

# Lancaster vegetables

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about June 1 - whenever the strawberries begin to come in. The plants are now beginning to blossom and some warmer, sunnier weather could get them back on schedule.

Good reports that some 300 acres represented by 125 growers are thus far signed up for the auction. That number of acres includes a small apple orchardist who will be selling his product this fall.

The auction will open on a four-day schedule - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - when the first ripe strawberries are ready. In addition, the initial auctions will feature sugar peas, radishes, onions, red beets and asparagus.

The four-day schedule will continue through cataloupe season and then possibly be cut back.

Approximately 30 buyers, representing various markets, have expressed interest in attending the auction. In addition to local markets, buyers are coming from West Chester, Thorndale, Scranton, Carlisle and Philadelphia.

An up-state tomato grower with a market intends to participate and buy early tomatoes here before his own start coming in and then bring some of his own crop down after local tomatoes end.

Also, there will be some raspberries and asparagus from Maryland, in addition to the wide variety of local grown produce through the spring, summer and fall seasons.

The auction intends to assign a permanent number to each participating grower that will continue as identification for all crops

marketed. In this way, buyers will be better able to keep track of individual growers and the quality of the crops they are marketing.

All initial plans are in place, Good said, and all that's needed is cooperating weather for the strawberries to ripen.

A good local crop is expected although some yields may be light due to last year's dry summer that may have affected runner growth among new stands. But older, established stands are expected to yield heavier.

When the exact date of the auction opening is determined, Lancaster Farming will carry an announcement.

# Monroe Co. Beekeepers schedule meeting

SNYDERSVILLE - The Monroe County Beekeepers Association will be holding their June meeting on Saturday, June 2, at the Monroe County Extension Office in Snodgrassville beginning at 12:30 p.m. The County Extension Office is located at Pleasant Valley Manor which can be reached by taking the Snodgrassville exit off of Route 33.

The speaker for the afternoon will be Dr. Bob Berthold, Delaware Valley College's beekeeping

specialist. Professor Berthold will be presenting a two-part program, one part dealing with beeswax and many of its uses including home uses and candle making. His second part of the program will deal with a topic of current interest in beekeeping.

The meeting is open to all interested persons. Further information may be obtained by contacting either Robert Hunt at 717-223-8950 or Tom Carson at 717-992-4421.

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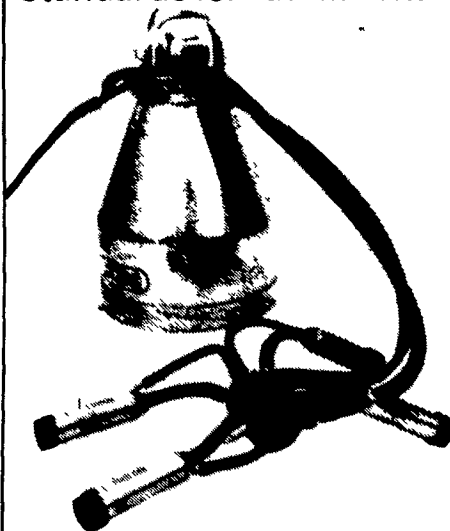
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