

Md. tobacco pool suggested

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., met last week with Governor Harry Hughes, members of the Southern Maryland delegation to the General Assembly and Farm Bureau officials concerning this year's chaotic tobacco market conditions.

"We are faced with an extraordinary problem due to last year's drought on one hand and supply and demand factors on the other", Cawley reported to the group. The combination of these problems bearing down at one time may be more than individual farmers in Southern Maryland can deal with on their own this year", he said.

A possible marketing alternative designed to improve the situation was suggested by Cawley. It would consist primarily of a self-help program operated by the industry itself in which tobacco not sold in the market would be placed in a pool for marketing at a later date.

The program would be presided over by a group representing producers who would take charge of tobacco which farmers did not sell because of low bids or lack of bids on the auction floor.

Managers of the program, in cooperation with warehousemen and tobacco packers located in the state would implement a system for placing certain grades of tobacco into a pool which would work in the following manner.

Tobacco passed over by buyers or receiving bids deemed too low could then be placed in the pool holding area of the warehouse.

At the time a farmer voluntarily consigns his tobacco to the pool he would surrender outright control of it.

On a regular basis, pool tobacco would be moved from the warehouses to a cooperating packer's plant where it would be officially graded by USDA personnel and packed into large (800-1,000 pound) containers and then moved to holding storage at approved locations.

Pool tobacco would then be offered for sale with anyone eligible to find qualified buyers in the United States or abroad. Tenders from would-be buyers would be brought to the managing group which would consider them and accept or reject them.

As tobacco was sold from the pool, farmers with leaf in the pool would be paid on a pro-rated basis.

All efforts would be made to keep overhead expenses involved in receiving, grading, packing and storing at low levels, helped, perhaps, by the volume involved.

Interested parties are requested to consider this suggestion and communicate their views to five Southern Maryland Farm Bureau presidents. Mr. Stuart Carr of the

Maryland State Tobacco Authority, or Mr. Bradley H. Powers, Chief of MDA's Marketing Services Section as soon as possible.

"By no means is this a perfect plan and much needs to be worked out. That's why industry is needed," concluded Mr. Cawley.

Goatherders plan events

LEESPORT — The Goatherders organization of Berks County has announced its activities for April as well as important dates to remember for the coming months.

For starters, the Goatherders received an invitation from the Delaware Valley Milk Goat Association to attend a meeting April 8, at 1 p.m., at the Boyertown Borough Hall in Boyertown. The program's topic is "Dairy Goat Nutrition, Current Research and Practical Applications," which will be given by George F. Haelein of the University of Delaware. A question and answer period and refreshments will follow.

The Goatherders next meeting is scheduled for April 18, at 7:30 p.m., at the Berks County Agricultural Center. Berks County extension agent Clyde Myers will provide an update on mastitis.

Upcoming events include participation in Ag Day, an annual event held on Penn Square, planned for Aug 30 and 31. The event is sponsored by the Farm-City Council, with Clyde Myers as secretary.

Goatherders member Mary Ellen Spotts was invited to attend the committee's March 26

meeting, along with Myers. Members are asked to present any ideas concerning the type of display which the club should use during the April meeting.

Spotts also planned to attend a meeting March 30 with representatives from the Berks, Montgomery, Lehigh and Bucks County agriculture centers

concerning the spring goat conference.

Goatherder Anne Ruth planned two club trips. On May 5, members are invited to visit Anne and Ralph Ruth's raw milk dairy. A visit to Donna Kennedy and Debbie Mikulak's wool processing operation is planned for June 2.

Potato stocks decrease

HARRISBURG — Total stocks of potatoes stored in Pennsylvania on March 1 were 1,350,000 hundredweight (cwt.), 36 percent less than a year ago, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Of this amount, 825,000 cwt. was stored in processors' facilities, representing 61 percent of the total stocks.

Stocks are defined as the quantity remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Stocks may also include potatoes produced in other states. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes generally account for about 90 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and

home use account for the remaining ten percent.

March 1 potato stocks totaled an estimated 108 million cwt. for the 15 states in the stocks program, down 11 percent from a year ago and three percent below the March 1, 1982 stocks. The storage total accounted for 39 percent of fall potato production compared with 41 percent a year ago.

Del. offers

U-Pick booklet

NEWARK, Del. — Each year more farmers and gardeners start U-pick operations to market seasonal fruits and vegetables. Though this is generally a fast, economical way to sell fresh produce, success depends very much on skillful management.

