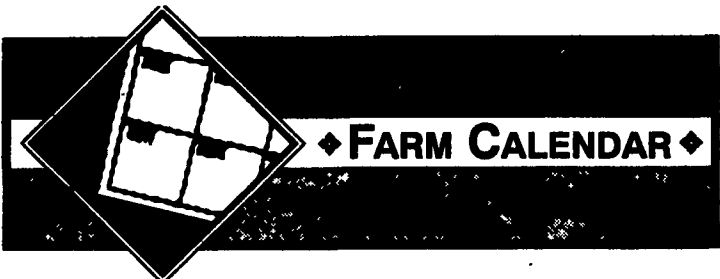
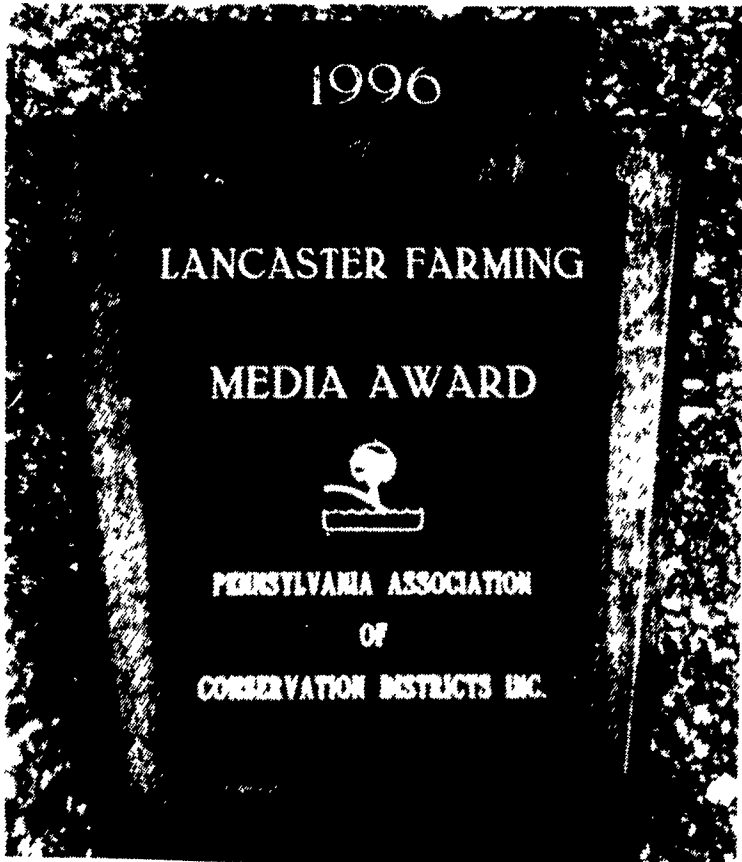


OPINION Thanks!



Saturday, October 12
Pa. Holstein Association, Penn-Ohio Classic Sale, Fairgrounds.

Sunday, October 13
Monday, October 14
Poultry Management and Health Seminar, Kreider Restaurant, Manheim, noon.
ADADC District 6 meeting, Club 211, Middletown, NY, 7:30 p.m.

Berks Poultry Fanciers 1996 Fall Show, Berks 4-H Building, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, October 15
Dillsburg Community Fair, thru Oct. 19.

Pasture Walk, David E. Beiler farm, Narvon.

Dairylea Coop Inc. Annual Meeting, Four Points Hotel, Liverpool, NY.

Pa. Council of Cooperatives Annual Meeting, Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

Pasture Walk Pequea-Mill Creek, David E. Beiler farm, 10 a.m.-noon.

Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative District meeting, Fulton Grange Hall, Wakefield, noon.

Dauphin County Farm Bureau Fall Meeting and Banquet, Camp Hebron, Halifax, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 16
Swine Producers Network Meeting, Albright United Church, Sunbury 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 17
PVMA Annual Meeting, Host Farm Resort Oct. 17-20.

ADADC District 2 Meeting, Sahara Restaurant, Carthage, NY, 8 p.m.

ADADC District 12 Meeting, Sennett Church, Sennett, NY, 7:30

p.m.
Maryland State Grange Annual Session, Venice Inn, Hagerstown, thru Oct. 19.

