



OPINION

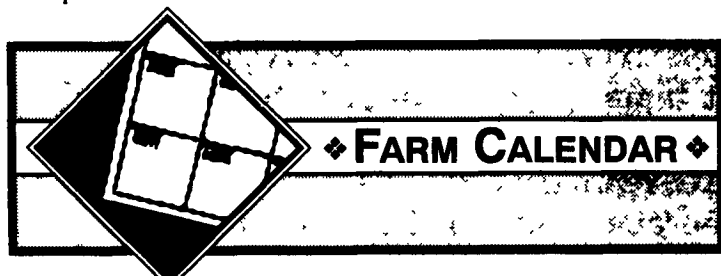
Be There To Participate

The premier dairy show event in the East is scheduled in Harrisburg next week at the Pennsylvania all-American to be staged at the Farm Show Complex. Many people will show their cattle and skills in the junior dairy show and the junior management contest for the youth and the breed championship shows and the selection of a supreme champion Thursday afternoon for the Big Boys.

In between, there is a wealth of dairy information to be presented in seminars that will feature new technology and educational information every dairy person should know about if he plans to stay in the dairy business beyond next year. This information will cost a person only the time it takes to be present.

Many people seem to think it is only for the people who show dairy cattle. And it is for the show persons. But for the spectators, it is the opportunity to see the most beautiful cows and heifers of every breed from many different herds across the nation and Canada. In addition, the breed sales give people an opportunity to take an outstanding animal of their favorite color along home to start a string of beautiful cows in their own barn.

But the key to the value of the all-American is this. You must be there to profit and enjoy the events that have been planned. Too often, the large arena is filled with tall, dairy cows with near perfect udders and the spectator seats are relatively empty. If you are a dairy farmer within driving distance of this showcase of beautiful dairy animals and technical information, you and your family would do well to fill those spectator seats at the all-American on several of the show days. You have to be there to participate!



Saturday, September 23

National Romney Show and Sale, Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, Mass., Storowton Tavern, 5 p.m.

Bloomsburg Fair, Bloomsburg, thru Sept. 30.

Community Composting Field Day, Seven Stars Dairy and Kimberton Waldorf School, Kimberton, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Southwest Pa. Grazing Conference, Bill Iams Farm, Marianna, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Pa. Dairy Princess Pageant, Sheraton Harrisburg, hospitality 5:30 p.m., banquet 6:30 p.m.

Causes, Effects, Solutions, and Prevention of Compaction, Tyrone Area High School plots, 10 a.m.-noon.

Harvest Sheep and Wool Festival of New Jersey, Salem County Fairgrounds, Woodstown, N.J., thru Sept. 24.

U. of Pa. School of Vet Medicine Open House, New Bolton Center, Kennett Square, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Forestry meeting, Linn Run State Park, 9:45 a.m.-noon.

Lancaster County Apple Festival, Cherry Hill Orchards, Lancaster.

Sunday, September 24

Monday, September 25

Pa. All-American Dairy Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, thru Sept. 28.

Reading Fair, Kutztown Fairgrounds, thru Oct. 1.

Morrison Cove Community Fair, Martinsburg, thru Sept. 29.

Lehigh Valley Horse Council meeting, Monito Equestrian Center, Allentown, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 26

Northeast Poultry Show, Host Resort, Lancaster, thru Sept. 28.

Pa. Fall Championship Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, 9 a.m.

Nutrient Management Workshop, Manure Management, University Park.

Ephrata Fair, Ephrata, thru Sept. 30.

Ag Field Day, Kenneth Fulcomer Farm, Tyrone, 10 a.m.-noon.

Wednesday, September 27

Eastern National Holstein Sale, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.

West Lampeter Community Fair, Lampeter, thru Sept. 29.

Handle With Care Roundtable, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, College Park, Frostburg, Solomons, Towson, 7:15 p.m.-9:15 p.m.

Pasture Walk, John and Julie Mayer Farm, Emmitsburg, 10 a.m.-noon.

Thursday, September 28

Eastern National Holstein Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, 8 a.m.

Pumpkin Variety Demonstration, None-Such Farms, Buckingham, 6:30 p.m.

Tri-Valley Community Fair, Hegins, thru Oct. 1.

Dauphin County Fall Field Day, Gerald Wiest's Farm, Loyalton, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

New York State Beef Expo, Cortland, N.Y., thru Oct. 1.

Friday, September 29

Eastern National Livestock Show, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium.

Pa. State Maple Meeting and Tour, Monroeton Fire Hall, 9 a.m. (Turn to Page A31)



Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz

Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Evaluate Your Harvest

Fall is a good time to evaluate this year's harvest and to be thankful for the yields that were harvested.

Think about the corn fields that have already been harvested and those not yet harvested. Were the fields free of stalk rots, rootworm damage, molds, and leaf blights? Did the ears and stalks of silage hybrids dry down at about the same rate? Or, were the kernels hard and glazed while the stalks were green and succulent?

Calculate crop yields. Compare tonnage harvested to tonnage needed.

This information will be helpful in deciding which hybrids to order and how much to plant next year. It will also be helpful when making ration adjustments.

As you make ration adjustments, also consider particle size, hardness of kernels, digestibility, nutrient content, and dry matter intake per hundredweight of body weight.

Forage tests may provide some of this information. For more accurate estimates of dry matter intakes, weigh or tape some cows, weigh the amount of feeds fed, and deduct the amount of feed wasted, refused, and swept out of the manger.

To Estimate Corn Yields

According to Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent, it is easy to get a fairly accurate estimate of corn yields by using a simple formula and a little time in the field.

