

NOW IS THE TIME

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To Make Summer Alfalfa Seeding

Late July and early August are good times to seed alfalfa, particularly in this part of the state. When seeded during the period of good soil moisture, the plants have time to become established before freezing weather arrives. Alfalfa is still one of our major forage crops and deserves the very best of planning and management. Band seeding is the best method to make this seeding.

Weed control is a "must" with a straight seeding without a nurse crop. Many stands are injured by poor weed control during the first year. Refer to the 1985-86 Agronomy Guide for assistance on weed control practices. Be aware that alfalfa should not be planted in ground that has been treated for corn weed control during the past year, especially fields sprayed with atrazine. Alfalfa is an excellent forage crop; however, it does require attention and good management.

To Evaluate Weed Control

By this time of year, any weed problems in your fields are fairly evident and probably beyond control. But now is a good time to develop an effective program for next year.

The easiest way to check for the effectiveness of different herbicides is to leave a small part of your field untreated. This gives you a chance to tell what weeds were controlled and the ones that weren't. However, if you didn't do this, you should be able to find spots where the sprays missed. There will usually be areas near the ends of the fields and will serve your purpose quite well.

If several types of weeds seemed to have escaped control, you could check the herbicide container label as to whether the material was designed to eliminate those weeds.

If your entire weed control program seemed to be ineffective, re-read the label to see if you followed instructions. Just a few simple mistakes during application can result in complete failure. Either too much or too little rain soon after application can often cause a great loss of effectiveness in many herbicides.

To Beware of Lightning Danger

Summer temperatures often bring severe thunder and lightning storms; we've had some in recent weeks, and no doubt there will be more to come. We urge parents to warn their youngsters of the danger of seeking shelter under a tree or swimming in a pond or creek before and during a storm. Safety in a truck, car or building should be encouraged as the storm approaches as well as during the storm. Stay away from electric

fences and farm equipment that is out in the open.

Buildings with lightning rods should be checked to be sure the rods are grounded in moist soil and free of debris that would prevent the cable from taking the charge into the ground.

To Prepare The Silo

The corn crop is developing rapidly and soon it will be silo filling time. The condition of the silo should receive some attention

before the new corn crop is ensiled. Many of the concrete silos may be pitted and have a rough inside surface. This will allow air pockets and cause moldy silage. Some inside joints may need to be repointed in order to keep out the air and have a smooth surface.

Don't wait until the silo filler is coming before you make these repairs.

Silage is one of the best and most economical feeds on our farms today; let's not spoil it after it is in the silo.

Farm Calendar



Saturday, July 27

Harold Dellinger's Living History, today and tomorrow, Indian Steps Museum, Airville. Call Ealora Holland, 755-3777 for more information.

Landowners Conference, Pa. Forestry Association, Pocono Sheraton Inn, Stroudsburg.

Summer meeting, Pa. State Beekeepers Association, Pocono Sheraton Inn, Stroudsburg.

Berks County 4-H Fair, Berks County Ag Center.

Penn-York Red and White Field Day, Myerose Farm, Kenneth Myer, Elizabethtown.

Sunday, July 28

Red Lion Young Farmer's summer family picnic; Shenberger Chapel UM Church, New Bridgeville, begins at 12:30 p.m.

Md. Angus Field Day, Mar Lee Farm, Woodsboro.

Monday, July 29

Morrison Cove Dairy Show, Martinsburg; continues through Aug. 2.

Goshen County Fair, West Chester; continues through Aug. 3.

Potter County Fair, Millport; continues through Aug. 3.

Tuesday, July 30

Jacktown Fair, Wind Ridge; continues through Aug. 3.

Mercer County Pomona Grange Fair, Mercer; continues through Aug. 3.

New Stanton Farm and Home Fair, New Stanton; continues through Aug. 3.

Chester County Holstein Field Day at Wilmer Hostetter Farm, Oxford, 7 p.m.

Dairy issues and outlook meeting, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 31

University of Md. Tobacco Field Day, S. Md. Research Center, Upper Marlboro. Contact Skip

Myers, 301-454-3622. 1985 Sire Power Sale, Kutztown Fairgrounds.

Thursday, August 1

Lancaster County Guernsey Breeders' Field Day, Penn-Del Farm, Raymond Witmer, 10:30 a.m.

York County Holstein Picnic and Field Day, Sinking Springs Farm, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, August 2

Pa. Sheep Field Day and Craft Show, Ag Arena, Penn State University.

Penn State Square Dance Festival, 8 p.m., Hetzel Union Building, University Park, Aug. 3.

NY State dairy princess pageant, Cortland.

W. Pa. Holstein Championship Show, Lawrence County Fairgrounds.

Saturday, August 3

Sussex County Farm and Horse Show begins; continues through Aug. 11.

Pa. Simmental Association Field Day, Baker's Simmentals, Buffalo Mills, Pa. Contact Bill Shoemaker 412-262-4486.

Clinton County Fair, Mackeyville; continues through Aug. 10.

Pa. Mountain Dairy Goat Association meeting, 1 p.m. at Winterberry Farm near Moscow.

Sunday, August 4

Butler Farm Show, Butler; continues through Aug. 10.

