

Computerized farm

NEWARK, DE -"First you look at FINLRB and if that looks promising you go to FINTRAN, and finally you control the whole thing with FINAN

and FINFLO." These aren't directions for would-be travelers on some outergalaxy space shuttle, but the description of a promising new system for analyzing a farm business.

And the strange words in capital letters are simply the nicknames of four computerized farm management programs developed and distributed by the Center For Farm **Financial Management** at the University of Minnesota under the collective name FIN-PACK — which stands for Financial Planning and Analysis Package.

University of Delaware extension agricultural economists Don Tilmon and Carl German received FINPACK training in Minneapolis in early June along with ex-11 other states. Now they're ready to use its computer programs to help economically hardpressed Delaware farmers fight their way back to greater financial health through an in-depth analysis of their farm operations.

According to Tilmon, FINPACK analysis usually starts with a

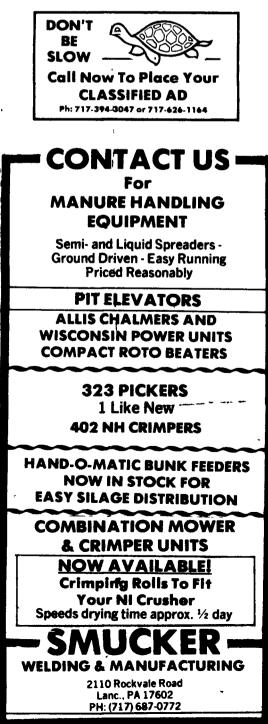
look at FINLRB (a computerized long-range farm budgeting procedure) to evaluate a producer's alternative long-range economic plans.

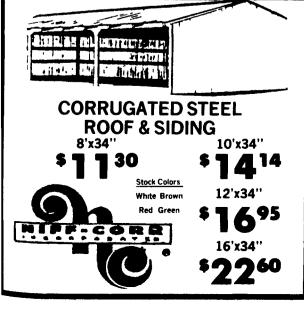
Next it goes to FIN-TRAN (a computerized transitional farm planning procedure) to help a farmer develop a three-year transition plan to move the farm from its current operation into the longrange plan.

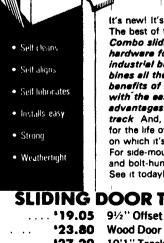
Finally, FINAN (a computerized annual farm financial analysis procedure) and FIN-FLO (a monthly farm cash flow planning procedure) are used to monitor and control the year-to-year financial affairs of the farm.

One-on-one financial analysis service using these programs is now available to Delaware farmers who are willing to invest the time and effort to evaluate their operations, Tilns n says. As with other extension services, the programs are open to all interested individuals tension economists from regardless of race, 11 other states. Now color, sex, handicap, age or national origin. The minimum information necessary is the two most recent Schedule F forms and a current balance sheet for the farm.

Delaware farmers interested in an analysis of their farm business should contact Don Tilman or Carl German at 451-2511.







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