



Livestock health security fund

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

As efforts continue to resolve Pennsylvania's milk security fund, perhaps the overall concept of "ag security" should be expanded to include livestock health.

Twice in about as many years, Pennsylvania and particularly Lancaster County, have been hit with devastating livestock diseases. First, pseudorabies. Now, Avian influenza.

In both cases, it may have been possible to lessen the effects of the enormous extent of these diseases and reduce the tremendous financial losses if state veterinary officials had had available financial resources to move in and depopulate immediately.

In pseudorabies, there never was any reimbursable depopulation. Some farmers did it on their own and at their own expense. Now with Avian flu, the cost of depopulation has reached enormous proportions and the millions and millions of dollars already cited for the program won't even begin to cover actual

losses to the overall poultry industry. Valuable time was lost even after the seriousness of the Avian was fully realized and the federal funds were released.

But what if depopulation could have been done when the first hog herd was diagnosed with pseudorabies or the first flock of chickens with Avian -- mild or not.

Could these outbreaks have been nipped in the bud?

Maryland didn't lose any time in depopulating its two Avian-infected flocks. It didn't wait for any federal funds. Sure, Maryland officials had the luxury of knowing of Pennsylvania's predicament and the two flocks were small. But back in April the number of affected birds in Lancaster County was relatively small.

This is not intended as an armchair hindsight look at the two diseases with the intent of laying any blame.

But now when it's fresh in everyone's mind and pocketbook, perhaps it's appropriate to look ahead.

Is it time for a Livestock Health Security Fund to be considered? Producers, processors and even consumers could contribute into a fund that would stand available to immediately finance action against a livestock disease and proceed with depopulation before valuable time is lost.

If the extent of the disease eventually requires federal help, then the fund could be reimbursed for the depopulation that had been accomplished to date.

Given the livestock densities that exist in parts of the state, particularly Lancaster County, similar problems are sure to happen again.

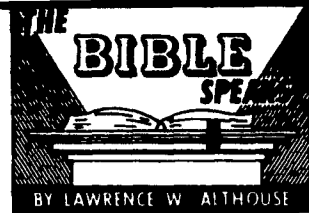
Let's not be caught napping. As the Pennsylvania Dutch say: "What makes two, makes three."

First, pseudorabies.

Second, Avian flu.

And, third?

Let's be ready.



SON OF GOD November 13, 1983

Background Scripture:
John 4:24; 14:25, 26; Romans 8:9-17, 28-29.

Devotional Reading
Romans 8:1-8.

I'm sure you assumed — even without really thinking about it — that the title above this column, "SON OF GOD", is a reference to Jesus Christ.

However, if you did make that assumption, you're really quite wrong, for the title is a personal reference to you: You are the son of God!

LED BY THE SPIRIT

I realize that that statement may jar you just a bit — it was meant to. Most of us are quite satisfied to have Jesus be the Son of God — after all, that's what he's for, isn't he? To think that he occupies an elevated plane so far above our own capacities relieves us of taking too seriously some of the heavy requirements of his teachings. It's O.K. for him to forgive his enemies, because after all he is the Son of God!

For us to realize, however, that it is God's intention that all of us be the Sons of God is a frightening prospect. In the depths of our hearts we know that that is precisely what he wants of us. Someone has said that "Jesus became what we are so that we might become what he is."

Ah, Lord, but you've come to the wrong person. Surely you don't intend for me to be your Son. A disciple, perhaps, even an apostle, but a Son! You know I'm not up to that. I don't have what it takes. I wasn't made that way. I don't have it in me to be your Son!

It is true that, at first examination, there doesn't seem to be any of us the quality of Divine Sonship. Even if the spirit is willing, the flesh is much too weak. I can will to do right, Lord, but I can't make myself do it. So there, that's the end of it, isn't it?

CHRIST IN YOU

Yet, in Romans Paul is trying to help the church to understand that all of us have the basic ingredient of Divine Sonship — in each of us there dwells God's own Spirit within to rule us, then we will fulfill our Sonship: "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God" (8:14).

It is interesting that Paul uses several different terms for this same reality: "Spirit of God" (8:9), "Christ...in you" (8:10), "the Spirit of Christ" (8:9b) and simply "the Spirit" (8:14). Paul uses these terms interchangeably, because he is only interested in helping his readers to know that the presence of God in Christ is in each of us. It doesn't matter what you call that presence — "Holy Spirit" or any of the above—so long as you open your life to the power and guidance of God within your life.

