

Lebanon corn, alfalfa winners honored

BY DENIS HOKE
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LEBANON -- Six champion Lebanon County corn growers were recognized at the Dauphin-Lebanon Crops Day at Founders Hall, Hershey, on Jan. 27. The recognition stemmed from their participation in the 1985 Five-Acre Corn Club sponsored by the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association and the Penn State University Cooperative Extension Service.

Richard Kreider, Prescott Road, Lebanon and Kervin Zimmerman, Miller Road, Myerstown led the list of winners. Kreider received a plaque for second place in the state in the shelled grain 3 acre + (large) harvest class. His 1985 yield was 190.4 bushels per acre. Zimmerman received a similar plaque for placing second in the state in the 3 year average shelled grain 3 acre + (large) harvest

class. His average yield for 1983, 1984 and 1985 was 159.9 bushels per acre.

Other growers recognized in the 3 year average large harvest class were Kreider, fourth place in state with 151.9 bushel/acre; Con-Ger Farms, Gerald and Connie Hoffer, Annville, 7th place with 143.4 bushel/acre; and Alger Farms, represented by Roy and Daryl Alger, Palmyra, 10th place with 135.2 bushel/acre.

In the 3 year average regular (less than 3 acres) harvest class was Mark Hitz, South 5th Avenue, Lebanon, placing 6th with 158.2 bushel/acre.

In addition, Willow Maple Farms, represented by Harold and Donald Bollinger, Newmanstown, placed 5th in the state in the large harvest class for 1985. Their yield was 178.4 bushel/acre.

Other growers receiving ribbons for 1985 yields were as follows: Regular Harvest Class, purple

ribbons - Amos Balsbaugh, 180.8 bushel/acre, shelled corn, Mark Hitz, 180.0 bushel/acre shelled corn; Regular Harvest Class, blue ribbons - Mark and Richard Bomberger, 156.2 bushel/acre, shelled corn; Regular Harvest Class, red ribbons - Clair Martin, 133.5 bushel/acre, shelled corn, and Richard Elliott, 132.8 bushel/acre, ear corn; Large Harvest Class, blue ribbons - Alger Farms, 170.6 bushel/acre, shelled corn, Kervin Zimmerman, 170.0 bushel/acre, shelled corn, and Con-Ger Farms, 151.1 bushel/acre, shelled corn.

The average county yield for those in the program was 164.4 bushel/acre (all classes), while the state average for all classes was 152.5 bushel/acre. It cost county growers \$1.94 to produce one

bushel of corn

Although county alfalfa growers did not place on the state level, as a group they placed third in the 10 county southeast region in tons of alfalfa per acre at 7.27 tons. The average 1985 yield for the region was 6.85 tons/acre. Producing more than 7 tons per acre were Hershey Bare, Heffelfinger Road, Lebanon, with 7.63 tons per acre; Marlin Hitz, Campbelltown, 7.61 tons per acre; and Harold and Donald Bollinger, Newmanstown, 7.42 tons/acre. Other growers and yield were as follows: Gerald Hoffer, Annville, 6.87 tons/acre; and Arthur and Donald Krall, 6.8 tons/acre. In addition, Frank Reist, Jr., produced 5.65 tons per acre from an alfalfa stand established in April 14, 1985 making 3 cuttings.

Avian flu

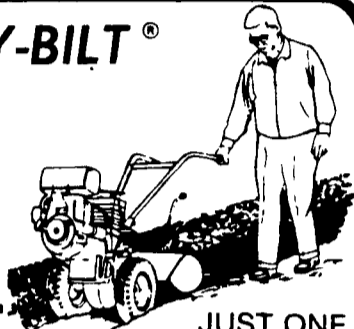
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with the virus.

Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry chief Dr. Max Van-Buskirk said that the Department of Agriculture is currently working on a comprehensive schedule of values so that indemnity funds can be distributed fairly to the owners of depopulated flocks.

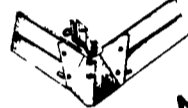
In an effort to keep pace with the rising cost of the eradication effort, Governor Dick Thornburg has requested that the state's General Assembly earmark an additional \$500,000 appropriation for avian influenza control. This amount is in addition to the \$225,000 animal indemnity fund that had been included in the 1985-86 budget, bringing the total available kitty to \$725,000. "But we're pretty close to that limit now," said a Department of Agriculture spokesman.

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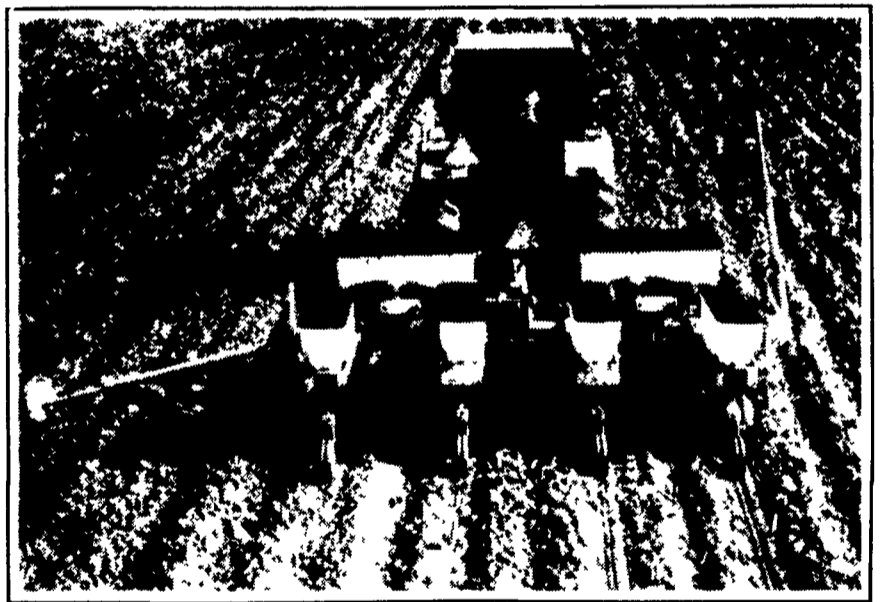
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