

# Time To Harvest Small Grains

## Adams County

July means harvest time for the small grains produced in Pennsylvania. The barley, wheat, and oats produced on about 525,000 acres of land in 1988 was valued at more than \$74.5 million.

Like much of Adams County, the Penn Silt loam soil of the Eisenhower farm south of Gettysburg favors the production of small grains. This farm will be the site for a Small Grains Field Day on Tuesday, July 17, 1990. The public is invited to attend. Plan to arrive about 8:30 a.m. to tour the Eisenhower home. The field day events will run from 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Speakers at the field day will tell how to intensify wheat management to improve economic returns. Factors such as timeliness, variety selection, and use of the correct nitrogen rate provide the foundation for a successful wheat crop. Other steps such as use of proper pesticides and/or anti-lodging agents may be needed to protect the crop.

Visitors to the field day will compare these varieties: Dynasty; GR-863; Cardinal; Twain; Tyler; Fillmore; and Florida 302. Dr. Elwood Hatley, Penn State agronomist, will describe the characteristics of each variety, and reveal the results of yield tests. Farmers will be able to assess the value of bearded varieties for fields heavily grazed by deer. Deer damage will be featured in one of the field day sessions with enclosures in place to demonstrate the severity of the deer problem.

Hatley will also review the merits of these oat varieties: Porter; Ogle, Hercules; Pennuda - the hull-less or naked oats; and Noble. The barley varieties Wysor and Pennco are planted nearby.

"Grain sorghum or Milo, its

culture best use" will be the topic for Dr. Greg Roth, Penn State agronomist at another stop on the field day tour. Funk's 522DR, Dekalb DK 38, and Pioneer 8695 were seeded in early June. Roth will discuss the cultural requirements and Pennsylvania experience for this drought-resistant small grain crop.

Small grains should be harvested when the grain contains 14 percent or less moisture. Moisture content for storage should be 12 percent or less.

### Reduce Losses

The combine should be serviced and ready to go. Use the operators manual as your guide.

Because combine adjustment is so critical, we have invited Gary Smith, extension agricultural engineer with the University of Maryland, to discuss and demonstrate the proper adjustment of combines to reduce losses and protect the quality of grain at harvest. We will be harvesting wheat during these demonstrations. An older combine used on the Eisenhower farm will be displayed with other farm equipment which area farmers may provide.

Private pesticide applicators in attendance will earn three credits toward recertification. David Thompson, pesticides inspector for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, will provide instructions on steps for protecting the applicator and the environment when using pesticides. Donald Ganske, weed specialist from Dupont, will discuss weeds and weed control measures in small grains.

National Park Service personnel will provide a touch of history as they discuss President Eisenhower's interest in agriculture on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

The field day is sponsored by the National Park Service, Penn State Extension, the Adams County Farmers' Association, the US Soil Conservation

Service, and the Conservation District.

Call the Adams County Extension Office at 717-334-6271 or write to them at 1135 Chambers-

burg Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 for lunch reservations. Lunches at \$5 will be prepared by Adams County 4-H Clubs, Inc. and delivered to the site.

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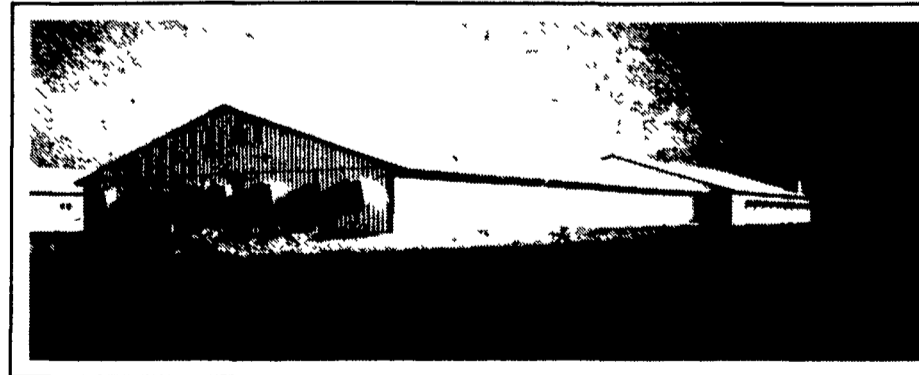
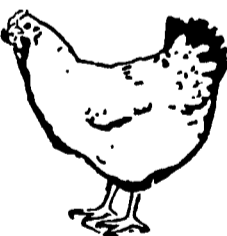
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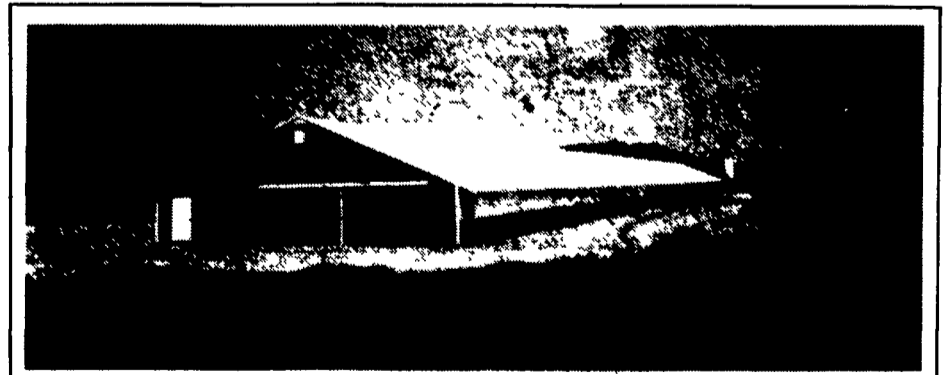
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