

# Lancaster Farming

## OPINION



### NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin  
Lancaster County Agriculture Agent

#### To Apply Manure

This is the season of the year that a lot of manure is applied in preparation for corn planting. We need to be concerned with proper application of liquid or solid manure in such a way as to minimize odors and avoid pollution complaints.

Application should be made from mid-morning to mid-afternoon to allow maximum odor dispersion and manure drying before the calm, nighttime hours when neighbors are home from work. Fields for disposal should be downwind, rather than upwind from neighbors, if possible.

Whenever possible the manure should be plowed under or disked into the soil as soon as possible after spreading. This practice not only minimizes odors but also preserves nutrients and reduces potential for surface run-off that causes water contamination.

#### To Attend Poultry Progress Day

The six annual Poultry Progress Day will be held on Thursday, March 3, in the auditorium at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster. The program will start at 9:00 a.m. in the morning and end at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be available. An excellent and timely program has been developed by the Poultry Association Education Committee. Speakers will deal with the important areas of Poultry Health - 1988 and Beyond; New Pesticide Regulations; Egg Nutrition and Cholesterol, The Whole Story; Salmonella and the Consumer; Nutrient Management and more. We are pleased to have nationally recognized speakers like Dr. Hugh Johnson, Director, Poultry Department, American Farm Bureau Federation; Cathy McCharen, Vice-President, Egg Nutrition Center, Washington, D.C.; and Dr. David Kradel, Avian Veterinarian at Penn State University.

We encourage poultry producers and people interested in the poultry industry to attend this important meeting.

#### To Mend Pasture Fences

Pastures can provide cattle a lot of good, nutritious forage, and it's a place for them to get fresh air, exercise and sunlight. Before too long, we will be turning our cattle out to pasture, but let's not turn them out too soon. It's best to let the sod develop and the ground

firm up. Spend the time now to fix fences and pick up trash and debris before the grass gets too tall and before you're tied down with spring field work.

It might also be helpful to section off the pasture in order to make best use of the grass. For example, wet areas and flat areas may be fenced off from other areas. This will enable you to keep cows out of wet areas until the ground firms up, and could help prevent the development of foot problems. During the early spring flush of pasture growth, you could keep cattle out of the flat area; save it for hay and feed it to cows later in the summer.

#### To Use Heat Lamps Safely

A portable heat lamp is a useful item around the home and farm during cold weather. The lamp's infra-red rays can be used to keep

pigs from chilling, relax aching muscles, or warm crankcases of tractors and automobiles so they'll start easier. The heat lamp can also be used in brooders for small pigs or lambs, or baby chicks or at your workbench to give you quick heat.

But, I'd like to add a word of caution. A heat lamp can be dangerous because the lamp's rays can easily burn you, the same as a sunburn.

Also, if you are using the lamp continuously for a long period, use a porcelain socket. Most plastic sockets will not be able to stand the heat. Another thing... in a brooding area, use a wire or chain to support the lamp. Don't hang it by its cord; the cord was designed to carry the current and not the weight. Remember, a heat lamp can come in handy around the farm or home in cold weather. But handle it with care.

It's FFA Week and more than 416,000 FFA members in 8,000 chapters have promoted FFA, high school agriculture, and the Food and Fiber Industry. Chapters across the U.S., in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands planned events and activities to create awareness of and support for high school agriculture and FFA. This year's theme is "FFA-- Agriculture's New Spirit." High school agriculture classes stress hands-on experience in many diverse areas of agriculture. FFA activities provide leadership development, career training, and award incentives for these young people. Locally FFA chapters did such things as make announcements on the school P.A. system, fill display cases, give out pens and pencils, dress up in FFA jackets, give out placemats to restaurants, and make radio spots.

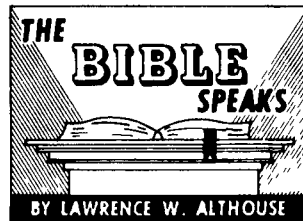
Kelli Evans, national FFA president from Hayes Center, Neb., said FFA Week is the chance for mem-

bers and communities to recognize achievements and activities available through FFA and high school agriculture.

"We're proud of this commitment to young people and agriculture. As FFA members, and students in agriculture classes, we are receiving the business, science and leadership skills we need to prepare for the diverse and challenging careers in agriculture," Evans said.

Each year FFA Week is held during the week of George Washington's birthday (traditional) to recognize his leadership and commitment to American agriculture. The National FFA Center is located on part of Washington's original Mt. Vernon estate near Alexandria, Va.

