

Plenty of pumpkins across the U.S.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Whether you're after the scariest jack-o-lantern or the perfect Thanksgiving pie, you can probably find a pumpkin to suit your needs just about anywhere in the country. Bright orange pumpkins piled up on country and urban stands are part of the autumn landscape.

According to the latest Census of Agriculture, taken in 1982, pumpkins are grown on just under 26,000 acres of the nation's farmland. Pumpkins are usually a sideline or confined to the farm garden, although they are becoming a popular attraction on many "pick-your-own" orchards and berry farms, according to University of Illinois Professor Emeritus and vegetable expert Joe Vandemark.

Processors who buy pumpkins for pie and some other foods depend primarily on just two states—Illinois and California. Illinois is the nation's top commercial producer, with 5,320 acres in pumpkins during 1982, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census. California is next, with 1982 acreage at 3,039.

"Processing pumpkins are a lot different from the ones you'd use as jack-o-lanterns," Vandemark says. The most important distinction: Less moisture is retained in the meat, so cooking and processing take far less time than for the typical Halloween pumpkin. "And they don't look a thing alike," Vandemark adds.

Processing pumpkins are beige in color, although the flesh under the skin is still bright orange. "It's really their oval shape that makes them unfit for cutting out Halloween faces," Vandemark says.

Vandemark grows 10 acres of pumpkins on his farm just outside Urbana, Ill. The acreage is divided equally between processing pumpkins and the jack-o-lantern variety. "We have about 5 acres of pick-your-own fields," Vandemark says. "It's a delight for the children. And seeing them choose the perfect pumpkin is really a thrill every time."

Corn field is the oldest bright orange variety. Others include Small Sugar, Spooky, and Little Big Horn, named for the shape of its stem.

Heckendorn joins soils lab

NEWARK, Del.—Steven E. Heckendorn has assumed responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the University of Delaware soil testing laboratory, effective Nov. 1. Heckendorn holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry with a minor in geology from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, and is completing work on his master's degree in soil mineralogy and chemistry from Ohio State University in Columbus.

Before entering graduate school, Heckendorn spent a summer at New York State University's Buffalo branch investigating a method of determining the moisture content of planetary soils

(such as on Mars) as an intern in a special student research program sponsored by NASA. At Ohio State he was a teaching assistant in the soils laboratory, and one summer taught the introductory soils course.

At Delaware Heckendorn will be responsible for laboratory equipment upkeep, improving methodology and investigating new soil testing procedures. In cooperation with extension and research specialists he will keep fertilizer recommendations updated. With laboratory supervisor Leo Cotnoir, he will play a key role in the interaction between growers and extension agents.

"Christmas Shopping Doesn't Get Any Easier Than This!"



Give A Gift That Lasts All Year...

A SUBSCRIPTION TO

Lancaster Farming

ONLY \$7.50 PER YEAR
OR
\$13.00 FOR TWO YEARS
In PA, NJ, MD, DE, NY, VA & WV
(Other Areas \$14.00 Per Year or \$24.00 For Two Years)

Clip And Mail This Coupon To:
LANCASTER FARMING
P.O. BOX 366
LITITZ, PA 17543
Subscriptions Will Begin With Christmas Issue

LANCASTER FARMING WILL SEND A GIFT CARD
Announcing The Start Of The Gift Subscription

PLEASE SEND LANCASTER FARMING-TO:

(Please complete all blanks in full)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

GIFT CARD TO READ FROM _____

CONTACT US

For
MANURE HANDLING EQUIPMENT

Semi- and Liquid Spreaders -
Ground Driven - Easy Running
Priced Reasonably

PIT ELEVATORS

ALLIS CHALMERS AND WISCONSIN POWER UNITS
COMPACT ROTO BEATERS



Smaller Improved Model
2 Sizes To Choose From

HAND-O-MATIC BUNK FEEDERS
NOW IN STOCK FOR
EASY SILAGE DISTRIBUTION

(2) 323 CORN PICKERS,
LIKE NEW

COMBINATION MOWER & CRIMPER UNITS

SMUCKER

WELDING & MANUFACTURING

2110 Rockvale Road
Lanc, PA 17602
PH (717) 687-0772

QUEEN ROAD



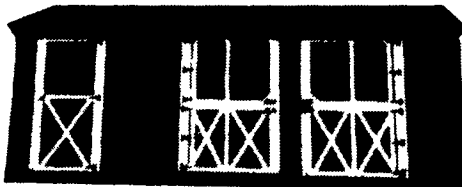
STORAGE BARNS

46 Queen Road
Intercourse, PA 17534

(717) 768-8673

Located ¼ Mi. South of Intercourse on Queen Rd.,
Off Rt. 772

DO YOU NEED HOUSING FOR A PONY - HORSE - CATTLE - SHEEP - GOATS - ETC.? WE CAN BUILD YOU A LIVESTOCK BARN.



Livestock Barn Prices

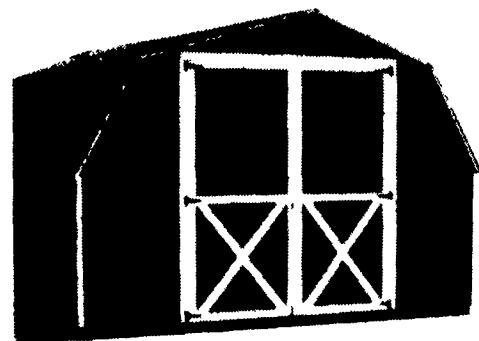
- 10'x16' \$1030
- 10'x20' \$1325
- 12'x16' \$1245
- 12'x20' \$1435

Call For Prices On Other Sizes

We begin our construction with pressure treated 4x4's. Our 2x4 floor joists are nailed on top of the 4x4's every 16 inches, and covered with 5/8" exterior plywood. Side walls are constructed with 2x3's or 2x4's (your preference). Our siding is exterior T-1-11 ½" or 5/8". Our roof is made with 2x3 or 2x4 rafters, covered with ½ inch exterior plywood and 235 lb. shingles. Buildings are delivered completely painted with doors and one window.

Larger sizes for on-site building are available.

OUR BARNS PROVIDE WINTER STORAGE FOR YOUR SUMMER TOOLS, LAWN MOWERS, BIKES, MOTORCYCLES, GARDEN TOOLS, ETC.



Economy Barn Prices

- 6'x8' \$360
- 8'x12' \$490
- 10'x12' \$595
- 10'x20' \$820
- 12'x14' \$760
- 12'x24' \$1150

Call For Prices On Other Sizes