

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent
Phone 717-394-6851



To Plan For Fall Wheat Seeding

The time is fast approaching for our wheat growers to be making plans for their fall seeding. Some of the local wheat may not be satisfactory due to the wheat seeds found in some fields this year. If you use local wheat, be sure you know the source and have it cleaned and treated for disease. Also, if you had a scab problem this year, do not plant seed in the same field this fall; the fungus can remain in the soil.

Certified seed would be the best route to take if you experienced any problem with scab or powdery mildew this year. The extra cost for certified seed is well worth it to help insure a good crop next summer.

Plan your seed needs now so you are ready to plant when the conditions are right.

To Check Silo Size

How much silage or high moisture corn must you feed each day to keep ahead of spoilage in the silo? The amount will vary considerably from cold days to hot days. Can your herd consume this much feed? The answer to these questions depends on the diameter of the silo, how well the feed was processed and packed when it was

ensiled, herd size, feeding program, season of the year and type of storage structure.

If you are ensiling high moisture ground shelled corn in an upright conventional silo, you'll need to remove at least two inches of grain a day in warmer weather to keep ahead of spoilage. For a 14 foot silo, that is 1,400 pounds or more of corn per day — 24 pounds per cow in a 60 cow herd. If you are ensiling whole shelled corn or ground ear corn, the material does not pack as tightly, and up to four inches may have to be removed daily. Four inches of this material in a 14 foot silo is 2,456 pounds — 41 pounds per cow in a 60 cow herd!

In the latter situation, a 10 foot silo would require 21 pounds of corn be fed. If a limited oxygen storage unit is used, sizing is less critical.

To Renovate Old Pasture

Late August and early September are good times to establish a new pasture, or renovate an old one. In fact, this is a good time of the year to make any pasture or lawn seeding. The old sod should be destroyed by cultivation or by a herbicide. After the soil has been treated with lime and fertilizer, according to a complete soil test, it can be seeded and should produce

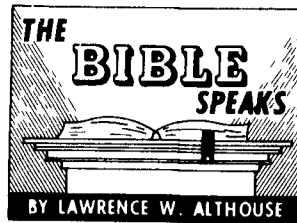
good grazing for next summer.

The advantage of a fall seeding is to permit time for the new plants to become established before the 1986 hot weather arrives. The cool, moist fall months should give the plants a good start. The Agronomy Guide lists some good seeding recommendations.

To Stay In Touch With Creditors

Maintaining a close relationship with your creditors and telling them about your financial status won't likely ease your debts, but will ease your creditors' mind. Creditors get concerned when someone owes a sizeable bill and they never see him. By staying close to your creditors, you may be able to write another payment plan. Some bankers will renegotiate the payment schedule and add a year or two, thus cutting down the monthly or annual payments.

You may also need to visit about refinancing. In most cases you will be paying a higher rate of interest and it won't do that much good, but it still deserves a look. Sometimes by refinancing through another source you can often obtain a lower rate of interest. It's worth the effort and time to visit with your creditors.



UNINEVITABLE INEVITABILITIES

August 11, 1985

Background Scripture:
Zechariah 1:1-6, 2:1-12; 8.
Devotional Reading:
Zechariah 8:9-19.

Reading the prophets of the Old Testament, it is easy to pick-up an overwhelming sense of doom. Tragedy and destruction seem inevitable. Yet, if we read carefully we will discover that there is nothing quite so uninevitable as that which seems inevitable. In other words: none of this HAS to be.

In fact, the purpose of prophecy is not to pronounce doom, but to prevent it. As Zechariah says, "But he will turn again and favor you if only you return to him" (1:2). The prophets do not pronounce what will happen, but only what will happen if the people do not change the direction in which they are moving. Doom comes, therefore, not because it is inevitable, but because the people hear the prophecies and still do not change their ways. "Don't be like your fathers were," says Zechariah, "The earlier prophets pled in vain with them to turn from all their evil ways" (1:4).

GOD'S WORD ENDURES

There is a lesson to be learned from both the Bible and the history of the world. That lesson, says Zechariah is that "God's word endures." The commandments he gives to us do not pass away with time as does everything else. The warnings he gives us stay in force until we choose to ignore or suffer the consequences of our disobedience. Speaking of God's word which endures, Zechariah says, "It caught up with them and punished them. Then at last they repented." Then, at last the people were moved to realize, "He has done just what he warned us he would."

So the most important part of any prophecy is not the recital of terrible things that are going to happen, but the invitation to "Come, return to me." If we heed this invitation, we can learn to avoid the calamities which are inevitable only when we are unresponsive to his warnings. The purpose of prophecy, then, is to bring about repentance.

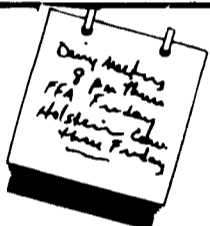
SING AND REJOICE

Actually, prophecy can bring us hope instead of despair, for it is based upon God's plan and purpose for the world. And that plan and purpose is not destruction, but a fulfillment that is happy for both God and his children—"And the Lord answered the angel who stood beside me, speaking words of comfort and assurance" (1:13).