FFA students promoting agriculture among their peers in high school must be one of the most effective agriculture communications programs in the nation. For this we thank you, FFA members.



WHO IS #1?  
February 28, 1988

Background Scripture:  
Matthew 20: 17-28.  
Devotional Reading:  
John 13: 12-17.

We live in a world where being "number one" is extremely important. That is how success is measured. As we climb the ladder of our vocation or avocation, we become more successful — at least as society reckons it. As Jesus reckons it, however, success may have nothing at all to do with society's measurements. As in almost everything else, the teachings of Jesus about being "number one" are radically different from what the world teaches us.

Once again, we Christians are somewhat schizoid on this score. We embrace Jesus' teachings on this matter, but we generally run our churches by the world's standards. Who is successful in the church? The clergyman who pastors the largest church or becomes bishop. The layman who wields the most influence and holds the highest positions of lay power.

I have no aspirations of ever being a bishop. Nevertheless, if tomorrow I were informed that I had just been elected bishop, I would certainly feel successful beyond my greatest expectations. The same would be true if I were offered "the largest pulpit in Methodism." That would be success, wouldn't it?

#### LORDING IT OVER

That standard of success has been with us a long time. It was this standard that led the mother of James and John of Zebedee to ask Jesus, "Command that these two sons of mine may sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in

your kingdom" (Matthew 20:21). What mother wouldn't want that for her sons? Jesus recognized this human desire: "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them." Having the power to "lord it over" someone else has always been the world's measure of success.

Until Jesus came, saying: "It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whosoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve..." (20:26-28). Once again, Jesus recognizes the human desire to be great or first. He does not criticize James, John and their mother for wanting to be first in the kingdom of heaven next to Jesus. What he does do, however, is to give them a radically different way of being the greatest: by being a servant to others.

Once again, Jesus is looking to the long run, instead of the short run. In the short run, "lording it over" other seems to be the way to success. But, in the long run, that doesn't work or count for real success. What works in the long run is the willingness to serve, rather than to be served. Only in serving others can we truly be "number one."

#### WILLING TO SERVE

Writing on this is a very uncomfortable experience for me, for I know how likely I am to judge success, not by the standards of Jesus, but by those of the secular world. I believe with all my mind that a Christian must be willing to serve others as Christ did, but I don't very often live by those beliefs. If someone came to me today, not to tell me that I had been elected bishop, but to inform me that God had chosen for me the servant's role in a specific situation, could I feel that same degree of satisfaction? Could I view this as a superior means to becoming "number one."

Could you?  
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## Farm Calendar

### Sunday, February 28

International Dwarf Tree Meetings, Hershey Convention Center; through March 2.  
New Jersey Flower & Garden Show, Morristown Armory; through March 6.

### Monday, February 29

PA Game Bird Conference, PSU Short Course, 9:00 a.m.; through March 1. Call 814/865-8301.  
Sire Power Annual Mtg.—Berks-Lehigh, Virginsville Grange, noon.  
Brubaker Agronomic Banquet, Willow Valley, Lancaster, 6:30 p.m.  
Cumberland Cooperative Sheep & Wool Growers Annual Mtg. and Banquet, South Middleton Firehall, Boiling Springs, 7:00 p.m.  
Bucks Cooperative Extension Annual Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Plum-

steadville Firehall, Stump Rd. Reservations due by Feb. 16.  
Sire Power Annual Mtg.—Lancaster I, White Horse Fire Hall, 7:15 p.m.  
Brubaker Agronomic Banquet, Willow Valley, Lancaster, 6:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 1

Public Meeting To Discuss 1988 Acreage Reduction Program conducted by the Lancaster County ASCS, 10 a.m. in the Lancaster Farm and Home Center Basement meeting room.  
Third Annual PA Corn Conference, Embers Restaurant, Carlisle, 8:30 a.m.  
Garden Center School, Quality Inn, Centerville, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; through March 2.  
Lancaster County Dairy Day, Farm & Home Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Sire Power Annual (Turn to Page A27)

## FARM FORUM OUR READERS WRITE

### Editor,

An advertisement recently appearing in your paper troubles me. I'm referring to the full-page ad run by Farmland Dairies—"Due to Continued Expansion (They are)... Looking For Your Milk."

Is it indeed due to expansion, or are they feeling the pressures of an RCMA milk diversion? I was sur-

prised to see this advertisement in a paper printed for farmers. Why not give RCMA a chance?

If some of you dairymen haven't signed up with RCMA because you don't need more money, by all means sign anyway and send the checks to me. RCMA is responsible.  
(Turn to Page A29)

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