



OPINION

Goose Grease

At another place on this page, you'll find a letter from a reader in Maryland who likes our dairy month features. But this dairy farm woman makes an interesting point about some non-dairy ingredients that fill-in for the "real" thing in some of the dairy recipes sent to us for publication during June.

Ellen Armacost writes: "I cannot help but be distressed that a number of the recipes feature margarine and cool whip (or frozen whipped topping). In your June 5th issue, I note at least three times that margarine is listed as an ingredient. The June 13 issue is not any better—at least eleven recipes feature non-dairy items. And even the FEATURED RECIPE in the latter issue used frozen whipped topping. It makes me wonder how many counterfeit products will be used in the two remaining issues for dairy month.

Your office should be over-

whelmed with irate letters from dairy farmers, but I doubt that this is the case. Far too many dairy farmers use margarine (my husband refers to it as "goose grease") routinely by saying, "I cannot afford to use butter". My rebuttal to that statement is, "You cannot afford not to use butter". I believe that we dairy farmers may be our own worst enemy. If we all used the products we produce, we might not be in the dilemma we find ourselves with a glut of milk.

We certainly agree with this idea. And we are especially captivated by the name "goose grease" for margarine. Now if we can find an appropriate name for artificial whipped topping—like what a goose would excrete if allowed to run loose in the barn yard. Oh, well! After this editorial no dairy farmer in his right mind will get near a goose when he's ready to eat dinner.

FARM FORUM OUR READERS WRITE

Editor

"June is Dairy Month" and I congratulate you for your salute to the dairy industry featuring additional articles about dairy farm families, items about lovely dairy princesses and for the highlight of a dairy recipe feature. It is commendable.

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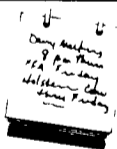
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You may be interested to learn that this is the third time I have written to Lancaster Farming concerning the recipes submitted to your paper to herald "June Dairy Month."

JUNE DAIRY MONTH DESERVES A BETTER SHOW!

Ellen K. Armacost
Upperco MD

Farm Calendar



Saturday, June 27
Cherry Fair, Routes 501 and 897, Schaefferstown, 717-949-3685 or 949-3638.
Kutztown Folk Festival, Kutztown; continues through July 5.
Crawford County Dairy Princess Pageant, Jon Reese Farm, RI Guys Mills.
Indiana County Dairy Princess Banquet/Pageant, Indiana University of Pa., Indiana.
Western Pa. Sheep Field Day, Harold Dunn Farm, Butler, 10

a.m. to 3 p.m.
Clarion-Venango Dairy Princess, Snyder Valley Farms, Perry Township.
Ephrata Young Farmers Annual Picnic, Ephrata Community Park, 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 28
1987 Pa. Greenhouse and Allied Industry's Conference, J.O. Keller Conference Center, Penn State University.
American Seed Trade Association Convention, Boston, Mass.;

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin
Lancaster County Agriculture Agent

To Combine At The Proper Speed

We are in the last stages of barley harvest, and in a few weeks, the winter wheat crop should be ripe. Both of these crops require mechanical harvesting equipment and good weather. From the amount of volunteer grain I've seen growing after barley and wheat harvests, it is evident that too much grain is being left in the field.

I am concerned that high combine speed might be part of the reason that grain is thrown out with the straw. The manufacturer's recommendations should be followed in this respect. Also, there are times when the grain may be too tough to combine. This is often the case when the crop is quite weedy. The important thing

continues through July 2.

Monday, June 29
PennAg Chesapeake Bay Symposium, noon to 5 p.m., Shawnee Lancaster Resort. For information call 733-2238.

Tuesday, June 30
Bradford County 4-H Day Camp, Memorial Park, Towanda, 1 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 1
Lancaster County Conservation District Meeting, Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.
Sundae Celebration, Independence Mall, Philadelphia.
Hunterdon County Board of Ag Monthly meeting, Extension Center, 8 p.m.

Thursday, July 2
York County 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, 9 a.m., Warrington Green Farm, Wellsville.

Saturday, July 4
Cumberland Valley Jersey Breeders Sale, Shippensburg Fairgrounds, 12:30 p.m.
Seventh Annual Hickory Ridge Antique Farm Show, 9 a.m. to ?, Horace Potter Residence, County Road 124, Route 113. (1 mile north of Milford, Del.) For more information call 302-422-9308 or 302-422-6153.

Monday, July 6
North East American Dairy Science Association/American Society of Animal Science regional meeting, University of Delaware. Continues through July 8.
Junior Dairy Judging School, Chester County; continues (Turn to Page A23)

is to have the combine adjusted to the best of your knowledge and then drive at recommended speeds. You'll need every bushel of grain and every bale of straw from your crop.

