

3 weeks for Purina plant and counting

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
LANCASTER — In a little over three weeks, the first full-service delivery will be rolling out from the new Purina Chow Plant in the Hempfield Industrial Park west of Lancaster.

That puts the newest of Purina feed manufacturing facilities right on schedule with its scheduled mid-January opening.

Actually, the plant was on an 18-month construction schedule and will be finished in approximately 15.

This week, finishing touches were continuing at the plant just off Rt. 30 at the Centreville exit. Outside, Stauffers of Kissel Hill was planting shrubbery and inside, workmen were engaged in a myriad of last-minute details.

The new Lancaster plant becomes Number 120 of Purina manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and 11 foreign countries.

The local plant is one of three "ground-up" facilities to open in the Eastern Region in the past year. The others are in Wyalusing,

Pa., scheduled to open simultaneously with Lancaster, and in Frankford, Ind.

"Six plants have also been acquired in the Eastern Region in the past two years and completely refurbished," Glenn Shields, assistant district sales manager, said.

"We have more than doubled our sales team in the region and specialized personnel according to animal species.

"This continuing expansion of facilities and people shows the extensive commitment of Purina to this important agricultural area to provide improved feed products and service."

Bruce Callaway, manager of the new plant, also points out that, in addition to being a supplier of dairy, hog and poultry feed, the facility is already a market for local grain, primarily corn.

"When we're fully underway, we'll be receiving a truckload or two a day of local corn," he explained.

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Top of Purina plant provides excellent Lancaster area view for Glenn Shields and Bruce Callaway.



Large farm-type house in foreground with cupola bell-tower and Purina plant in background provide contrasting skyline elements west of Lancaster.



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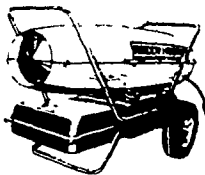


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