

On being a farm wife - And other hazards

Joyce Bupp



Our in-house sundial says that the golden season has begun.

Orientation of our farmhouse windows to the compass points is such that at only certain times of the year does the early-morning sunshine wash across the breakfast table. In Springtime, the flood of light into the kitchen-dining area ushers in the green-up season, as grass stretches upward, buds push out, and life renews all around us.

But the bright sunshine of October mornings, poking inquisitive fingers into dark corners of the house, signals an opposite message.

The flush of golden color pouring through the southeastern-facing panes of glass is a cover-up for the chill lurking just beyond the screens. Hints of frostiness nip at the fingers as I push open the back door to let the cat inside, and swirl in with her in that brief moment when the door is opened just a few inches to let her slip through.

As the warm, yellow light brightens into broad, clear day, another kind of gold now commands center stage on the farm.

Corn. For both forage and grain, corn is king of the fall harvest season. And blessed with bounteous weather around most of the countryside, local corn growers are - pardon the pun - up to their ears in golden kernels this year.

From the office desk, I mark the progress of the harvest season by the welcome roaring sounds of equipment doing its thing - or the uncomfortable silence of breakdown. Too much quiet stirs the

sinking feeling in the pit of the stomach, wondering what broke, how long it will take to fix...and what the repairs might cost.

Regular passes of tractors pulling loaded forage wagons are almost immediately followed by a loud roar as the silage blower is stated up. An occasional thunk in the steady hum tells a clump of lump bumping the metal pipe carrying the finely-chopped stalks and ears that steadily pile up inside the silos' walls.

High-energy corn silage itself is golden as it arrives-fresh out of the field, ideally with an abundance of yellow kernels coloring the greenish-brown chopped bits of stalks and leaves. It never ceases to intrigue me how, despite the blending of kernels through the chopped stalk portion, cows (especially certain ones) can root through the stuff with those big, broad muzzles and nibble out the grain from the stalk part.

Glancing out to check progress of the outside operations, other golden changes taking place are readily apparent.

Mulberry trees in the fencerow below the house are beginning to fade from deep green to a yellowish-hued shade. A stalk of poison ivy on the backyard bank, on that escaped a mid-season attack from my garden sprayer, is going golden from the ground up, leaf by leaf. And the late soybean plantings have finally developed yellowing sections, signalling maturity of the stalks with their many pods of tiny, round beans.

Meanwhile, The Farmer reports another harvest well underway. With each trip he makes on the

Manheim Farm Show Queen Is Tracy Bollinger

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff
MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — One minute Tracy Bollinger, dressed in blue jeans and a sweat-shirt, was showing hogs at the Manheim Farm Show, and the next minute, she was dressed in a stylish navy blue suit being crowned Manheim Farm Show Queen.

This fast switch was easily accomplished by Tracy who is accustomed to working hard and quickly to get everything done. She has been showing hogs and sheep at local county fairs for many years.

The 17-year-old daughter of Eugene and Carol Bollinger of Manheim, placed third in the hog showmanship class and had two first placings in the market hog classes on Monday night when the coronation was held.

Readers may remember that Tracy needed to have her sister Amy show her sheep at the New Holland Fair last week while she was interviewed by judges in preparation for the coronation this week.

Tracy did not know that she had won the coronation until Monday night's coronation.

She needed to prepare a speech on "What Farm Show Means to Me," and answer in impromptu question before the crowd. Here is a brief version of her speech.

road through the small woodlot between fields, he has spied a squirrel scurrying along the packed-dirt passage. And each time, the squirrel has been lugging along a hickory nut, the thick outer shell still intact.

It reemphasizes what we've always known: the hectic pace of the golden harvest season does tend to make farm life just a little nuttier than usual.

For squirrels and farmers alike.

Fun at the fair.
Anticipation and excitement in seeing who wins.
Responsibility is great but it pays off in the end.
Merit depends not on winning or losing but on gaining a new friend.

Sleepy after staying up two nights past 12 o'clock.
Heartbroken when I sold my first steer that helped me win showmanship.
Onlooker spectators cheering us on and showing interest in ag.
Work to get things running.