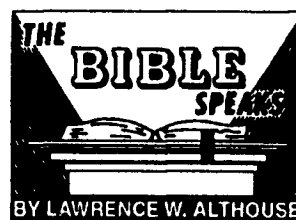
In making the estimate, it is assumed that a bushel of corn con-

tains 90,000 kernels. However, for varieties which have high test weights, the formula underestimates yields, and for varieties which have low test weights, the formula overestimates the yield.

Start by measuring 1/1,000 of an acre at five locations within the field. Then count the number of ears in each location. Select representative locations avoiding extremely good or bad areas. The square feet in 1/1,000 of an acre is 43.56.

If you divide 43.56 by the row width in feet, you will determine the length of row to count. For 30 inch rows (2.5 feet) that distance is 17.424 feet or 17 feet and 5 inches. Next, harvest every fifth ear in that distance and determine the number of rows of kernels and the number of kernels in each row.

You are now ready to estimate the yield using the following formula: Yield equals (average number of ears) times (average number of rows per ear) times (average number of kernels per row) divided by (90,000 kernels per bushel) times 1,000.



Background Scripture

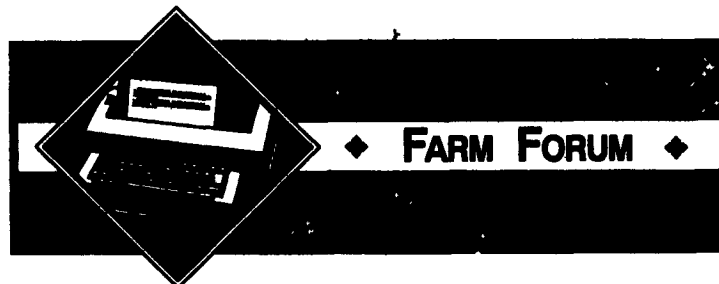
Acts 4:32 through 5:42

Devotional Reading:

Acts 4:32-37, Acts 18-26

It seems incredible to me that there is such a rapidly growing hostility for the "down-and-outers" of our society. Selfishness and indifference to human need have become politically correct even among Christians. Not only has compassion and benevolence declined, but many have come to the point of blaming and despising the poor for their poverty, the hungry for their malnutrition, and the homeless for their vagabond ways.

The image that seems to attract the most public ire today is the welfare cheat. Billions may be squandered in propping up undemocratic foreign regimes, in subsidizing the tobacco industry, in paying for more armed forces and weaponry that even our military leaders think we need, and in various contractors cheating the government blind. But the image that really makes us furious is a welfare mother who makes thirty



FARM FORUM

Editor:

With so much interest in the proposed P.P. & L. - PECO merger, the PECO take-over sounded terrific; but from what I am hearing from friends and relatives, who live in the Philadelphia area, they say they have been paying 14¢ a kilowatt for some time. However, I have no personal opinion; as I have no experience to back it up. But this is not the reason for writing my letter.

I was leaning toward the merger because I thought maybe the new company would do something about the stray voltage problem that has been affecting at least seven dairy farmers in the Columbia and lower Lycoming County area.

As of this date, it has ruined hundreds of dairy cows with up to seven volts found in some dairy-men's milking area — which is coming from the utility company neutral. When you confront P.P. & L. Co. with this problem, all they will do is put on an isolator, which, in essence, unhooks us from their neutral. I say that is merely a Band-Aid. Once the isolator is put on, it just makes matters worse for the next farmer; because a P.P. & L. Co. lineman told one of these dairymen that P.P. & L. hated to lose the dairy farmer, for all of the concrete and metal pipe they utilize for their grounding system. They have not done

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To Estimate Soybean Yields

Soybean yields may be estimated as soon as the number of pods which will be formed is determined. Estimates are based on the fact that on average, one pound of soybeans contains 2,700 individual soybeans.

If the variety being checked has an unusually large or small seed, a count for that variety should be used. In order to have a reasonable good estimate, you need to make sure that representative areas of the field are checked.

To make the estimate, an average for the number of plants per acre, the average number of pods per plant and the average number of seeds per pod must be determined. The formula is: bushels per acre equal (plants per acre) times (pods per plant) times (seeds per pod) divided by (seeds per pound) times (60 pounds per bushel). See above section on determining corn yield for determining length of row needed to count soybean plants.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "Excellence can be yours if you refuse to accept anything but the best."

bucks by cheating on food stamps.

Understand, dishonesty, corruption and cheating in any form are reprehensible, but why is it that a poor cheat raises much more ire than a rich one? Might it not be that by despising the needy, we free ourselves of the compassion to help them and thus comfort ourselves for our failure to share?

JESUS AND THE POOR

That Christians buy this kind of political correctness is amazing in the light of what Jesus taught and demonstrated in His own life and ministry. With whom was Jesus most concerned if not the poor and downtrodden? What was the litmus test of Christian discipleship if not to help those who cannot help themselves. Read through the four gospels and see for yourself what was Jesus' attitude to the down and outers of His own day.

Then in Acts 4 we have that wonderful description of the early church in Jerusalem. "Now the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common... There was not a needy person among them..."

I'm not necessarily advocating that Christians today hold "everything in common," but I think we might strive for that very same goal of "not a needy person among them" if, like the early Christians, we acknowledge that nothing we possess is our own. If each of us realized that whatever we have belongs to God and therefore is to be shared with others, we might not wipe out poverty in our country entirely, but we could eliminate the greater part of it.

ON COMPASSION'S SIDE

When I was a pastor, I realized that some of the poor and homeless that came to the church's door for help would never change even if they had a chance and others only wanted a handout so they

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