



OPINION

Harvest Safety

For any harvest to be a good one, it must be safe. Here are basic suggestions from the National Safety Council to help make yours accident-free:

Read and follow recommendations in the operator's manual for each machine used.

Make sure workers are trained and competent.

Keep all shielding in place. Stay away from unshielded moving parts.

Turn off the power before unclogging or dealing with operating problems. Use the proper tools for the job.

Don't rely on hydraulics to hold up combine headers and other components. Lock or block them securely.

Keep children and non-workers off and away from machinery.

Adjust travel speed to ground and crop conditions. Avoid ditches, steep slopes, obstacles, etc.

Be sure wagons and other equipment used to transport and handle harvested crops are working properly and operated safely. Be extra careful when moving portable grain augers and elevators if overhead power lines are near.

When hauling, obey all rules of the road. Make sure SMV emblems are visible and that lights work properly.

Wear needed personal protective equipment (respirators, hearing and eye protection, etc.) when working conditions dictate. Choose comfortable, well-fitting work garb.

Take breaks with non-alcoholic refreshments to reduce fatigue.

In many parts of the Lancaster Farming circulation area the weather has made planting and harvesting difficult. Don't take a momentary chance that could cause a lifetime of sorrow.



NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin
Lancaster County Agriculture Agent

To Feed Dry Matter On Pasture

Pastures are growing well again due to a couple of good showers. This means that livestock can utilize some dry matter while on pasture. This can include hay, straw or silage. With the dry matter present, they will consume a moderate amount along with the fresh grass.

The dry matter slows down the passage of the lush forage through the digestive system. Also, it reduces the danger of bloating when there is clover or alfalfa in the forage mixture. If the animals are out all of the time, then a portable hay rack would be the way to feed hay or straw. Dry matter intake is important when pastures are lush and high in water content.

To Check Lighting For Layers

One of the cardinal rules for poultry management is to never decrease the light period of flocks in production. Most flock managers would never intentionally decrease the day length to a flock in production, but we are in the season of the year when this can happen accidentally.

Most layers are in a light-controlled not light-tight housing. The major sources of light leakage are the exhaust fans and air intake. Pullet flocks placed in the laying house during late fall, winter or spring can be given a 14 hour day. As summer approaches and natural day length exceeds 14 hours, layers in non-light tight housing will be exposed to an increasing day length due to the light entering the building through fans and air intakes.

This increases in day length causes no problem. The longest day occurs on June 21 and decreases until December 21. It is this decrease in day length that can cause layers to go out of production unless the time clocks controlling the lights are readjusted to provide the layers with the day length they received on June 21.

To Use The Agronomy Guide

The 1987-88 Agronomy Guide is published by our Penn State Cooperative Extension, and is one before making such a statement. We also should not forget we don't set the price for our milk and therefore can't always afford to hire all the help we should have. Maybe more effort should be spent on trying to raise our slumping milk

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of the very best handbooks for all farmers. This Guide has been published for years and is updated every two years.

Copies are available at any Extension Office in Pennsylvania for a cost of only \$5.00. We urge farmers to purchase a copy and use it. I am concerned that many farmers who have them are not using them. Answers to numerous phone calls asking about crop practices can be found in the Agronomy Guide. I suggest that each farmer index the crops being grown with tabs so the information can be found more rapidly.

On one of these rainy days become more familiar with the contents of this Guide. It is very useful and contains dependable and researched information.

To Renovate Strawberries

Since the harvest of the straw-

berry crop is nearly over, it is a good time to plant for next year. In most cases, plants that have yielded two or more crops cannot be expected to do as well in the future. However, if the current planting is to be used for another year we suggest that the rows be worked by the use of mechanical cultivation and followed by top-dressing with fertilizer. These practices will keep the berry plants in a row and encourage additional runners to increase next year's yield.

In the case of a new planting of strawberries, we urge you to fertilize them in June and again in early August. This extra plant food will enable the setting of runners and will help increase yield next year.

The Penn State Cooperative Extension is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educational institution.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, June 18

Dairy Farm Open House, Juster Farm, Flemington, NJ. noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 201-788-1339.

Sun Area Dairy Princess pageant, Susquehanna Valley Mall, Boscov's auditorium, Selinsgrove, 7:00 p.m.

Beaver-Lawrence Dairy Princess Pageant, Laurel Elementary School, New Castle, Huntingdon Co. Dairy Princess Pageant.

Shaver's Creek Community Building, Petersburg.

Indiana Co. Dairy Princess pageant, Indiana University, Indiana, Pa.

Lancaster Co. Dairy Princess pageant, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.

Sullivan Dairy Princess pageant, Dushore Main St., Dushore.