Without any one of these elements, it wouldn't spell Farm Show.



Tracy Bollinger generally is dressed in blue jeans and sweat shirt to show hogs and sheep at many local fairs. But on Monday night, she was all dressed up and crowned Manheim Farm Show Queen. Shown with her is escort Ryan Zimmerman from Manheim. To win the title, Tracy was interviewed by four judges. She gave a prepared speech on "What Manheim Farm Show Means to Me," and answered an impromptu question before the crowd gathered for the coronation.

"Quality at the Right Price"

E. WEAVER KITCHENS
Custom Kitchens, Vanities and Counter Tops

20 Years Experience
Elam Weaver-Owner

New Holland, PA
717-354-7257

FURNITURE

CLOSED SUNDAYS, NEW YEAR, EASTER MONDAY, ASCENSION DAY, WHIT MONDAY, OCT. 11, THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS & DECEMBER 26TH.

FISHER'S FURNITURE, INC.

NEW AND USED FURNITURE
USED COAL & WOOD HEATERS
COUNTRY FURNITURE & ANTIQUES

BUS. HRS: MON.-THURS. 8-5
FRI. 8-8, SAT. 8-12

BOX 57
1129 GEORGETOWN RD.
BART, PA 17503

Leola Produce Auction
will have a special
Annual Ornamental Craft Sale
Wednesday, October 12, 1994
9:00 A.M.
Featuring Items Such As:

- Pumpkin Creations
- Corn Dolls
- Corn Brooms
- Dried Flowers
- Dressed Geese
- Gourds
- Neck Pumpkins

Notice: Limited Amount of Woodcrafts & Painted Items
Chicken Bar-B-Que Available

Notice: There Will Be No Produce Or Bulk Loads of Pumpkins, Indian Corn or Gourds Sold At This Sale

Leola Produce Auction, Inc.

Wholesale Auction of Lancaster Co. Vegetables
Brethren Church Road
Leola, PA 17540

Office 717-656-9592
Lic. #AH000028-L 656-9580

GOOD FOOD OUTLET STORES
See Our Original Line Of Golden Barrel Products Plus All Kinds Of Beans, Candies, Dried Fruit, Snack Mixes, Etc. At Reduced Prices

★ BAKING MOLASSES
★ BARBADOS MOLASSES
★ BLACKSTRAP MOLASSES
★ CORN SYRUPS
★ HIGH FRUCTOSE SYRUPS

★ MAPLE SYRUP
★ PANCAKE & WAFFLE SYRUPS
★ SORGHUM SYRUP
★ LIQUID & DRY SUGARS
★ PANCAKE & WAFFLE SYRUPS
★ CANOLA OIL
★ COCONUT OIL
★ CORN OIL
★ COTTONSEED OIL
★ OLIVE OIL
★ PEANUT OIL
★ VEGETABLE OIL
★ SHOO-FLY PIE MIX

★ FUNNEL CAKE MIX
★ PANCAKE & WAFFLE MIX
★ ASSORTMENT OF CANDIES
★ DRIED FRUIT
★ SNACK MIXES
★ BEANS
★ HONEY
★ PEANUT BUTTER
★ BAUMAN APPLE BUTTERS
★ KAUFFMAN PRESERVES
★ SPRING GLEN RELISHES

If your local store does not have it, SEND FOR FREE BROCHURE

Processors Of Syrups, Molasses, Cooking Oils, Funnel Cake Mix, Pancake & Waffle Mix & Shoofly Pie Mix

GOOD FOOD OUTLET
— Located At Good Food, Inc. —
W. Main St., Box 160, Honey Brook, PA 19344
215-273-3776 1-800-327-4406

— Located At L & S Sweeteners —
388 E. Main St., Leola, PA 17540
717-656-3486 1-800-633-2676

WE UPS DAILY

SPECIALS FOR OCTOBER

**** SPECIAL SALE ****
ADRIATICO EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL
Regularly \$17.95
NOW \$12.95

GOLDEN BARREL FUNNEL CAKE MIX
2 Lb. Regularly \$1.49
NOW \$1.09

10% OFF ALL BAUMANS BUTTERS