

# Lancaster Farming

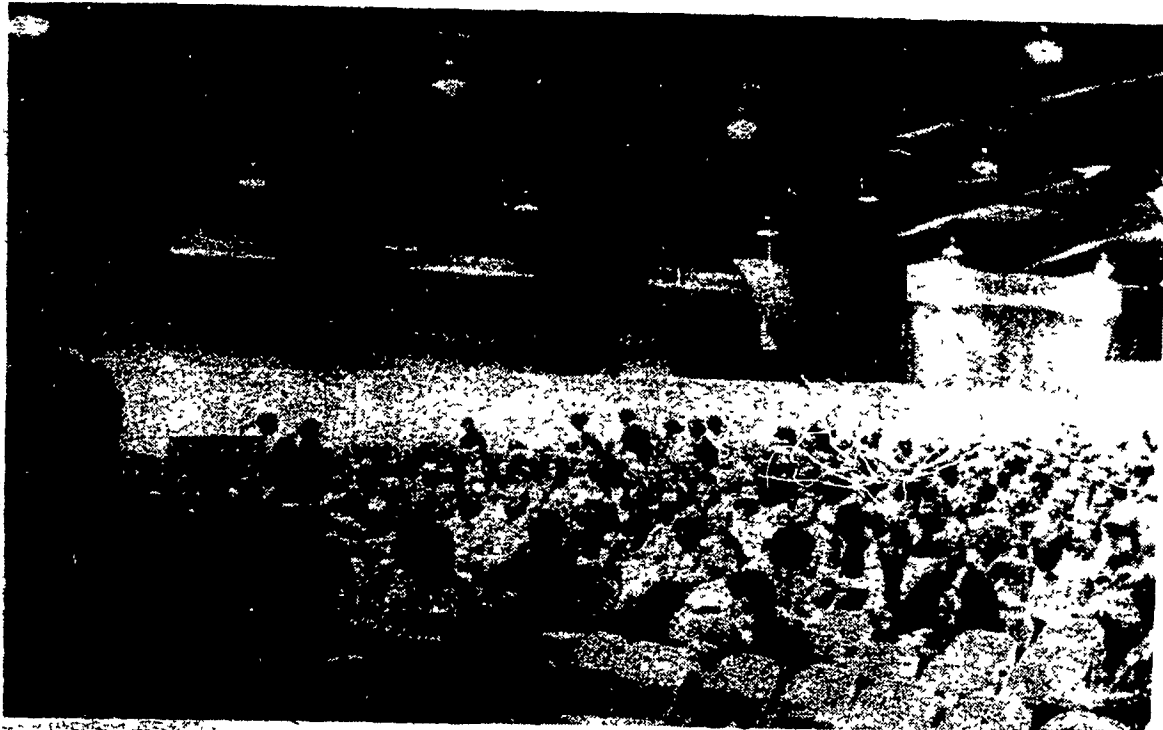
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## No-till draws record crowd at York



As people still file in for start of no-till conference, only a few seats remain in the front rows.

**BY DICK ANGLESTEIN**  
YORK — There was no room at the inn on Thursday.

Or more appropriately there was no room in Memorial Hall of the York Fairgrounds at the 9th Annual Mid-Atlantic No-Till Conference.

Some 1800 seats were set up and there may have been a few empty. But a number of people were standing along the sides of the hall for the program and others were still wandering through the exhibits as Extension representatives from six states outlined the latest in no-till research.

In addition to the record attendance, an all-time high of 50 exhibitors displayed their latest no-till wares at the one-day conference.

There were herbicides and seeds galore, along with equipment, particularly no-till planters.

The conference, which has been increasing steadily in popularity each year, was dedicated to the memory of the late Willis "Bill"

McClellan, Penn State agronomist.

From the opening discussion of "Improving No-Till Forage Seedings" by Harlan White of VPI to the closing presentation on "Weed Control" by John Meade, of Rutgers, the attention of the record crowd of attending farmers was held by the Extension personnel.

Heading up the day-long program were John Harris, Perry County Extension Agent, who hosted the morning session as Conference Chairman, and Robert Jones, Carroll County, Md Extension, Agent, who hosted the afternoon portion as vice chairman.

Other Extension personnel from the Mid-Atlantic Region participating in the program were Nathan Hartwig, Penn State; Gary Smith, University of Maryland; Kenneth Wells, University of Kentucky; Ronald Ritter, University of Maryland; and Elwood Hatley, Penn State.

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### Holiday Notice

With the holidays just around the corner, LANCASTER FARMING has been looking ahead to their last two issues for 1982, and a promising new year highlighted by the annual Farm Show issue.

Our next two issues will be advanced a day, thus creating the following deadlines: Display ads at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 21 and 23; Classified ads at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22 and 29; Mailbox markets at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 20 and 27; and News at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22 and 29.

The annual Farm Show issue will be in your mailbox on Jan. 8, one day before the show opens.