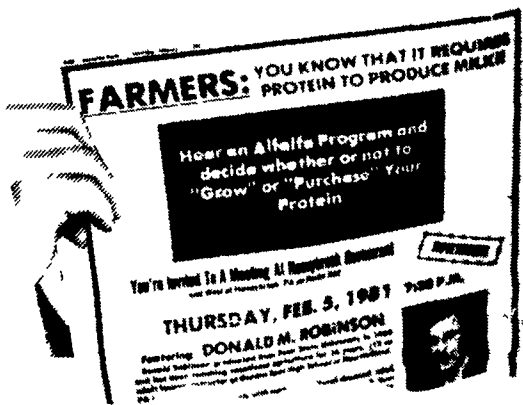
The Delaware Cooperative Extension Service publication, "Management of Pick-Your-Own Marketing Operations," covers all aspects of running a U-pick business in the northeastern U.S. The 66-page booklet includes tips on planning, organizing, publicizing and operating this type of venture. It tells how to identify and reach potential customers, schedule production and lay out fields, design facilities such as parking and check-out systems, set prices, deal with customers and employees, and reduce the risk of accidents.

Individual copies are available for \$1. To order, write: Mail Room, Townsend Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19717-1303.

Here's What You Get For Less Than 15¢ A Week!



Features!



- ★ **ARTICLES OF INTEREST** on the latest trends in farming and feature stories about your farming friends and neighbors!
- ★ **A WHOLE SECTION OF HOME NEWS** and features, recipes and columns written just for our readers!
- ★ **REPORTS ON OUR YOUTH...** photos and articles about the next generation of farmers...our farming youth!

Our total farm coverage also gives you NEWS (including Dairy & DHIA Reports)... FEATURES...BEST BUYS ON PRODUCTS & EQUIPMENT...FREE MAILBOX MARKET...and much, much more!

At LANCASTER FARMING, we think we do a good job of keeping you informed... and we have over 40,000 paid subscribers who think so too!

Lancaster Farming

P.O. Box 366, Lititz, PA 17543
Phone 717-626-1164 or 394-3047

NEW JOHN DEERE EQUIPMENT Pre-Season Sale



WAIVER OF FINANCE UNTIL 1/1/85 ON TRACTORS

- | | |
|--|--|
| JD 2550 Tractor MFWD | JD 8200 Grain Drill 18x7 Plain Drill, Gauge-o-Matic Opener, Grass Seed Att. |
| JD 4050 Tractor Sound-gard body, MFWD, Power Shift | JD 8250 Grain Drill 14x7, Fert. & Grain, Double Disk Opener, Grass Seed Att. |
| JD 4250 Tractor Sound-gard body, MFWD, Power Shift | JD 1600 Plow 4 Bottom, Spring Reset, 18" Coulters |
| JD 148 Loader Mountings- (2840-2940) | JD 1610 Chisel Plow 12 Ft., (3 Pt.), Gauge Wheels, Spring Trip Standard |
| JD 260 Loader Mountings- (2840-2940) | JD 506 Rotary Cutter 5 Ft., (3 Pt.) |
| JD 37 Loader 60" Bucket only | JD 606 Rotary Cutter 6 Ft., Slip Clutch Drive, 3 Pt. Hitch |
| JD 75 Loader Bucket only - 53" | JD 1008 Rotary Cutter Pull Type (10 Ft.) |
| JD 7 Ft. Hay Pick-up | JD 225 Disk Harrow 10'6" - Offset, 24" Blades |
| JD 3R 30" Corn Head | JD 115 Disk Harrow 11'5" - Double Off set, 20" Blades |
| JD 550 Sprayer 40 Ft. Boom | JD 315 Disk Harrow 12'10" - Double Off set, 24" Blades |
| 2 - JD 7000 Planters (6RW) Conservation, Coulters, Dry Fert., Insect. Att. | JD 6620 Side Hill Combine |
| JD 1440 Planters (4RW) No-Till Planter, Coulters, Plateless Units, Dry Fert. | JD 215 15 Ft. Flexible Grain Head |
| JD 450 Hydr-Push Spreader Hyd. Endgate | JD 643 6 Row Corn Head |
| JD 660 Spreader Upper Beater | |

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL PRICES

WENGER IMPLEMENT, INC.
RD 1/Quarryville
Buck, PA 17566
717-284-4141