The fulfillment of God's purpose-only that is truly inevitable.

*Note in this week's lesson all scriptural quotations are taken from The Living Bible Paraphrased Tyndale House 1971 (Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Released by Community Press Service)

Farm Calendar



Saturday, August 10
South Central Pa. Holstein Championship Show, Carlisle Fairgrounds.
Eastern Pa. Holstein Championship Show, Kutztown Fairgrounds.

Sunday, August 11
McKean County Fair; continues through Aug. 18
Huntingdon County Fair, Huntingdon; continues through Aug. 17.
Washington County Fair, Washington; continues through Aug. 17.

Monday, August 12
Dayton Fair, Dayton; continues through Aug. 17.
Kutztown Fair, Kutztown; continues through Aug. 17.
Montour DeLong Community Fair, Washingtonville; continues through Aug. 17.
Sewickley Township Fair, W. Newton; continues through Aug. 17.

Tuesday, August 13
Cochranon Community Fair,

Cochranon; continues through Aug. 17.
Elk County Fair, Kersey; continues through Aug. 17.
Lawrence County Fair, New Castle; continues through Aug. 7.
Schuylkill County Fair, Schuylkill Haven; continues through Aug. 17.
Venango County Fair, Franklin; continues through Aug. 17.

Wednesday, August 14
Annual Meeting, Pa. Flower Growers, Penn State University; continues through Aug. 16.
Annual Meeting, Pa. Christmas Tree Growers Association, Split Rock Lodge, Lake Harmony.
Conestoga Classic, 7:30 p.m., Lampeter Fairgrounds.
Pa. State Plowing Contest and Tillage Day, Days Mill Road, west of Leader Heights, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 15
Middletown Grange Fair, Wrightstown; continues through Aug. 17.
Findlay Township Community

Fair, Clinton; continues through Aug. 17.
Middletown Grange Fair, Wrightstown; continues through Aug. 17.
Juniata County Conservation and Energy Field Day, William People's Farm, R1 Mifflintown, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, August 16
Bucks County Holstein Show, Middletown.

Saturday, August 17
Central Pa. Holstein Championship Show, Huntingdon Fairgrounds.
Westmoreland County Fair, Greensburg; continues through Aug. 24.

Sunday, August 18
Cameron County Fair, Emporium; continues through Aug. 24.
Carbon County Fair, Lehightown; continues through Aug. 24
Franklin County Fair, Chambersburg; continues through Aug. 24.
Fulton County Fair, McConnellsburg; continues

through Aug. 24.
Somerset County Fair, Meyersdale; continues through Aug. 24.

Monday, August 19
Crawford County Fair, Meadville; continues through Aug. 24.

Tuesday, August 20
Ag Progress Days, Rock Springs, Penn State University; continues through Aug. 22.
Northeast Pa. Holstein Championship Show, Whitneyville Fairgrounds.

Blue Valley Farm Show, Bangor; continues through Aug. 24.
Harford Fair, Harford; continues through Aug. 24.
Hookstown Gange Fair, Hookstown; continues through Aug. 24.
Perry County Fair, Newport; continues through Aug. 24.

Wednesday, August 21
Dawson Grange Fair, Dawson; continues through Aug. 24.
Lancaster County 4-H Pig Club Roundup, Lancaster Stockyards.

Thursday, August 22
Mount Nebo Grange Fair, Ohio Township; continues through Aug. 24.
Wye Field Day, Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, Md.

Friday, August 23
Centre County Grange Fair, Centre Hall; continues through Aug. 29.
First Annual Lebanon Bologna Fest, Lebanon Fairgrounds.

Saturday, August 24
Summer Picnic, Pa. Nut Growers Association, Mt. Joy.

Northeast DHI services combined

ITHACA, NY — On Aug. 1, Connecticut DHI began receiving all its management and laboratory services from New York DHI.

Connecticut DHI has signed a three-year contract with New York DHI to manage services to its members. Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine will follow in six to nine months.

These contracts are the first step toward a Northeast regional DHI cooperative, which would be centered at the present New York DHI office in Ithaca, New York.

For now, these states have only contracted for New York services, as New Jersey now does, with a 6-cent-per-cow surcharge over New York member rates. A merger for a Northeast cooperative is still pending the approval of the New York delegates.

Sandra Blakeslee, of Lebanon, Conn., was hired as New York DHI's new region manager for Connecticut. Blakeslee was a supervisor for Connecticut DHI for eight years. Most of Connecticut DHI's field staff will be hired by New York DHI.

One of the major advantages of the proposed merger is the potential ability to accomplish more together than could be accomplished as separate units, says New York General Manager Nelvin Empet.

The larger size of the merged cooperative will allow it to better meet the members' needs by staying competitive with new services and products, a faster turnaround and a well-trained, professionally supported supervisor on every farm every month, Empet says.

