

Apple Blossom Festival to be held May 5-6

BY JUDY HULL
Staff Correspondent

GETTYSBURG — Plans are being finalized for the 34th annual Apple Blossom Festival to be held in Adams County Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6. The schedule of events includes entertainment, food, music, crafts, and agricultural displays, which organizers feel will attract visitors from a six-state area.

Sponsored by the Adams County Fruitgrowers Association, the festival is headquartered at the South Mountain Fairgrounds located 10 miles northwest of Gettysburg in the heart of the county's 20,000 acres of fruit orchards.

Several agricultural groups will participate in this year's festival. The Adams County Poultry Association will serve a chicken-in-the-basket lunch on Saturday and a full-course barbecued chicken dinner on Sunday. County pork producers will be selling hot pork sandwiches and local beef producers will provide live displays of prize animals. Beekeepers will sell bee products such as beeswax and honey, and will also display bee hives. Fruitgrowers will have apples, juice and cider for sale.

A highlight of each year's festival are the free bus tours of local orchards hosted by local fruitgrowers. Walking tours through the orchards are also available.

Judging for an apple pie baking contest will begin Saturday at 2 p.m. and auctioning of the winning pies will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, prior to the crowning of the county apple queen at 2:30 p.m. The 1983-84 Adams County queen is Missy Showers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Showers, Aspers.

Two bluegrass bands will provide entertainment at the festival this year. The Al Shade Show will be featured from noon until 4 p.m. Saturday and The Vicksburgs will entertain at the same time on Sunday. Square dancing by the Connonaders will also be presented both days at the

festival.

A new attraction this year will be a living history portrayal as it relates to the battle of Gettysburg. The 11th Virginia Cavalry, Company D, will be encamped at the fairgrounds for the weekend.

Daily activities by the troop will include marching and drilling, firing techniques, explanations of camp life, tours of the camp area and civilian and ladies living history interpretations.

The apple dessert sampler is a

big attraction at the festival each year. This perennial favorite will be held on Sunday only. For a nominal price, visitors will be able to purchase a plate of homemade apple desserts which have been baked and donated by the families

of Adams County fruitgrowers.

Organizers of the festival hope to attract up to 10,000 people this year. Admission to the festival is \$1 for adults, children under 16 years of age are free. All proceeds from the festival go to fruit research.



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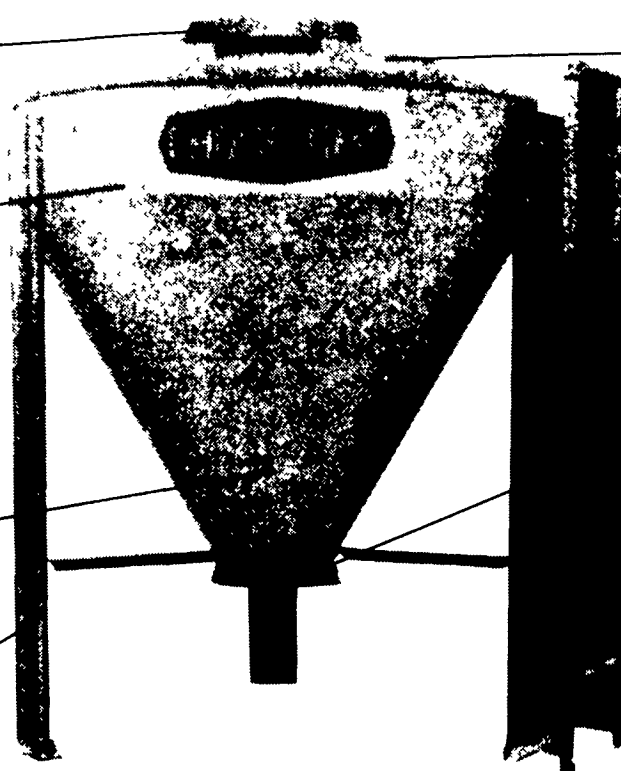
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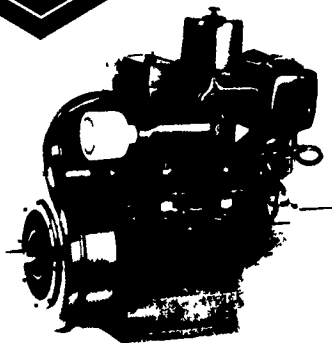


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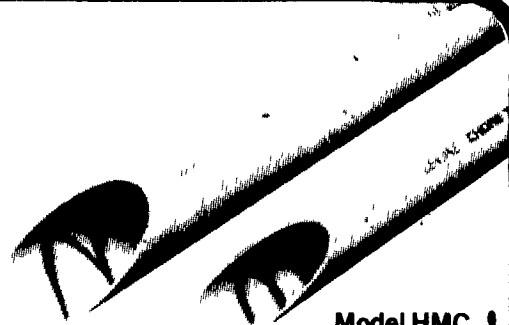
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