

Crop Loans Deadline Announced

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Richard Troutman, chairman of the Berks County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, said price support loans on 1992 wheat, oats, rye, and barley will be available through

March 31. Loans on corn sorghum and soybeans are available through May 31.

County loan rates per bushels are wheat - \$2.53/bu.; barley - \$1.29/bu.; oats - \$1.05/bu.; corn - \$1.95/bu.; sorghum - \$2.87/bu.;

rye - \$1.63/bu.; and soybeans - \$5.07/bu.

"Many farmers use our price support loan program to obtain interim operating capital or hold their grain for future delivery," Troutman said. The loans have a

nine-month maturity date with variable monthly interest rates. "Maturing 1992-crop wheat is not eligible for the farmer-owned reserve," he said.

As of February 23, local producers have obtained federal price support loans on more than

208,449 bushels of 1992 grain and soybean crops.

To be eligible for price support loans and other farm program benefits, producers must participate in acreage reduction programs. The 1993 programs open March 1.

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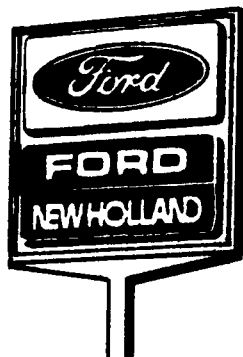
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