



OPINION

The Human Side Of Farming

Here are some quotes from the editor delivered in a speech Wednesday evening to the annual meeting of the Huntingdon Fair Association.

* "People don't really associate their food with the farm. I'm always amazed when people say they don't eat meat, but they eat hamburgers."

* "If you think agriculture is not under the gun from environmental consumer groups, think again. When Ed Madigan took office from Clayton Yuetter as the national secretary of agriculture back in March, he immediately became a defendant in 3,500 lawsuits filed by environmental groups.

'I thought that was terrible,' Madigan told the American Farm Bureau Federation's National Affairs Conference, 'until I found out that was only the lawsuits filed against the Forest Service.'

In all, the new secretary of agriculture at the time, was named as a defendant in more than 30,000 such suits."

* "Any residue of animal medicine in milk is clearly a matter of concern. But on the side of the dairy farmer, I must say that today's test equipment can detect certain substances at levels of .08 parts per billion. That's the equivalent of a single pea in the Astrodome. Modern technology has given us the ability to find something wrong with everything, but the American food consumer has the most stringent regulation and state-of-the-art testing equipment for dairy herds and dairy veterinary practices in the world."

* "As farmers, you need to recognize that consumers have just as much right to know that you produce safe food for them as you have the right to know that the national auto manufacturer has produced its compact farm truck with a gas tank that will not explode on your next trip back the farm lane."

* "Farming is such a roller coaster ride. The markets go up and down; the kids get sick; the prize animal dies; it doesn't rain for months. Or the barn burns down. When everything fails, You need to use what I call the human side of farming. It must start with the things on the inside. If you don't learn to use your human skills, you will never have the chance to use your technical information."

Farm Calendar

Saturday, October 19
 Susquehanna Co. Extension 75th anniversary banquet, Montrose High School, 7:30 p.m.
 Grain Marketing Seminar, Lehigh Co. Ag Center, Allentown, 7 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
 Chambersburg Apple Fest.
 ADADC meeting, Classic Occasions, Gerry, N.Y., 7:30 p.m.
 Westmoreland Co. Feeder Calf Sale, Westmoreland Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 20
 Old Time Plow Boys Club Open Gate Tour, Seidel Farm, Mertzown, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Monday, October 21
 Berks Co. Extension banquet,

Berks Co. 4-H Community Center, 6 p.m.-9 p.m.
 Feeding alternatives meeting, Ag Classroom, Cumberland Valley H.S., 8 p.m.
 ADADC meeting, Sennett Federated Church, Sennett, N.Y., 7:30 p.m.
 On-farm computer users meeting, Centre Co. Extension Office, Bellefonte, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22
 Soils, Montgomery Co. Extension Office, Creamery, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Tuesdays thru Dec. 10.
 Pa. Holstein Assoc. executive committee meeting, Pa. Holstein Office, State College, 10:30 a.m.



NOW IS THE TIME
 By John Schwartz
 Lancaster County
 Agricultural Agent

To Prepare Machinery For Winter

With fall harvest coming to an end, now is the time to prepare equipment for winter.

All equipment should be cleaned of dirt and debris. Replace worn and broken parts. Grease all moving parts and chains. Help to reduce rust by painting and oiling exposed steel and other metals.

If at all possible, store machinery inside buildings or provide other protection from rain and snow. A little care and attention now will increase the life of your equipment and keep it in top notch operating condition.

Perennials For Landscape and Garden Center Industries, Swarthmore College, 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

Lancaster Co. Bee Growers meeting, Farm and Home Center, 7 p.m.

Lycoming Co. Extension annual meeting, Eldred Township Fire Hall, Warrensville, 6:30 p.m.

York annual Farm-City Tour.
 Regional beekeepers meeting, southcentral Pa. and Washington Co., Md., County Administration Building, Chambersburg, 7:30 p.m.

ADADC meeting, East Canton United Methodist Church, East Canton, Pa., 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 23
 Annual Farm Council awards banquet, Saegertown American Legion, 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 24
 Intensive Grazing and Pasture Management Workshop, Montgomery Co. 4-H Center, 7:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

ADADC meeting, Gelatt Grange Hall, Gelatt, Pa., 8 p.m.