Advertising deadline for this issue are Wednesday, Dec. 29 and the news deadline is Wednesday, Jan. 5. We urge you to contact us with your Farm Show information at LANCASTER FARMING, P.O. Box 366, Litzitz, Pa. 17543, or call (717) 394-3047 or (717) 626-1164.

## USDA reveals 50-cent refund plan

**BY DONNA TOMMELLEO**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. — In keeping with amended dairy price support law and before a second 50-cent per hundredweight deduction could be assessed from dairy checks on April 1, 1983, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block, Thursday, announced proposed guidelines for a refund program for eligible dairy producers.

According to USDA economist Charles Shaw, a two-year base period beginning Oct. 1, 1980 and ending Sept. 30, 1982 will be used in determining average annual production. However, regulations in the second phase of the amended support program are subject to a 60-day public comment period, which must be received by Feb. 15, 1983, Shaw said.

Production averages from the base period will be compared with

actual production in marketing year 1983, from April to September. The Secretary, said Shaw, has not yet set the percentage of reduction eligible for refund, as he is awaiting figures on estimated surplus.

"By law, the reduction cannot exceed estimated surplus," Shaw reported.

The new regulations also provide for the definition of surplus, Shaw noted.

"Surplus is the milk equivalent of dairy products which the Secretary estimated will be purchased by the Commodity Credit Corporation," he explained.

Block's announcement, however, did not include any changes in the first phase of the program, which began with a non-refundable 50-cent per hun-

dredweight deduction on Dec. 1, 1982.

The refunds will not operate on a pro-rata basis, said Shaw. For example, if the estimated surplus is set at 10 percent and a producer reduces production by five percent, he or she cannot receive 25 cents per hundredweight. The same is true of a reduction in excess of the estimated surplus.

To file for refund, producers must apply with their county ASCS committee.

"The producer must be responsible for bringing in records for that marketing year," Shaw explained.

The regulations, however, do not specify what constitutes an official record or timetable by which a producer should report to the ASCS. Shaw indicated such mechanics of the program are subject to change during the public comment period.

"There are many areas with different possibilities," he added.

Eventually a handbook, with the completed program will be published for producers and collection and refund agents.

Guidelines for the proposed refund program appeared in yesterday's Federal Register. All public comment for the next 60 days should be directed to: Director of Analysis Division, USDA-ASCS, P.O. Box 2415, Room 3741-5, Washington, D.C., 20013.

## Swine reps favor continued PRV control

HARRISBURG — Continued control of pseudorabies instead of an all-out effort at eradication through depopulation was favored Wednesday night by a group of swine industry representatives attending a meeting called by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Consensus among hog farmers and representatives of markets, Pork Producers and Swine Breeders was that eradication is the ultimate goal of any program but any direct effort would be next to impossible at this time for a number of reasons:

—Finances. With some 1600 sows involved in eight problem herds, the cost of depopulation, cleanup, downtime, loss of income and

repopulation would top a half million dollars.

—Lack of Federal Support. In the absence of any federal regulations concerning pseudorabies, the number of unidentified feeder pigs coming into the state and particularly Lancaster County would make Pennsylvania eradication meaningless.

—Imported breeding stock. The importation of breeding stock from the West could also be another possible source of reintroduction if eradication were done.

—And does the industry really know that all of the infected herds in the state have been detected and put under quarantine?

To illustrate the number of feeder pigs coming into Lancaster County, a representative of

Lancaster Stockyards estimated that half of the feeders there originate out-of-state.

Concerning control, a question was put forth whether the industry would support an identification program in which only blood-tested pigs or those from PRV-free herds would be permitted into the state.

The question largely remained unanswered as enforcement across state lines was discussed. Some out-of-state producers from New Jersey and Maryland attended, along with Pennsylvania farmers, Extension and Penn State personnel.

With continued control, no significant change in the status of pseudorabies is expected within

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## Ag budget deletes milk standards

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Congressional conference committee on fiscal 1983, last week, threw out an amendment by California Senator S.I. Hayakawa, which would have provided for higher milk solids content standards.

The amendment targeted a rise in solids content to 8.7 percent in whole milk, 10 percent in low fat and 9 percent in skim milk, said Hayakawa aide Darryl Nirenberg.

Nirenberg explained the Hayakawa amendment was in effect a legislative provision which was tacked on to the appropriation bill.

"An appropriation bill has to be passed," Nirenberg stated. Consequently, conferees deleted anything extra.

Although the California Senator will retire after this session, Nirenberg reported the amendment is expected to appear in the next Congressional session.

Meanwhile, the committee modified an amendment calling for mandatory use of FmHA economic emergency loans. Instead, the language was modified to give the Secretary of Agriculture discretion to "help the family farm stay in business during the current difficulties."

For brucellosis eradication, the committee compromised on the House and Senate version and allocated \$84,346,000 for whole herd depopulation.

The total budget agreed on for conservation target \$804,225,000 for soil-saving use. —DT