

Lancaster County ag

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1982 was more than \$27 million. So, this year, hay — which has been less affected by the drought — could be the Number One valued crop in Lancaster County. Of course, there's going to be a lot of shifting of acreage between corn for grain and silage as farmers end up chopping corn that normally would have been combined for grain.

Other highlights of 1982 Lancaster County agriculture:

Broiler numbers dropped more than two million and marketings were down nearly \$7 million. Many farmers put four flocks through their houses last year as compared to five. This year, growers had the extra problems of PIK-priced grain, disease and heat. Irwin estimates that between a half-million and a million birds were lost thus far this summer.

Layer numbers were down about 30,000 and egg marketings dropped

about \$2 million. But nearly 9 million more eggs were produced by increasing efficiency about two eggs per hen. But lower egg prices again cut into dollar totals.

Cattle and calves showed one of the sharpest drops in 1982 as compared to 1981. Numbers were down some 17,000 and marketings dropped off more than \$22 million.

Hogs was the only livestock

segment to show a sizable increase. Numbers jumped some 29,000 to 285,000 and marketings at \$21,945,000 were up nearly \$3 million.

Sheep numbers fell from 7,500 to 5,700 and marketings fell from \$450,000 to \$361,700.

Among crops, it will be interesting to keep an eye on tobacco this year.

Last year, reduced yields and acreage cut tobacco marketings from more than \$20 million in 1981 to \$18.6 million in 1982.

This year's acreage is up slightly but more is planted to Maryland tobacco. And with an expected 25 percent reduction in burley yields in the South, it will be interesting to watch local prices for Maryland tobacco.

Dairy legislation

production 8 percent is an 8 percent reduction in cash flow. No dairy farmer would fall for it. Participation would be nil. And just like the first 50 cent assessment, it would have the opposite effect as dairy farmers cranked up their production to pay for the 50 cent tax. This is stupid planning," said Woodland.

Woodland pointed out that Secretary Block's taxes on milk, at \$1 per cwt, will mean upwards of \$1.3 billion from the income of dairy farmers.

"They can't afford it, even in the best of circumstances. It means that many of them will be forced into bankruptcy. So we can't help but believe that the real intention of this quiet late Aug. maneuver of the administration is to bring an ultimate reduction in dairy production by causing a reduction in the number of dairy producers," Woodland said. "The direction for the future of dairying in America is clear. Producers will not be able to depend on government programs. They will have to rely on their own organized strength through nationwide collective bargaining."

And in Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania Congressman Bob Walker (R-16th), in a letter to the President, stated his displeasure over the presidential veto of S.J. 149.

Concerned about the impact of this decision on dairy farmers in the 16th Congressional District, and on increased budget deficits, Walker expressed to the President his misgivings over the assessment program and is seeking administrative action in light of the veto. According to Walker, the assessment has penalized Pennsylvania dairy farmers who have not been major

contributors to the dairy over-production, which the assessment was designed to correct.

"It is clear to me after talking to farmers in my district, that the same will be true with the second assessment (as the first) and that the additional deduction will cost the federal government vastly more than it will receive to offset the cost of the dairy price support program. The action will not help, but rather aggravate our country's enormous deficit problems," wrote Walker in his letter to the President.

A summary of the rules governing the second refundable 50 cent per cwt. deduction follows. - TW

What Is It

The Dairy Refund Program provides for a refund of the second of two 50-cent milk marketing deductions required to be paid by all producers of commercially marketed milk. The Dairy Refund Program and the milk marketing deductions are authorized by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1982.

Who Participates

For a 1982-83 market year refund, producers of commercial milk must reduce their commercial milk sales from September 1, 1983 through September 30, 1983, by 8.4 percent from the average of their September 1981 and September 1982 commercial milk sales.

For a 1983-84 market year

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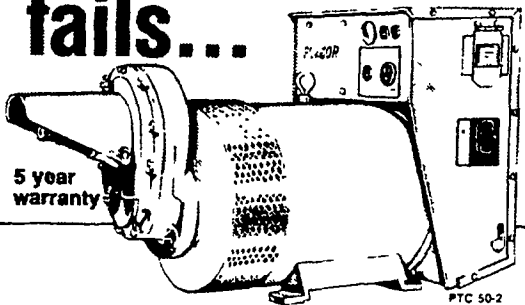


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- **DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7, 1983 - 7:30 P.M.**
PLACE: Ray W. Seidel Farm

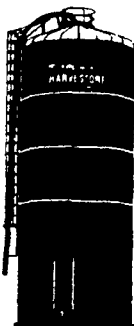
Lenhartsville, PA.

Rt. 222 to Rt. 622... North on Rt. 662 to Rt. 143... North on Rt. 143 to Balthaser Road, approximately 6 miles, turn left... 2nd farm (barn on left, home on right).

- **DATE: THURSDAY, SEPT. 8, 1983 - 7:30 P.M.**
PLACE: Clyde Loump Farm

Bernville, PA.

North on Rt. 183 from the "Road to Nowhere"... go about 5 miles, turn right on Bright School Road... go about 2 miles to farm on left.



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