

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent
Phone 717-394-6851



To Prepare For Wheat Planting

Wheat is an important crop in many of our farming programs and the selection of good seed will result in a better crop next year. Due to some infection of Scab and Powdery Mildew in our winter wheat last summer, growers should be extra careful this fall by planting clean seed. Certified seed would be free of these problems. If you are planning to use home grown seed, then do an extra good job of cleaning and treating. Vitavax 200 is a recommended fungicide for seed treatment. The fly-free date is either after the first killing frost or in Southeastern Pennsylvania, Oct. 10

Just a few reminders on planting wheat - it should not be planted in the same field more often than once every five years; this time period will reduce the fungus carryover in the soil. Plow the fields as early as you can, then disc and harrow to kill as many weeds as possible. It's also a good idea to harrow the field thoroughly the day of seeding

To Prevent Silo Fires

This year's good growing conditions followed by several weeks of dry weather could cause a higher than usual amount of silo gas to be given off by this year's corn silage. One of these gases is a yellowish-brown, nitrogen dioxide gas, which is toxic to breathe.

Another gas is methane, which is very combustible. Both are heavier than air, and can accumulate in silo chutes and feed rooms. A single spark can ignite the methane, which in turn can

ignite accumulations of dried chaff in the silo chute. The smoldering chaff can burn its way through wooden doors and into the silage. Our recommendations are to ventilate the chute and feed room well, using fans as needed, but being careful of any sparks. Keep the silo free of any debris. When working around the silo, use the buddy system, and contact your physician immediately upon exposure to these gases.

CAUTION: DO NOT use any water on a silo fire; this could cause an explosion - call your fire company

To Help Cows Adjust

During this time of the year, cows are subjected to many stresses. They need all the help they can get from you to adjust to new feeding programs, changing weather and indoor confinement. Feeding changes should be made gradually, and guided by a forage testing program.

Bringing cows in from the pasture and confining them to concrete all day long can be a severe stress. An earthen exercise lot will do a lot for these cows. Good stall maintenance can also increase their comfort. When cows are kept in confinement, we have the obligation of providing proper

ventilation. This is especially critical during fall and spring when the weather can change quite drastically and quite suddenly.

It is a good idea to work closely with your veterinarian to develop a good health program for your herd.

To Protect Plants For The Winter

Plants with shallow roots such as azaleas, rhododendrons, mountain laurel and flowering dogwood need frequent watering. And it's a good idea to continue watering these plants on a regular basis until the ground freezes this fall.

A shallow-rooted plant has most of its root system in the upper three to five inches of soil. Since this is the first layer to dry out, it's very important that these plants receive at least an inch of water each week through the season.

Also, the more water your plants can take up before the ground freezes, the better they will withstand the severe winter conditions. Keep in mind that once the ground does freeze, there will be no free water for the plants to take up. But even though the ground is frozen, the parts of the plant above the ground will continue to lose water.

Farm Calendar



Sunday, September 29
National County Agents Meeting,

Hershey. Continues through Oct. 3.

Tuesday, October 1
Eastern Milk Producers 63rd Annual Meeting, Syracuse, NY. Continues tomorrow.

Wednesday, October 2
Lancaster Conservation District monthly board meeting, 7:30 p.m., Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

New Holland Farmers Fair, New Holland. Continues through Oct. 5.

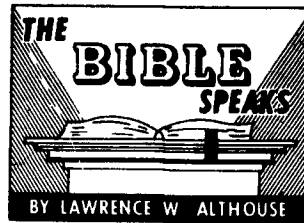
World Dairy Expo, Madison, Wis.

Friday, October 4
State 4-H Horse Show, Harrisburg; continues through Oct. 6.

Monday, October 7
Hollidaysburg Community Fair, Hollidaysburg. Continues through Oct. 10.
Manheim Community Fair, Manheim. Continues through Oct. 11.

Tuesday, October 8
Cattle and hog feeders meeting, 7:30 p.m., Blue Ball School. Call 354-4525.

Thursday, October 10
Unionville Community Fair, Unionville; continues through Oct. 12.



SUPERHUMAN
September 29, 1985

Background Scripture:

Ephesians 4:17 through 5:20.

Devotional Reading:

Ephesians 5:3-20.

Nothing is more hurtful to the image of Christianity than the naive failure to realize that Christians are human beings and therefore subject to the same frailties, temptations, experiences of failure that are common to the whole human race. Anyone who has ever read the epistles of Paul and the Book of Acts must realize that the earliest Christians were human beings, not cardboard saints. Paul and Peter had some pointed conflicts; the church at Corinth was divided into factions; immorality in various churches brought strong admonitions and protests from some of the apostles, and so on.

