

Max Smith, former Lancaster County agent, talks about how the county has changed in the past 50 years.

# Rural Youth

Smith said, "We have observed many changes in the past 60 years, but our grandsons who are involved in agriculture will likely see many more.'

After the program, members visited and reviewed pictures and

## You Ask, You Answer

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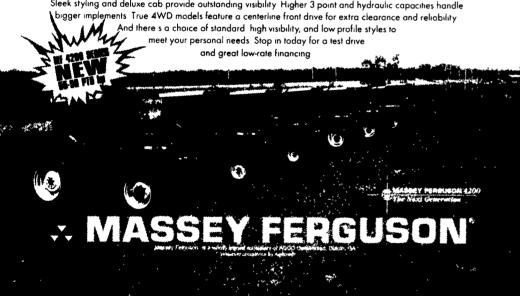
while still damp from cleaning. Gourds should be at least 8-inches in diameter and 6-inches in height. Thick skinned, properly cured gourds with short necks will last longer and provide insulation from heat and cold. White or light colors on the gourds, help reflect the sun's rays and prolongs the usefulness of it, while keeping the interior cooler.

Entrance, drainage, and ventilation: Cut a required size, round entrance hole in the side of each gourd, 3-5 inches from the floor. Remove all pith and seeds. For drainage, bore at least four 1/4 -inch holds at the lowest point of the ground floor. Be sure these holes are free of any debris. Approximately 4-inches down from and encircling the neck of the gourd, bore at least four 1/4 -inch holes for air circulation. High temperatures of uncirculated air can be fatal to Martins in improperly prepared gourds, causing the nestlings to suffocate or the young birds to leave the nest before they are ready to fly. Adult Martins will actually pull the nestlings out of hot boxes. If these young are unable to fly, many become victims of ground predators.

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