

#### FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 19

EXCELLENT WEEK FOR FIELDWORK: Mid-summer like temperatures dominated the week's weathcr. Rainfall was very sparse over the western part of the state. There were two days with some scattered thundershowers over the eastern two-thirds. Respondents to our survey indicated that 6 days were suitable for field work. Activities for the week included repairing fence; hauling manure; spreading fertilizer and lime; cutting hay; maintaining machinery; spring plowing; planting crops; and caring for livestock.

SOIL MOISTURE: Across the commonwealth, topsoil was rated short by 19 percent of our respondents, adequate by 78 percent, and surplus by 3 percent. In the northern region, 33 percent rated it short, and 67 percent of our respondents rated it adequate. In the central region, 11 percent of our respondents rated soil moisture short, 84 percent rated it adequate, and 5 percent of our respondents rated it surplus. In the southern region, 19 percent of our respondents rated soil moisture short, 78 percent rated it adequate and 3 percent rated it surplus.

PLOWING: Spring plowing in Pennsylvania was 89 percent completed by week's end. Last year 87 percent was complete. The five-year average was 86 percent. Completion of spring plowing was 83, 91, and 94 percent in the northern, central, and southern regions, respectively.

CORN: The commonwealth's corn crop was 64 percent planted by the end of the week. At this time last year, 52 percent was planted, the five-year average was 51 percent. Planting completion by region were: northern region-49 percent; central region-67 percent; and southern region-76 percent.

TOBACCO: All of Pennsylvania's tobacco beds were planted by the end of the week. Both last year and the five-year average were 100 percent complete by this time.

OATS: By week's end, 95 percent of Pennsylvania's oats were planted. Last year, that figure was 93 percent. The five-year average was 94 percent planted. Planting completion in the three regions were northern region-90 percent, central region-96 percent, and southern region-100 percent. The oats crop was rated 23 percent excellent, 56 percent good, 17 percent fair, and 4 percent poor.

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# 30 YEARS AGO

THIS WEEK

-Glenn Musser, Mount Joy R1, was elected president of the Witness Oak chapter of Future Farmers of America at a recent meeting. Musser, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elias Musser, is a junior in vocational agriculture at the Donegal Joint High School, Mount Joy RD. The president elect is following the footsteps of an older brother Donald, who was a former president of the chapter and holder of the Keystone Farmer Degree in the state association.

Other officers elected are Walter Mowrer, Marietta R1, vice president; Harold Brubaker, Mount Joy R1, treasurer; Carl Ginder, Mount Joy R2, secretary; John Hess, Mount Joy R1, reporter; James Gingrich, Mount Joy R2, sentinel and Lee Stauffer, Mount Joy R1, chaplain. Grant Millert is chapter adviser.

-John W. Eby, Jr., Gordonville R1, was elected president by the Pequea Valley chapter Future Farmers of America at a recent meeting in the high school. Eby, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Eby, is a student in vocational agriculture at the Pequea Valley High School. He was named outstanding swine producer in the community FFA last summer, and exhibited a gilt at the 1961 Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Glen E. Esbenshade, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elias B. Esbenshade, Paradise R1, was elected vice president of the group. Other officers elected were as follows: Benjamin L. Clarke, son of Mr. and Mrs.

David Clark, Kinzers R1, secretary; Dale B. Hostetter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eby I Hostetter, Gap R1, treasurer; Richard S. King, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel B. King, Gap R1, reporter; Donald L. Ranck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd H. Ranck, Paradise R1, sentinel; Lester O. Houck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Omar L. Houck, Paradise R1.

Roy R. Mentzer, a former member of the chapter, was elected junior leader adviser. Henry E. Givler, teacher of vocational agriculture at the school is the adviser.

-Many farms have fire ponds but very few have good roads to the ponds, New Providence 4-H members were told at their recent meeting.

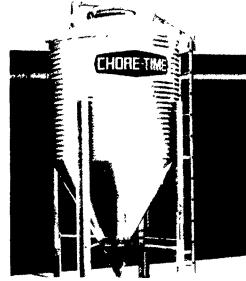
Guest speaker A. N. McConnell, president of the Willow Street fire company, told club members most of the roads to farm fire ponds are not capable of holding the heavy fire fighting equipment; therefore, pumpers are needed.

Miss C. Jane Henry, reporter for the club, announces the next meeting of the club which will be June 1, in the New Providence Elementary School.

-A purebred Ayrshire heifer consigned by Masonic Home Farms, Elizabethtown, to the 1961 Grand National Sale at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Building recently was third high animal in sale.

The open heifer, Masonic Homes Polly Ann 2nd, was purchased by F. Ambrose Clark, Cooperstown, New York, for \$1,050.





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