Friday, October 18
Uniontown Poultry and Farm Show, thru Oct. 20.

Maryland Delaware Grazing Conference, Frederick Community College, thru Oct. 19.

Maryland State Grange Agriculture and Awards Banquet, Venice Inn, Hagerstown, 7 p.m.

Saturday, October 19
Lebanon County Forest Stewardship Organizational Meeting and Field Trip, Lebanon Ag Center, 12:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

Fall Harvest and Sawmill Show, Jacktown Community Center, 7 p.m. thru Oct. 20.

Sunday, October 20
Show Series, Equestrian Center, Cochranville, 7:30 a.m.

Family Day on the Farm, Mt. Ararat Farm, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Raindate Sun., Oct. 27.

Sunday, October 21
Maryland State Grange Annual Session, Venice Inn, Hagerstown, thru Oct. 19.

Monday, October 22
Poultry Management and Health Seminar, Kreider Restaurant, Manheim, noon.

Tuesday, October 23
ADADC District 6 meeting, Club 211, Middletown, NY, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 24
Berks Poultry Fanciers 1996 Fall Show, Berks 4-H Building, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Thursday, October 25
Dillsburg Community Fair, thru Oct. 19.

Friday, October 26
Pasture Walk, David E. Beiler farm, Narvon.

Saturday, October 27
Dairylea Coop Inc. Annual Meeting, Four Points Hotel, Liverpool, NY.

Sunday, October 28
Pa. Council of Cooperatives Annual Meeting, Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

Monday, October 29
Pasture Walk Pequea-Mill Creek, David E. Beiler farm, 10 a.m.-noon.



To Control Combine Fires

Cutting corners on combine maintenance may spark a disaster — a combine fire.

About 75 percent of all combine fires start in the engine area, warns Howard Doss, Michigan State University extension farm safety specialist.

Electrical malfunctions, hot exhaust gases, and frictional heat from bearings and belts are the most common causes. As a precaution, check your combine's electrical components before harvest and during each week of harvest. Make sure battery terminal connections are tight. Make sure all exhaust manifold and muffler connections are tight.

Check all belts and bearings. Belts may catch fire if they start slipping. Worn bearings may glow red hot before they fail. Clean your combine engine once each season with a high pressure sprayer and degreasing solvent.

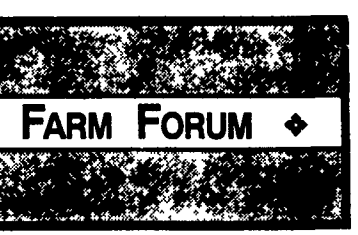
Quickly shut down the engine if you suspect a fire. Turn the key completely off. Mount a 10-pound ABC type dry chemical fire extinguisher near the cab. You may want a second one outside the cab that can be reached from the ground.

In event of a fire, attack the fire from upwind. Aim the extinguisher at the base of the flames, not at the flames. If the fire is beyond your control, go for help immediately, do not endanger yourself.

To Time Last Cutting Of Alfalfa

One of the key considerations in planning the last cutting of alfalfa is the impact it will have on winter survival, according to Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent.

The shortening day length and cooler temperatures tell the winter hardy varieties of alfalfa to develop cold resistance. During this hardening process, plants reduce top growth and increase the



growth, loss of prime farmland and soil erosion. Many organizations including the well-respected Worldwatch Institute have accurate statistics that prove this.

Every year there are almost 100 million more people to feed than the year before. Each person requires 2 to 4 acres of farmland

(Turn to Page A30)

amounts of carbohydrates they store in their roots.

Winter survival and spring regrowth are dependent on having adequate amounts of carbohydrates stored by the plant in the fall. Harvesting alfalfa at the wrong time in the fall may cause the plant to use some of the stored carbohydrates to make new fall growth. This will reduce the amount available for winter survival and spring re growth.

This consideration has led to the traditional recommendation not to harvest in the four- to six-week period before the first killing frost. However, new alfalfa varieties have helped to eliminate some of the problems of winter kill.

It is now felt that the length of time since the previous harvest is more important than the actual date of the harvest. If it has been at least 45 days since the previous harvest, further delay of harvest is not necessary.

