicate their position pro or con on the proposed program.

Such a poll is required by Pennsylvania State cooperative law. This law also specifies that results of the poll must be made known to a cooperative's members and their members must be notified whether or not the cooperative intends to bloc vote on the marketing development program.

This is to notify you that the poll of Dairylea Pennsylvania members with more than half of those polled responding was two to one in opposition to the proposed advertising program.

In the face of this expressed opinion of our members, Dairylea's Board will not bloc vote in the referendum.

The Secretary of Agriculture of Pennsylvania will send ballots to all Pennsylvania dairy farmers. Dairylea members are urged to use this ballot to express their individual opinions in the referendum.

The Board urges all Dairylea members to carefully consider the long-term effects of a negative vote on this matter. Surely, there is a great need at the present time to stimulate sales of all dairy products. If this referendum does not succeed, it will be a long time before any new efforts are made to install a Pennsylvania advertising and nutrition education state-wide program.

Such a program exists throughout most of the Northeast and at the present time more than 90 percent of Dairylea members are contributing to one program or another.

Clyde E. Rutherford,
President

Learn "Dutch"

UNIVERSITY PARK — The Penn State Press has announced the publication of a book that will answer all the lingual questions for folks who have always wanted to learn how to speak Pennsylvania "Dutch."

Entitled "A Pennsylvania German Reader and Grammar," this hard-bound book written by Earl C. Haag presents the sometimes difficult language so that even the least "Dutchified" person can learn Deutsch.

Haag takes the reader through the language-learning process by presenting the Pennsylvania Dutch words in story-form on one page, and their English translation on the facing page. His topics range from school to house, farm, and town, along with dates, weather, parts of the body, and clothing.

Not only does Haag show you the spelling of the Pennsylvania Dutch words (which he admits may be written differently depending on

the dialect of Dutch that's spoken), but he spells out how these words are pronounced and used grammatically in conversation.

Pennsylvania Dutch or German is the language of Pennsylvania's early settlers who were brought from the Rhine Valley in Germany to the new world by William Penn. Teaching and studying this language has been the career of Earl Haag who is a Penn State professor at the Schuylkill Campus. His interest in Pennsylvania German developed while doing graduate study at Penn State and at Heidelberg University, Germany.

This book, which presents the difficult language in an understandable format, will be available after June 14 from The Pennsylvania State University Press, 215 Wagner Building, University Park, PA 16802. The cost of the hardbound edition is \$12.95

Franklin farmers plan for conservation

CHAMBERSBURG — If you are a farmer, you know that your farm is different from your neighbor's, states John Akers, district conservationist with the Chambersburg office of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

"Your soils are probably different. Your choice of crops, livestock, equipment and management plan will also differ. And these factors also influence the amount of erosion and surface water losses that takes place," he explains.

"There is one way, however, that all landusers are probably alike, "claims Akers. They make plans. Plans to manage, plans to improve, and plans to protect are all done to some degree by each farmer."

When it comes to protecting your natural resources, conservation planning is the key to success. Many Franklin County landusers

now have detailed plans for their land, Akers reports.

The Soil Conservation Service has recently assisted the following to develop conservation plans: J.T. Miller and L.T. Coble, Montgomery Township; Peckman Homestead Farm, St. Thomas Township; James King, Sr., Antrim Township; Harry Eyer, James Kiskaddon, Ralph Gipe, and Robert Cressy, Lurgan Township; Charles Swales and Matthew Feimlee, Metal Township; Robert Bailor, Fannett Township; Ronald Swope, Quincy Township; William Reynolds, Washington Township; Clifford Gayman, Greene Township; and Paul Swartz, Letterkenny Township.

Landowners desiring conservation planning assistance may contact any U.S. Soil Conservation Service office.

Now is the Time

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identification numbers can be obtained from regional offices of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, or from local Extension Offices. Additional information may be obtained by calling the Bureau of Animal Industry, telephone 717-783-5301.

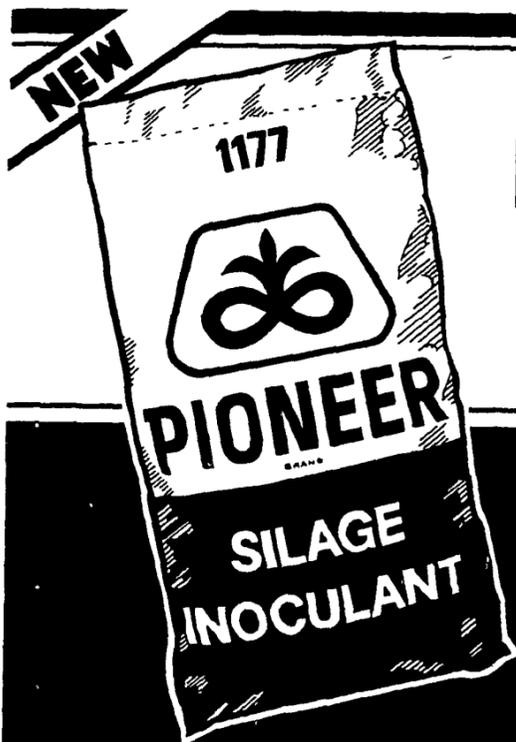
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