Vegetable Growers Urged

(Continued from Page A1)

growers who produce vegetables for sale on one or more acres or on 1,000 or more square feet of greenhouse space. This would include growers who have crops that are commonly defined as vegetables standard to marketing practices plus pumpkins, gourds, and Indian corn and excluding white potatoes, whose producers have established their own program.

Those growers who are delinquent in their payments will be assessed a one percent per month penalty plus collection costs, enforceable by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The program would replace the five-year old Pennsylvania Vegetable Research Program, which was terminated last August. The old program had collected more than \$120, 000 for vegetable research from growers with 10 or more acres of vegetables. This research helped increased crop yields, but didn't help farmers market their

produce at a profitable price.

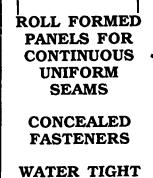
"The program we had before was more geared to the processing grower than the fresh-market grower," Bergman noted. "Also, the little guy didn't get anything out of it.

In addition, under the old program growers delinquent in payments were not penalized. "There was really no practical way to enforce the old program because if a grower didn't pay his assessment, the money to take him to court would come from payments made by other growers," explained William Troxell, executive director of PVGA, "If they owed us \$30, it just wasn't worth it to take them to court. From there, it just mushroomed because when people saw others getting away with not paying an assessment, they figured they could too."

In the new program, delinquent growers would be liable for court costs in addition to their assess-

ment fee.

The program has been drafted by PDA, who is preparing a mailing list to get a copy of the proposal and a notice of public hearings to vegetable growers. If there is enough support for the program at the hearings, the Secretary of Agriculture will call for a mail referendum.



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30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

- Three directors of the Farm Bureau Cooperative Assn. were re-elected to three year terms at the annual meeting of the co-op Wednesday at the Guernsey Breeders Pavilion.

They are Willis Z. Esbenshade, 1631 Esbenshade Road, Lancaster, Northeastern District; Paul G. Hershey, R3 Manheim, Northwestern District, and Veryl E. Brown, R1 Peach Bottom, southeastern district.

- A Pennsylvania farm girl will become "National Queen of the Furrow" and preside at major functions during the National Plowing Contest at Hershey Aug. 21-22, the contest committee announced Friday following a meeting in

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 28-B. Snavely Garber, Willow Street, general farmer was re-elected a member of the Eastern States Farmers' Exchange board of directors today. Garber has been a member of Eastern States since 1937 and currently a member of the executive committee.

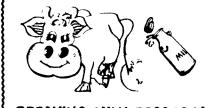
- If you are one of the more than 80,000 persons who own one of the 100,000 pieces of taxable property in Lancaster County, you are going to have visitors sometime during the next year.

Farmers will probably be visited first by a man asking them to point out their property lines on a map. Then will come a team to assess

These men will be visible evidence of the re-assessment program now being carried on by the

- Repeating an event which last year netted the March of Dimes \$1,310.79, a sale will be held Wednesday evening of next week at the Ephrata Farmers Market.

Everything from horses and hogs to pies and cakes will be offered and sold.



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