

## Berry seminar planned

WASHINGTON, Pa. — To help established and prospective berry farmers Penn State Extension will hold a day-long seminar on commercial berry production at the Holiday Inn, Meadowlands,

from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13. Take Exit 8 off I-79 just north of Washington, Pa. Cost is \$12.00 including lunch and morning coffee.

Topics covered include fer-

tilization, weed control, insect control, strawberry and raspberry diseases, blueberry basics, raspberry variety selection, and tillage equipment. In addition to the lectures, commercial

exhibitors will have displays and representatives. These will include machinery, irrigation equipment, nursery plants, chemicals, and containers.

Reservations and inquiries can be made with the Westmoreland County Extension Service, P.O.

Box 250, Greensburg, Pa. 15601 - Telephone (412) 837-1402 or contact your county Extension office for more information. Deadline for reservations is Friday, March 9. Make checks payable to Westmoreland County Extension Fund.

## Algerian agreement is signed

ALGIERS, Algeria — Sec. of Agriculture John R. Block has signed an agreement on agricultural cooperation, trade and technical assistance with Algeria.

The new agreement will bolster the growth of farm trade and scientific exchanges and includes projects on intensive feeding of beef cattle, dairy sector development, compound feed manufacturing and grain distribution and marketing.

Block said that U.S. farm exports to Algeria — which amounted to \$203 million in fiscal 1983 — also would get a boost from the opening of a new U.S. agricultural trade office in Algiers later this year.

There are currently 11 agricultural trade offices situated throughout the world to open up the global market and promote the sales of U.S. food and fiber.

In announcing the new office, Block said that Algeria is one of the fastest growing markets in North Africa. "With a population of 21 million and a trade surplus of nearly \$3 billion," Block said, "Algeria is the kind of market we need to give more attention."

Today's signing follows on yesterday's announcement by Block of a blended credit program to Algeria that would enable that country to purchase \$160 million in U.S. wheat during fiscal 1984.

Algeria currently imports \$2.3 billion worth of agricultural commodities, but the United States only has 12 percent of the market. Traditionally the big supplier has been continental Europe. Half of Algeria's imports are value-added products



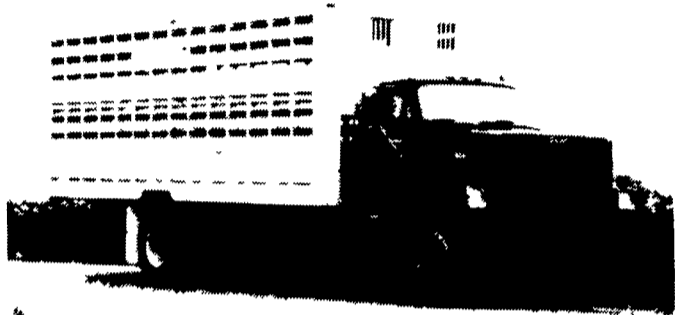
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