

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 37 No. 6

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, December 21, 1991

60¢ Per Copy

19.00 Per Year

State DHIA Rescinds Oct. Centralization Deadline

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.)—In a move to diffuse the emotional pressure against centralization that has caused an uproar across the state, the Pennsylvania DHIA rescinded its action to make October 1, 1992 the deadline for all counties to comply.

The action taken Wednesday at a special meeting of the state board of directors annuls the motion passed at their regular board meeting last October. At that time, the board had voted to provide service to direct members only after the deadline. This position has now been removed and the deadline is only a goal. In addition, the provision for individual dairymen in a county to apply for direct membership in competition with the local organization and the provision for

individual supervisor employees in a county to become direct employees of the state has also been removed.

Organization officials said the move allows time for analysis of all the new factors that have come to light in the process. Many of these factors have to do with who owns the records, who can and who cannot certify records, who gives the best service, and what are the legal ramifications of agreements between states and the national DHIA.

The scene seems to have shifted to the national board meeting in January and the national convention in March. Hope is that the Christmas holidays will provide a breather and solutions will be forthcoming. But the saga continues.

Tour Encounters Worsening Conditions In Moscow

ROTHSVILLE (Lancaster Co.)
On Wednesday, December 4, six Lancaster area agribusinessmen boarded a plane at Kennedy Airport bound for the new Soviet commonwealth.

The trip, in response to an invitation from the Russian and Moscow governments, would cover a lot of ground—14,000 miles and a world of knowledge about the agricultural situation in that part of the world.

The purpose of the tour was to offer an exchange of agricultural information between the U.S. and the new Soviet commonwealth. In Moscow, the group spent four days meeting with government officials of various levels of authority, including the president of the Moscow region and his advisors.

Professor Leonid Rubin, Moscow University, was tour guide for

the group, which included Amos Beiler, Leola; James Garber, Mount Joy; Don Hoover, Litzitz; Dale Rohrer, Litzitz; John Zigmuth, Mount Joy; and Harold Zimmerman, Ephrata.

The meeting was held in the conference room of the former
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Farmers Lax In Operation, Maintenance Of Manure Structures

Last of a series

Editor's note: Results of a recent survey of farms, published as a report in October this year, indicated that many farms using manure storage facilities had serious shortcomings in safety, operation, and maintenance. In Part 1 of the series in Lancaster Farming last week, the safety issues raised by the report were discussed. This article focuses on some of the operation and maintenance problems and ways in which farmers can seek help to correct them.

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)

— Word quickly spread that there may exist some serious problems.

Several picket fences were falling down. Some manure structures were cracking and leaking. A few manure ponds and lagoons were overtopping, spilling contents haphazardly into the environment.

And some of those structures

were too close to water sources for comfort.

Concerns about these isolated problems resulted in a year-long project to study manure storage facilities, their operation and maintenance.

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Raise Worms For Better Crops

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a two-part series covering the 18th Annual Mid-Atlantic Conservation Tillage Conference. This week's article covers the tillage-emphasis of the program, while next week's article highlights a presentation on the bene-

fits of certain forages.)

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff
HAGERSTOWN, Md. — The course of crop raising has gone full circle to the point where experts are now advising concentrating on raising earthworms in order to get better crops.

During the 18th Annual Mid-Atlantic Conservation Tillage Conference held Wednesday in Hagerstown, Md., at the Ramada Inn Convention Center, several college researchers presented the latest developments on conservation tillage.

The day-long seminar, complete with commercial exhibits displaying the latest no-till seeders to seeds, focused on the theme of preparing for tomorrow's demands for raising crops.

According to the speakers,
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Holiday Deadlines

(For The Next Two Weeks)

The Lancaster Farming office will be closed Wednesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas. Deadlines for the December 28 issue are as follows.

• Mailbox Market Ads — 5:00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20.

• Public Sale Ads — 9:00 a.m. Monday, Dec. 23.

• Late News — Noon, Thursday, Dec. 26.

• Classified Section C Ads — 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 24.

• All other Classified Ads — 9:00 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 26.

The Lancaster Farming office will be closed Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's. Deadlines for the January 4 issue are as follows.

• Mailbox Market Ads — 5:00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 27.

• Public Sale Ads — 9:00 a.m. Monday, Dec. 30.

• Late News — Noon, Thursday, Jan. 2.

• Classified Section C Ads — 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 31.

• All other Classified Ads — 9:00 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 2.



Our Staff Sends You Best Wishes
For The Blessings And Peace
Represented By The Christ Child.