

Conestoga Valley seeks pepper growers

BLUE BALL — Conestoga Valley Growers, Inc., R2 East Earl, is seeking pepper and other growers for the coming year to fill increased marketing demands, which is believed to be partially due to the continuing decline in vegetable operations in New Jersey.

Lester W. Martin, of Conestoga Valley Growers, said that growers are needed for bell, banana and cherry peppers for both the fresh and canning markets.

"But we need to enroll the growers by Feb. 28 in order to make definite plans for the coming season," Martin said.

"We would like to enroll a number of growers in a certain

area so that a centralized concentration of 8 to 10 acres could be achieved," Martin said.

"Thus, if a number of neighbors get together and grow the same kind of peppers in one area, it permits us to send in a truck and get a load without processing the peppers through our warehouse."

Growers interested in the pepper program can contact Martin evenings at 354-4548 or by writing to Conestoga Valley Growers, Inc., Box 26, R2 East Earl, Pa. 17519.

It is also expected that the growers will be planting expanded acreage this year in cantaloupes. Last year's crop yield was significantly affected by the drought conditions in areas

without irrigation.

Other crops that Conestoga Valley is investigating for the coming season are carrots and asparagus. Commitments of growers on asparagus will also need to be known by about the end of the month, too.

Crops will be marketed during the coming year through four different locations — Riverhead, Long Island, N.Y., Berwick in Northern Pennsylvania, Harrisburg and the East Earl warehouse.

Martin reports that increased interest in area vegetables is being shown by the continuing slide in operations in New Jersey, where land and labor costs are affecting

some operations.

The Conestoga Valley Growers will hold its annual meeting next month at which directors will be elected and further plans made for the coming season.

Nominees for director posts

include Marie Martin, East Earl; Melvin Horst, R1 New Holland; Nelson Horst, East Earl; Samuel W. Stoltzfus, Honeybrook; Frank Fox, East Earl; and Ivan Burkholder, R1 New Holland.

Seminar slated in Wayne

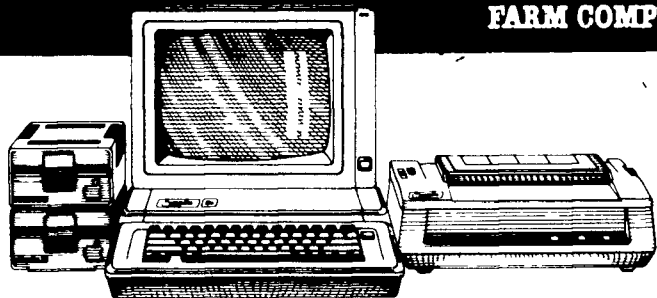
HONESDALE — The featured speaker at the Farm Financial Management Seminar scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Extension Meeting Room, Wayne County Courthouse, Honesdale will be Virgil E. Crowley, Penn State Extension farm management specialist.

His responsibilities include development programs and production economics materials for livestock enterprises. He has major responsibility for the Agricultural Extension Linear Programming Project which in-

volves computer planning, and assists with programs in agricultural finance.

The two-day clinic is being conducted by the Wayne County Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with area financial agencies and organization. The objective is to assist farm families in developing the tools and techniques for financial success. Such topics as farm records, making good financial decisions, cash flow statement, budgets, use of the computer, financial planning, and meeting the challenge of risk and uncertainty will be covered.

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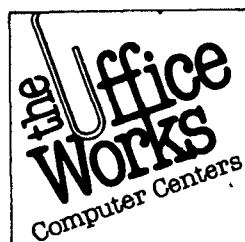
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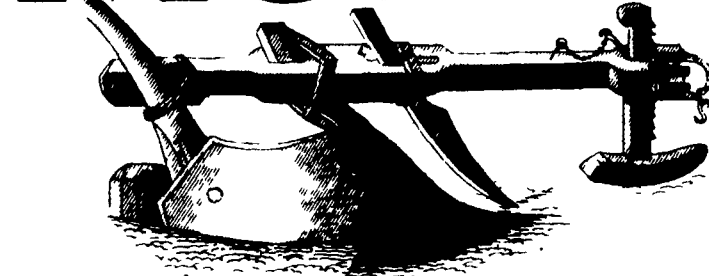
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