There's an old cliché about not staying away from church because it's filled with hypocrites, for there's always room for one more! Yes, there's lots of room for hypocrisy in the church and lots of other sins and sinners as well. As someone has said, the Church is not a club for saints, but a school for sinners.

YOUR OLD NATURE

At the same time we must acknowledge the human nature that is the common lot of all of us, we are called also to improve

considerably upon our human nature. Yes, we are all sinners and there is no one truly righteous, but the writer of Ephesians also calls us to "Put off your old nature which belongs to your former manner of life..." (4:23). If we are followers of Christ, we are called to give up our old ways of living "and put on the new nature."

What does that mean? Ephesians gives us some clear indications: avoid falsehood... not let the sun go down on your anger," do not steal, talk evilly, avoid "all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander."

But it is not enough to give up the "old nature," Ephesians calls us to "put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God..." or as the Jerusalem Bible puts it, "put on the new self." And the new self is specified in being "kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

REVOLUTION!

The Jerusalem Bible helps us to understand that what is called for here is not just a few band aids. "Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self" (4:23,24). A spiritual revolution! That's what's needed in many of us. Too often I assume that I need to make a few little changes here and there: a little more love, a little more faith, a smidgen more of kindness, and so on.

But that isn't what God wants of me, I'm afraid. What he wants—and I'm so reluctant to let him have—is a revolution, a spiritual revolution that will enable me, not to play church, but "walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us..."

Yes, we are human. But Christ calls us to be more than human—as he was and is.

Tobacco meetings slated for Oct.

BLUE BALL - About 100 tobacco growers and buyers turned out for a meeting at the Blue Ball Fire Hall on Tuesday evening to learn more about the newly organized Pennsylvania Tobacco Auction, Inc.

A partial list of upcoming meetings is given below. Future meetings will be scheduled for Bart, Washington Boro and Lititz. All growers interested in marketing this year's crop through the auction are urged to attend.

- Oct. 1 - Rawlinsville Fire Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 8 - Bird in Hand Fire Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 16 - Martindale Fire Hall, 7:30 p.m.

USDA protects plant varieties

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued certificates of protection for 15 new varieties of pea, perennial ryegrass, pumpkin, soybean, tomato, and wheat.

Kenneth H. Evans, an official with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said developers of the newly protected varieties will have the exclusive right to reproduce their products in the United States for 18 years. USDA grants certificates of protection after a review of the breeders' records and claims that each new variety is novel, uniform and stable.

The following varieties have been issued certificates of protection:

- the Ricardo variety of pea,

developed by Devoco-Handesraad, Rotterdam, Holland;

- the Cowboy variety of perennial ryegrass, developed by Pure-Seed Testing, Inc., Hubbard, Oreg.;

- the Bushkin pumpkin variety, developed by W. Atlee Burpee Company, Warminster, Pa.;

- the RA-452 and RA-405 varieties of soybean, developed by Rohm and Haas Seeds, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.; the Epps variety of soybean, developed by the University of Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, Knoxville, Tenn.;

- the Indiana 812 variety of tomato, developed by Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, West Lafayette, Ind.;

- the Marshall variety of wheat, developed by Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, St. Paul, Minn.; the Erik, Mustang, Magnum, Wrangler, Ram, Blazer and Meggie wheat varieties, developed by Nickerson American Plant Breeders, Inc., Mission, Kan.;

Certificates of protection for Ricardo pea, Epps soybean, and Erik, Magnum, Mustang, Wrangler, Ram, Blazer, Meggie, and Marshall wheat varieties all were issued under Title V of the Plant Variety and Protection Act. Seeds of these varieties may be sold by variety name only as a class of certified seed.

New Holland Farmers Fair

October 2-5

Wednesday, October 2

7:00 p.m. - Farmers Fair Opening Parade

Thursday, October 3

11:00 a.m. - 4-H Market Swine Show

1:00 p.m. - 4-H Market Steer Show

Sale Following Show

4:00 p.m. - Market Swine Sale

Friday, October 4

5:30 p.m. - Kid's Day Drawing and Pedal Power Tractor Pull

7:30 p.m. - Pet Parade

8:00 p.m. - Tug-of-War

Saturday, October 5

Craft Show, Franklin Street

7:00 a.m. - Horseshow Pitching, Community Park

4:00 p.m. - Baby Parade

5:30 p.m. - Pedal Power Tractor Pull

8:00 p.m. - Tug-of-War Finals