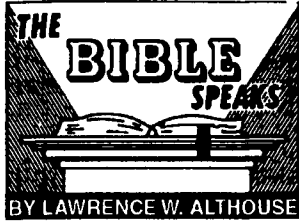
To Manage Alfalfa For Winter Survival

Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent, reminds us good management may improve winter survival of alfalfa.

In addition to proper timing of last cutting, other management considerations to help improve winter survival of alfalfa include maintaining good soil fertility and proper pH. This will help to reduce stress and increase winter survival.

Planting the most disease-resistant variety available that also has a high yield potential when seeding will help with survival. Remember, even with the best management possible, weather conditions some seasons are not conducive to maintaining alfalfa stands.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "Obstacles are things a person sees when he takes his eyes off his goal."



TRUSTING IN A LIE
October 13, 1996

TRUSTING IN A LIE

October 13, 1996
Background Scripture: Jeremiah 28 through 29
Devotional Reading: Jeremiah 30: 13-24

University of Pennsylvania Professor Martin E. P. Seligman has done an exhaustive study of presidential elections in the USA and determined that optimism is almost always a very strong factor in the presidents that we elect.

In his book, *Learned Optimism* (Knopf, 1990), Seligman says, "In the twenty-two presidential elections from 1900 through 1984, Americans chose the more optimistic-sounding candidate eighteen times." In the senatorial campaign of 1988, Seligman and his associates predicted accurately 25 of the 29 Senate races, including all the upsets and all the close races, on the basis of an analysis of the positive/negative content of the candidates' campaigns. Obviously, people do like a positive rather than a negative message.

In the long history of the Judaic/Christian faiths it has been apparent that believers also prefer a hopeful message. Jeremiah, for example, had prophesized that the people would be carried away into exile — and they were, most of them. Those who remained in Jerusalem as well as those carried away to Babylon had witnessed the terrible fulfillment of the prophecies they had rejected.

HAPPY DAYS ARE COMING!

So, they are ready for Haniah's upbeat message: "Thus says the Lord of hosts... 'I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. Within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the Lord's house, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place...'" (Jer.28:2-4). He goes on to promise an end to the people's sufferings and Jeremiah replies that he hopes it is so. "Amen? May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words which you have prophesized come true..." (28:5).

Other prophets, says Jeremiah, have prophesized disaster and their prophecies have been fulfilled. "As for the prophet who

prophesizes peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet" (28:9). Like everyone else, Jeremiah wanted to believe that peace was just around the corner.

But "the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah" and the message was not one of peace, but more suffering. God makes it clear that Nebuchadnezzar rules, not in spite of God, but because of him. The king of Babylon is unknowingly fulfilling God's will. So, Jeremiah turns to Haniah and says, "Listen Haniah, the Lord has not sent you, and you have made this people trust in a lie" (28:15).

GLADLY HEARD

In Babylon Haniah's glowing prophecy was repeated by a colleague, Shemaiah, promising that the exile would soon be over and they would return to Jerusalem. It was a message the people wanted desperately to hear, so that we may assume that Shemaiah was gladly heard and received. If he had been running for office, he would have certainly won the race.

But Jeremiah sends a letter to his friend Zephaniah in Babylon and the latter decries Shemaiah's message as hope: "...and they have spoken in my name lying words which I did not command them" (29:23). And Jeremiah adds: "Because Shemaiah has prophesized to you when I did not send him, and has made you a trust in a lie, therefore thus says the Lord: Behold, I will punish Shemaiah..." (29:31b).

It is tempting to tell the pleasant lie instead of the hard truth. But lies, no matter how pleasant, do not bring the repentance that is necessary. Those who knowingly lie to us and paint a rosy picture when the reality is actually ominous are not prophets sent from God. And if we expect and accept their lies, are we any better than they? They may win our support but hinder our salvation.

Still, even in the darkest of prophecies there is a promise that is our only hope: "When you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you" (29:13-14).

Lancaster Farming
Established 1955
Published Every Saturday
Ephrata Review Building
1 E. Main St.
Ephrata, PA 17522
- by -
Lancaster Farming, Inc.
A Steinman Enterprise
Robert G. Campbell General Manager
Everett R. Newswanger Managing Editor
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