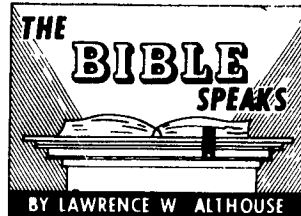
Lebanon Area Fair, Lebanon; continues through Aug. 10.

Union County West End Fair, Laurelton; continues through Aug. 10.

Dover Area Young Farmer's family picnic, Rohlers Lutheran Church picnic grounds, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, August 5

State 4-H Achievement Days, Penn State University. Great Bedford County Fair,



'COSA NOSTRA'
July 28, 1985

Background Scripture: Jonah.

Devotional Reading: Jonah 3.

"Cosa Nostra," I'm told is an Italian term meaning approximately, "our thing." It is a term that is sometimes used by the Mafia to refer to their far-flung criminal enterprises. Obviously, it is a very exclusive term, for, if something is "our thing," then there are obviously others who are not included in the "our." Not only are "they" not part of "us," but we have no intentions of ever letting them become part of "us."

Actually, no matter how much we speak of this being "one world," many of us apparently prefer to keep the walls in place that currently divide us from one another. We arrange our lives, our homes, our communities, so that there is always some "they" and "us," and always some "thing" that is distinctively "ours" and not "theirs."

"I KNEW IT, IT KNEW IT!"

So, it is often with religion, too. That which is intended to unite the world, often ends up dividing it. Religion becomes just one more means whereby we separate ourselves from someone else. And the benefits of religion—salvation, the kingdom of God, heaven—these, all

Bedford; continues through Aug. 10.

Greene County Fair, Waynesburg; continues through Aug. 10.

Warren County Fair, Pittsfield; continues through Aug. 11.

Wayne County Fair, Honesdale; continues through Aug. 11.

Tuesday, August 6

Harold Free Fair, Greensburg; continues through Aug. 10.

Dairy issues and outlook meeting, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 7

Lancaster Conservation District monthly board meeting, Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.

Farmer's Field Day, Rodale Research Center, Kutztown, 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Carlisle Fair, Cumberland County; continues through Aug. 10.

Tioga County Fair, Whitneyville; continues through Aug. 13.

Potter/McKean Farmers Association, Holstein Club

PFA backs ag preserve bill

WARREN — The Pennsylvania Farmers' Association (PFA) supports legislation to provide \$50 million in state funding for the purchase of development rights to preserve valuable farmland.

PFA voiced its support in testimony before a field hearing of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee held in Warren,

too often, we consciously or unconsciously, look upon as "our thing."

That's what the story of Jonah is all about (much, much more than it is a biblical "fish story"). When God called Jonah to go and preach repentance to the people of Nineveh, Jonah was so opposed that he tried to run away. He didn't want the job of preaching to the people of Nineveh. Why? Because he was afraid. He just might respond to the call of God's redemption. Jonah didn't want that because he didn't want them to become his brothers. Instead he wants them to remain his and God's enemies.

At last, however, God catches up with Jonah, and sends him on the long-delayed mission to Nineveh. When he does, the people of Nineveh, experience a change of heart and the "enemies" are transformed into fellow children of God, or brothers.

Now Jonah is really angry and when God questions him about this anger, Jonah replies that "I knew that thou art a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repentest of evil." (4:2)

BETTER TO DIE

Jonah's forthrightness here is disconcerting. He is so honest about his prejudices, that it is either refreshing or embarrassing or both. Plainly, he wants the love and favor of God to remain "our thing." He doesn't want to share it with the people of Nineveh.

When God made it clear that he alone would determine these things, Jonah sulked and decided it would be better to die than to have to share his *cosa nostra*.

But God makes it clear that it is never "our thing" that he offers, but his...and his alone.

Annual Picnic, 7:30 p.m., 4-H Center, Fairgrounds.

Thursday, August 8

Researcher's Field Day, Rodale Center, Kutztown, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Farm City Day on Penn Square in Reading, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lancaster Holstein Field Day, Nelson Wenger Farm, Manheim, 10:30 a.m. Reserve by July 30 by calling Gary Akers, 717-786-4884.

Friday, August 9

Montgomery County 4-H Fair, Montgomery 4-H Center, Creamery.

Eastern Pennsylvania Holstein Championship Show, Kutztown Fairgrounds.

Saturday, August 10

South Central Pennsylvania Holstein Championship Show, Carlisle Fairgrounds.

Tested Ram Lamb Sale, Meat Animal Evaluation Center, State College.

PA to consider House Bill 806.

PFA spokesman William Goodwin, and Erie County vegetable grower, told the committee, "This piece of legislation is of great importance to all Pennsylvanians. One has only to look at the most recent Federal Agricultural Census to see why. Between 1978 and 1982 Pennsylvania lost 663 farms and over 245,000 acres of farmland. This trend could lead to grave consequences for our state, considering what agriculture means to Pennsylvania as its number one industry." Goodwin noted that one in every five jobs in Pennsylvania is related to agriculture.

Under H.B. 806, one half of the state realty transfer tax would be earmarked for the purchase of development rights to farmland by counties. Farmers in designated agricultural areas would be eligible to sell their right to develop their land for non-agricultural purposes, thus preserving the land for farming.

