

Senate Ag Committee slates '86 agenda

WASHINGTON — Senator Jesse Helms, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, outlined the likely immediate agenda of legislation under the Committee's jurisdiction for the second session of the 99th Congress.

"In general, the Committee must see that the progress that was made last year toward a market-oriented, profitable agricultural industry is continued," said Helms. "The Agriculture Committee will work closely with the Department of Agriculture in seeing that the provisions of the 1985 farm bill are implemented in a way that will place the U.S. farmer in the most competitive and profitable position possible."

"Perhaps one of the most significant items of unfinished business is the reconciliation bill for fiscal year 1986," said Helms, explaining that it is important to farmers that the budget savings in that bill be enacted. "Without

those spending reductions, indiscriminate across-the-board reductions in farm programs will have to be implemented."

Also, the tobacco program reforms contained in the budget reconciliation bill must be enacted soon so that tobacco growers can make planting arrangements.

"I am confident that the conference on the reconciliation bill can conclude its work soon so this bill can be sent to the President," said Helms. "Enactment of this legislation is important not only for the tobacco farmer, but for the budget-balancing hopes of Congress, as well."

Another item of unfinished business is H.R. 7, a bill passed by the Senate in December reauthorizing five nutrition programs. The programs are the summer food services program, commodity distribution program, state administrative expenses, special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children (WIC), and nutrition

education and training.

Chairman Helms indicated that an early item of business would be to convene the conference between the Agriculture Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee.

Also early in the year the Committee will consider executive nominations, including those of the new Secretary of Agriculture and the new Farm Credit Administration Board.

The Committee will work on two major expiring authorities this year: the reauthorization of the Futures Trading Act and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

"The commodities markets have become important tools for farmers, who can use the various market instruments in their marketing strategies. When the trading act was last amended in 1982, additional marketing instruments were added to give farmers more flexibility. This year's reauthorization will allow

Congress to measure the progress of those new instruments, and perhaps make other changes that will make the markets more useful to farmers," said Helms.

Helms was optimistic that a new FIFRA law can be completed this year. He said a compromise recently reached between representatives of the environmental groups and the chemical industry should enable Congress to pass a major reauthorization bill.

The Chairman said it will also be important for the committee to monitor the effect of the new Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law on agriculture.

"I have long said a balanced budget would be the greatest achievement Congress could make for agriculture because of the favorable effect it would have in reducing interest rates," said

Helms. "Gramm-Rudman-Hollings promises that balanced budget. However, it also means that agricultural spending must be reduced to help achieve the budget targets. I hope Congress can make spending reductions that make good policy sense, thereby avoiding the automatic cuts that will otherwise take place."

Senator Helms announced the following tentative schedule for Committee consideration of its 1986 agenda. Dates are tentative and subject to modification:

Child nutrition conference: Begin week of January 27.

CFTC reauthorization: February 5, 19, 20 — Hearings, March 11, 12 — Markup

FIFRA reauthorization: March 4, — hearing. Additional hearing dates and markup dates will be announced at a later date.

Officers reelected in Franklin Co.

CHAMBERSBURG — Officers were re-elected and director appointments were made at the Reorganization Meeting of the Franklin County Conservation District.

Andrew Fitz, Waynesboro, was re-elected Chairman. Glenn Dice, Chambersburg, and Donna Hays, Spring Run, were re-elected as Vice Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer.

Wilbur Kline and Dice were reappointed to serve 4-year terms as directors. Kline serves as an urban director and Dice serves as a farmer director. Joe Ausherman was reappointed to a 1-year term as County Commissioner director.

Three landowners, totaling around 400 acres, were approved for conservation planning assistance. They are Walter Brenner, III, Greene Township; Carl Brantner, Lurgan Township; and Eugene Pisle, Guilford Township.

Affiliate Members for 1985 include Dale Coons, Dry Run; John Akers, Chambersburg; and Edward Miller, Waynesboro. Honorary Supporters for 1985 are Chambersburg Farm Service, Inc.; First National Bank and Trust Company of Waynesboro; M. Dice and Roberta Statler; Valleybank; Willard Agri Service, Inc.; Hardol Development Company; F & M Trust; and the Citizens National Bank of Greencastle.

Alfalfa growers demand the best.

"After the alfalfa was cut there was a two inch regrowth in five days!"



Bill Neilsen

Edward Shuhler

Edward Shuhler of East Greenville, Lehigh County, Pa., recently told Bill Neilsen of Farm Bureau, Bechtelsville, Pa. how Cimarron Alfalfa worked on his farm last year.

"We seeded five acres of Cimarron Alfalfa about March 30th at a rate of twenty pounds per acre with two and a quarter bushels of Noble Oats. The oats yielded 80 bushels per acre and we were able to bale 235 bales of straw from that field. Then in early September, the new Cimarron stand put out 109 bales of hay. Our bales average about fifty pounds, so I'd say we baled about two and a half tons

from that field. The Cimarron really came up evenly after the oats were off. After the alfalfa was cut there was a two inch regrowth in five days."

Bill Neilsen works with Ed on feed programs for Ed's fifty cow holstein herd. Bill says, "Ed feeds 16-18 pounds of top quality second or third cutting alfalfa hay once a day for as long as he has it. That makes a big difference in the feeding program to have that alfalfa in there. Ed runs a butterfat consistently over 4.00 in the winter time with his feed program. We'll keep working for more milk production with the help of Cimarron."

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