We have become accustomed to speaking mostly of God as outside us—and that is certainly a valid spiritual concept. But we need to know and acknowledge that there is also the presence of God within us—always attempting to guide, lead and help us. And when we respond to that presence with willing hearts, we are the SONS OF GOD.

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent
Phone 717-394-6851



To Assist in Avian Influenza Cleanup

This is not just a problem for poultry farmers in the Lancaster and nearby counties, it's a concern for all farmers. If a dairy farmer visits a poultry farm that has contracted Avian Influenza, then the dairy farmer could carry the virus on the vehicle or clothes to another poultry farm. The virus is not transmissible to any animal or human. I caution anyone visiting poultry farms to be sure to take all health security precautions which include staying out of poultry houses, disinfect shoes or boots when leaving, park the car or truck in a clean area or wash the vehicle before leaving.

There is an Avian Influenza "hot line" to assist with the many questions concerning this virus. If you need general information or permits for movement of birds, feel free to call 717-560-8502 or 560-

8503. For calls concerning sick birds call 717-560-8504 or 560-8505.

To Appreciate Farm-City Week

Each farmer is a very important person. While we have fewer farmers than ever before, the growing population demands more food. Never have so many persons been so dependent on so few.

Farm-City Week is being observed November 17 to 23 to bring a better understanding of problems existing between the rural and urban segments of our society. Some people may think that agriculture is a diminishing industry, but this is not true. There are fewer farmers but each farmer is now producing enough food to feed 73 people. In Russia that ratio is one to seven.

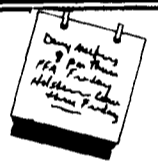
Over one-fifth of the state's work force is employed in agriculture related manufacturing, wholesale and retail trades. Even more

workers are employed in the industries providing seed, feed, fertilizer and other supplies used in farm production. We urge you to take part in Farm-City Week events.

To Mulch Strawberries

Winter injury has been a problem in strawberries for a number of years. Crown injury can be reduced by applying mulch to protect them for the winter. The best time for application is from mid-November to mid-December. The exact date depends on weather conditions. But a good rule of thumb is to apply mulch when the temperature begins to stay around 20 to 25 degrees F. If it drops to 15 degrees or lower, un-protected strawberry crowns could be injured. In any case it's a good idea to mulch the plants after they have been exposed to a few good freezes. Mulching is a very good practice to insure a better crop next summer.

Farm Calendar



Saturday, Nov. 12
York 4-H Dairy Achievement Banquet.

SE District 4-H Beef Show and Sale at 4 p.m. in New Holland.

Sunday, Nov. 13
PFA annual meeting at the Hershey Convention Center. Continues to Wednesday.

Pa. Farm and Power Equipment Association annual convention at Seven Springs Resort, Champion. Continues to Wednesday.

Monday, Nov. 14
Wayne Co. DHIA annual meeting at 7:45 p.m. at the Belmont

To Stretch Your Feeds and Feed Dollars
With feed being the largest single item of cost in producing meat and milk, it's important to make feeds go further. Several things can be done to accomplish this according to our dairy agent, Glenn Shirk. Here are a few. Avoid feed waste and spoilage. For more efficient utilization, test your forages and balance your rations.

(Turn to Page A12)

Firehall.

Tuesday, Nov. 15
Water Resources Meeting at Honesdale High School at 8 p.m. Kickoff luncheon at the Lewistown Holiday Inn for the Pa. Farm-City Week.

Delmarva Beef Cattlemen's Association meeting at the Sussex Co. Vocational and Tech Center, Georgetown, Del.

Peninsula Horticultural Society meeting at the Wicomico Youth and Civic Center, Salisbury, Md.

Bradford Co. barn meetings on dairy cattle feeding at 1 p.m. at Ronald and Fred Butts farm, Frenchtown, and at 8 p.m. at Duane and George Wilcox, E. Canton.

Agway Garden Spot Zone annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.

Wednesday, Nov. 16
Dairy goat meeting at 8 p.m. at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

Sullivan Co. Extension dairy feeding meeting at 1:30 p.m. at the Dennis Boyd farm, near Forksville.

Thursday, Nov. 17
Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative at the Lancaster Host Farm. Continues tomorrow.

Friday, Nov. 18
Pa. State Beekeepers Association at the Chalet Restaurant, Dillsburg. Continues tomorrow. Pa. Farm-City Week opens.

York Co. 4-H dairy banquet at 7 p.m. in the 4-H Center.

Saturday, Nov. 19
Hunterdon N.J. County Board of Agriculture annual meeting at 6 p.m. in the Quakertown, N.J., fire house.

Wayne Co. 4-H final aluminum can collection from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Patrick's Farm Machinery

Otis

