

Corn Growers Convene In Western Pennsylvania

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opposite position when the funds are over bought or over sold. But just by watching the natural yearly price moves and selling part of the crop in advance has merit, according to Bower.

Bill Pardee, extension crop specialist, Cornell University, emphasized early planting of corn. In fact, corn planted after the ideal planting time for your area will lose a bushel per day in production. This happens because you lose heat and light in a shorter growing season. Pardee said soil temperature is not as important now as it was 20 years ago because the new seedling vigor of modern hybrids makes them adaptable to early planting. While the shoot may not come up until the soil reaches 50 degrees, roots will work down at 45 degrees and develop a system before the plant emerges.

Pardee reported on studies that showed ideal plant populations were between 23,000 and 26,000 for grain and 25,000 to 28,000 for silage. In silage harvest, high grain levels are still important. And the new hybrids have also offered increased fiber digestibility.

Gary Snider, farm business con-



Albert Ferens

sultant, Farm Credit of Western NY, said every farm should have a plan to budget capital and operational needs for the future of the farming operation. If you look what income and savings a new piece of equipment will add to the operation and offset this projection with the added costs of depreciation, interest, repairs, taxes and insurance, you can decide if the purchase is a good investment.



Warren Pilgram

Debt to make a good investment need not be feared, but debt to cover continuing operating losses is not good business.

Plaques were presented to the winners in the corn club production contest for 1992. The winners are as follows:

**1992 CHAMPIONS
SHELLED GRAIN CLASS**
1. Larry E. Moyer, Mertztown, Doeblers 73 XP, 214.1; 2. Lloyd Zook, Oley, Pioneer 3293, 202.6; 3. Albert Ferens, Dunbar, Supercross 5461, 198.7.

3 ACRE + HARVEST SIZE

1. Clarence A. Keener, Jr., Manheim, Pioneer 3245, 210.7; 2. Richard C. Kreider, Lebanon, Pioneer 3394, 203.5; 3. Richard Fetterman, Catawissa, Pioneer 3293, 195.5.

EAR CORN CLASS

1. Glenn Bros. Dairy, McConnellsburg, Pioneer 3140, 212.9; 2. Warren Pilgram, Greenville, Pioneer 3527, 198.3; 3. Herman Espy, Spruce Creek, Pioneer 3352, 190.3.

THREE YEAR AVERAGE AWARDS

1. Paul Lechner, Oley, Avg. 188.7, 2. Donald Lichtenwalner, Macungie, Avg. 187.3; 3. Joseph Matejik, Mechanicsville, Avg. 185.3.

3 ACRE + HARVEST SIZE

1. William Bissinger, Bloomsburg, Avg. 164.9, 2. D. Richard Snyder, Montoursville, Avg. 160.9, 3. Daryl L. Alger, Palmyra, Avg. 155.5

EAR CORN CLASS

1. Lester Poust, Muncy, Avg. 187.2; 2. Sidney Lewis, Wysox, Avg. 176.9; 3. Sandy Ridge Farms, Shippensburg, Avg. 162.6.

Greg Roth, Penn State Extension agronomist, chaired the program. Grant Troop, association president, presented the awards.

(Editor's Note: More information from several of the presentations at the annual meeting is planned for the next "Corn Talk" association news letter to be published in the April 17 issue of Lancaster Farming.)

Northeast Dairy Conference Set

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Some 175 dairy leaders from throughout the Northeast are expected to attend the Northeast Dairy Conference, in Corning, N.Y. on Monday, March 29.

This major annual event brings together leaders from all segments of the dairy industry — from farmers to food processors to government officials — in an area stretching from New England to the Middle Atlantic states.

This year's two-day conference, which will take place in Corning's Hilton Hotel, is being hosted by Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative and its 3,000 member farms.

The purpose is to tackle the concerns facing the industry, according to Lewis Gardner, conference president and president of Eastern Milk.

"With the dramatic changes our dairy farmers have had to weather," Gardner said, "it is critical to once again come together to discuss the issues at hand, and examine courses of action that can be taken individually and by the industry as a whole."

With a conference theme of "Operating in the New Dairy Environment," Gardner said that some of the best minds in the industry will lead conference-goers in exploring the impact of structural changes in the processing and production sectors, as well as strategies that will help farmers to survive.

Gardner said that anyone interested in attending the conference may obtain more information by calling Eastern Milk toll free at 1-800-926-2667.



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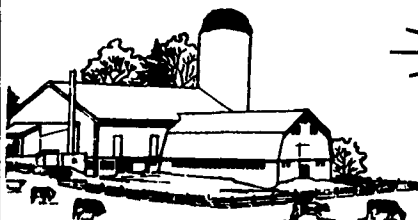
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