Chester Co. Holstein Club annual banquet, West Fallowfield Christian Day School, 7 p.m.
 Cumberland Co. DHIA reorganization/merger review, extension office, Carlisle, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 25
 State 4-H Horse Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, thru Oct. 27.

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To Soil Test And Lime Fields

Fall is a great time to do your soil testing. By soil testing now, you will be able to lime this fall and give the lime time to start working in the soil before spring planting.

Also, by having your soil test results now, you will have time this winter to study them and make plans for your spring plant nutrient needs. These soil test reports will be useful in planning manure applications to fields.

Animal manure is an excellent source of plant nutrients and should be considered in planning your crop production program. Nutrient management legislature is working its way through Harrisburg. Soil testing will play a very important part in this legislation.

The sooner farmers start soil testing and applying only the nutrients necessary for top crop yields, the easier it will be for the farmers to be in compliance with nutrient management legislation.

For more information on nutrient management, soil testing, and use of animal manures in crop pro-

duction, contact your county cooperative extension office.

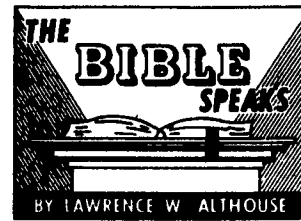
To See How Important Lime Is To Crop Growth

Lime is used to neutralize soil acidity. The amount of lime required is determined by the soil pH, the crop being grown, and soil texture.

Your soil test results will give you recommendations on how much lime to apply to a field. It is important to apply this lime to improve plant growth.

Lime provides the following benefits in crop production:

- Increases the efficiency of applied nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium.
- Reduces the availability of toxic soil components such as aluminum and manganese at low soil pH.
- Increases the activity of soil microorganisms, which break down organic matter.
- Provides calcium and magnesium for crop growth.
- Improves the physical condition of the soil.



ON KNOWING THE UNKNOWN GOD
 October 20, 1991

Background Scripture: Acts 17.

Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 15:51-58.

In the August issue of Omni magazine, there was an article entitled, "The Mind of God." The article outlined a current debate within science as to whether the existence of God can ever be proven or disproven. Some scientists believe that it is quite possible, while others are just as certain that this is impossible.

What I found interesting in this article was the repeated suggestion that it is difficult for scientists to escape religious questions. Scientists often find that it is difficult to study the birth of the universe without pondering questions of intent. Even Physicist Paul Davies, who believes that science is a surer path to God than religion, acknowledges: "I am surprised by how many of my colleagues are, in fact, religious and hold very conventional beliefs." According to the Omni article, even the skeptical feel the world is more than a random accident. "There has to be more to it than just fact." And Thomas McDonough, a lecturer on engineering at Caltech, says, "Some scientists would say this [the intricate chemical structure making life possible] is a signpost that God does exist." **A DIVINE ORDER**

Those of us who gather in local churches on Sunday mornings tend to think of ourselves as essen-

tially the only ones believing in God — that beyond the order of the universe there is One who decreed that order. But there are lots of people belonging to no organized religion who nevertheless believe that there is a divine order, whether you call that source "God," "the Divine consciousness," or the "Mobile Cosmic Ether." There is large-scale agreement throughout the world that there is a reality that transcends what we experience of reality.

The difference, of course, comes when you try to identify that transcendent reality. Christians, of course, identify that reality as the God who is revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Jews, Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists Bahai's also believe in that reality, although their name for it and description of it may vary considerably. Many, who do not claim any organized religion, believe in some kind of ultimate reality, although generally not in the anthropomorphic terms that we do. For these and others, God may be the "unknown God" to whom Paul found a description on the Areopagus in Athens. **SO FAR, SO NEAR**

Paul was favorably impressed with the religious searching for which he found so much evidence on Mar's Hill in Athens. "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious" (Acts 17:22). Then he goes on to make this arresting statement: "What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you" (17:23).

Actually, that's what Christianity is all about, isn't it? Revealing the nature of the God who is unknown to so many. And what is that nature? How shall we characterize the Ground of Being for the whole universe? The answer: Jesus Christ. In the person of Jesus Christ we find the fullest revelation of what ultimate reality is like.

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UNCLE OTIS URGES YOU TO
STAY ALERT
 TO AVOID A COSTLY FARM ACCIDENT THIS HARVEST SEASON. TAKE CARE!