To Clean Pesticide Sprayers

The use of various kinds of spray materials in one sprayer is risky. This is especially true when you are using any type of weed killer. In too many cases the sprayer carries sufficient residual weed killer material to injure a susceptible crop. Farmers who are spraying corn fields with weed killers one day and then spraying alfalfa or tobacco plants the next day with the same equipment had better do a thorough job of cleaning the sprayer.

Some materials can be cleaned by using warm water and soap detergent. However, materials such as 2,4-D had better be cleaned with one pint of household ammonia in 25 gallons of hot water. Allow this mix to remain in the sprayer overnight and then spray it out through the system on the lane or driveway. Don't be guilty of harming good plants. One of the best practices is to have one sprayer for weed killers and another for other purposes.

To Prepare For Fire Protection

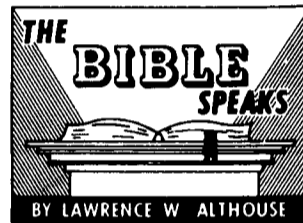
Our barns are filling up with new crops of hay, straw and grain so we need to be concerned with fire protection. We urge farmers to give some thought to water supplies for fighting fires. Many

farmers indicate that their fire company would be unable to supply adequate water; this increases the risk of serious fire losses. Farms with streams nearby should have plans developed to move the fire engine within 25 feet of the water. Owners of ponds should have all weather driveways to the pond. There have been cases where buildings burned while the fire truck was mired down in the mud trying to get to the pond. It's a good idea to inform your local fire company of the sources of water supplies for fighting fires. A good water supply for fighting fire is good insurance against severe losses.

To Consider Lightning Rods on Trees

How many times have you driven past a pasture field or exercise lot and noticed dozens of cattle or other livestock grouped together under one or two large trees? During severe thunderstorms, livestock will gather under these trees. If lightning strikes the tree, many of the animals will be killed. A number of farmers in the county can attest to that. For the protection of valuable livestock, we suggest that some of these individual trees be fitted with a lightning rod system. If there is a woodlot or a number of trees in the pasture, it may not be practical.

There is a Lightning Protection Institute at Harvard, IL 60033 that lists the certified installers in your area. You can call them collect through their LPI Hotline 815-943-7211.



Background Scripture:
Romans 3:27 through 4:25.
Devotional Reading:
Romans 4:16-25/

The Apostle Paul seems to confuse a lot of people. Writing to the church at Rome, he puts quite a bit of effort into emphasizing the need for righteous living and good works (1:6, 13). Then, just when we think we've gotten that message straight, he seems to change his mind: "we hold that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the law" (Romans 3:28). So, what is it, Paul? The "works" you specify in chapter one, "For he will render to every man according to his works," or the "faith" you hold is "reckoned" to us as righteousness in chapter three?

For centuries Christians have been battling over this issue of "faith or works?" It was one of the great issues of the Reformation and, in fact, it is a continuing controversy within Christianity. Some have characterized it as a controversy between Paul ("faith alone") and James ("works alone"), but, as we can see in Romans alone, Paul himself seems to come down on both sides of the argument.

If we look closely at Romans, however, we find that this "faith vs. works" is a phony proposition. We have polarized in our theological thinking what is not really a polarization at all. One does not have to choose-up sides — as so often Christians have done —

because this is not a case of either/or. We do not have to choose between either "faith" or "works" because they are not really separate or opposing realities.

This old "faith vs. works" dilemma is like trying to decide whether pants are singular or plural. Actually, as one wag put it, "they're singular at the top and plural at the bottom." It depends upon one's perspective. Faith and works are actually complimentary—rather than opposing—perspectives on the same reality. Both of these are singular response to the goodness of God. If we focus on the results of that response, we see the works that issue from it. If we focus on the motive, however, we see the faith that evokes the works. In the very beginning of his letter to the Romans, Paul focused on good works, but later he shifts his perspective to the motivation and power that produces those works.

Actually, it is when we separate faith from works that we run into trouble. Is it possible to have works without faith? Of course it is — we may do the right thing, not because we love and are grateful to God, but because we are trying to "buy" or "earn" his salvation. We can produce the results, but our motives are selfish and unloving. This is the motivation of a person who refrains from breaking the law, not because he is honest, but because he's afraid not to uphold it.

Similarly, it is possible to have "faith" without works. We may believe all kinds of religious teachings as "true," without letting those teachings affect the way we live. But, you'll notice that I put quotation marks around "faith" above. That's because we may call that belief "faith," but it isn't. Belief is faith only when it motivates us.

This is what Paul was saying about Abraham in the long passage in Romans 4. Abraham lived his life in obedience to God because he first believed that God would keep his promise. If he had believed, but lived disobediently, his faith would not have been "reckoned as righteousness." If he had, on the other hand, been obedient out of fear, that would not have sufficed either. But Abraham was loyal to God because he really had faith in his promises. Abraham trusted God and everything he did was founded upon his trust, which Paul calls Abraham's "faith."