Wednesday, June 22

Penn State Agronomy Field Day, Rock Springs Ag Research Center, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 23

18th Annual Penn Marva Young Cooperators Contest through June 24. Willow Valley Conference Center.

Friday, June 24

Mercer Co. Dairy Princess Pageant, Mercer Co. Coop. Ext. (Turn to Page A39)

FARM FORUM OUR READERS WRITE

Editor:

I would sincerely like to see my article on the front page of the Lancaster Farming. Also, I would like to see less articles as the one I'm writing about.

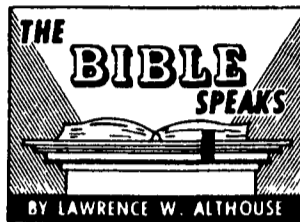
People should stick to their own job and leave farming to farmers. In response to "Dairymen's Milking Practices Deserve A Second Look," June 4 issue, 'there are many farmers out there who should decide what they want to do: Milk cows or play with tractors' well, in my opinion, show me the cow I can milk and don't have to feed and I'll take 100.

You can't milk cows and not farm if you intend to reap a profit. It's been a known fact down

through history of the dairy industry that you must produce the best quality feed stuffs to achieve maximum production and these crops are often too expensive or unavailable unless you raise your own and unfortunately this means many hours on the tractor or as Rich states "playing with tractors."

These same toys too have been responsible for many deaths and dismembered farmers. Maybe Mr. Thompson would enjoy playing 12 hours on my tractor and still have to milk a bunch of loving Holsteins.

Also, in his comment on quality and production, better take a closer look and do a little homework



WHO AM I TO DO THAT?
June 19, 1988

Background Scripture:

Exodus 2:23 through 4:17.

Devotional Reading:

Jeremiah 1:4-12.

"Whom am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" Moses had a good question there. And some of his implied answers were just as good:

-- I'm 80 years old and well past my prime.

-- I don't know who you are.

-- I'm an escaped murderer still wanted in Egypt.

-- I'm a man rejected by my own people.

-- I'm neither a leader nor a speaker.

They are all good answers. But the trouble is that they were logical and truthful only within the limitation of Moses' mind and understanding. If he didn't know which god this was, God would tell him: "I am who I am" (3:14). If he was right in fearing rejection by the Hebrews, God would give him signs with which to persuade them. And if Moses was right in observing that he had no skills as a speaker, God would provide Aaron, Moses' brother, to be his spokesman.

SOME OTHER PERSON

Still, Moses protested: "Oh my Lord, send, I pray, some other person" (4:13b). His logical arguments shot down, Moses reacts, not with logic, but with illogic. God has already answered all his possible objections by assuring him: "...I will be with you" (3:12). Moses is right in asserting that he is not adequate for this task, but it is God's adequacy, not Moses',

that will see him through and prevail.

You and I can appreciate Moses' feelings. From time to time we are challenged to do something about injustice, tragedy or some other human need. We would like to help, but when we look at the thing realistically we know that there's nothing we can do. Like Moses, we are forced to protest: "Who am I that I could do anything about that?" Like Moses we are either "too old" or "too young," "too powerless," "too poor," "too busy," "too something." We are convinced that "they" are not going to respond to us or what we might try to do. The mission is far greater than our resources, so we respond with Moses: "Oh, my Lord, send, I pray, some other person."

WHAT MOSES BELIEVED

That's when, according to the writer of Exodus, "Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses..." (4:14). What angered God, was not just that Moses was saying "No," but that he was rejecting God's assurance that he could be successful if he relied upon God's help. Moses believed in his own inadequacies more than he believed in God's power and faithfulness.

As we read the story of God's call to Moses in the Burning Bush, we can't help thinking that Moses was certainly thickheaded. For a chapter and a half he holds out against God's persuasions, in every case coming up with a "Yes, but..." that would exhaust anyone's patience. What took Moses so long to realize what all of us with our powers of hindsight recognize so easily? The answer: just about what takes us so long when God makes a proposal to us. We all tend to focus on our inadequacies instead of the power of God. We forget that, when God calls us to a task, we don't have to do it all by ourselves.

The question is not, "Who are we to do this for God?" but "Who are we to say 'No'?"

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Health and Nutrition
BY OTIS

REASONS THAT I CONSUME DAIRY PRODUCTS ARE:
1. FOR ENERGY
2. FOR VITAMINS
3. FOR CALCIUM

BUT THE MAIN REASON IS...

MILK
CHEESE
YOGURT
BUTTER
CREAM

DOVE CARPENTER

'CAUSE THEY ALL TASTE SO DARN GOOD!