



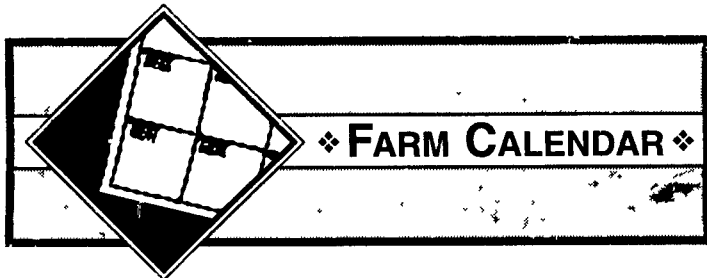
# OPINION

## More Mouths To Feed

The problem of getting enough to eat is one of the great problems of the human race. In some countries, such as the United States and the Dominion of Canada, so much food is produced that there is more than enough for everybody. Elsewhere, however, the story is quite different. A large part of the population of Asia never has quite enough to eat. There, millions of people are always hungry. Whenever crops fail, hundreds of thousands of persons actually starve. Famine kills off the weak, the very young, and the poor.

There has been a great increase in the earth's population in the last three centuries. Today, there are more than two billion mouths to be fed. Yet the world's population is still increasing. Each year the number of births is greater than the number of deaths, and so there are more people to feed than ever before.

That is the reason why the farmer is such an important citizen in any nation. His main job is to produce meat, and milk, vegetables, and grains, and many other things which we all need. His crops furnish us with materials from which clothes are made. Agriculture is one of the oldest of all human occupations, and one of the most important. --Science Plans For Tomorrow, published in 1946 by Ginn and Company. Authors: Gerald S. Craig, professor of natural sciences, Teachers College, Columbia University; and John Urban, professor of science, New York State College for Teachers at Buffalo. Found by the editor in a box of old books.



**Saturday, August 1**  
20th Annual Pa. Performance-Tested Ram Sale and Sheep Producers Field Day, Penn State Ag Arena, State College.  
Va. Charolais Association Field Day, Buzzy Coleman's Farm, Bedford, Va.  
51st All-American Angus Breeders Futurity, Kentucky Fair and Expo Center, Louisville, Ky., thru Aug. 2.  
Washington County Ag Expo, Washington County Ag and Ed Center, Hagerstown, thru Aug. 7.  
Pa. Holstein Southwest Championship Show, Fayette Fairgrounds, Uniontown, 9:30 a.m.  
West Central 4-H/FFA Dairy Show, Grange Fair Fairgrounds, Centre Hall.  
Dauphin County Farm Bureau Picnic, Halifax Memorial Park, 6:30 p.m.  
Luzerne County Farm-City Day, Ray Hillman Building, Luzerne County Fairgrounds, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Annual Shirktown Thresher's Festival, Churchtown.

**Sunday, August 2**  
Schuylkill County Fair, Summit Station, thru Aug. 8.  
Union County West End Fair, Laurelton, thru Aug. 8.

**Monday, August 3**  
North Central Dairy Show, Troy Fairgrounds, Troy.  
Clearfield County Fair, Clearfield, thru Aug. 8.  
Cochranon Community Fair, Cochranon, thru Aug. 8.  
Food Grade Soybean Production and Vegetation Field Day, Leonard Stoltzfus Farm, Douglassville, 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Morrison Cove Dairy Show, Martinsburg, thru Aug. 7.

**Tuesday, August 4**  
State 4-H Achievement Days,

Penn State, University Park, thru Aug. 6.  
Vermont Bus Tour for EAYF, departs 5:30 a.m., returns Aug. 7 at 8 p.m.  
New Stanton Farm and Home Fair, New Stanton, thru Aug. 8.  
Organic Food Grade Soybean Plot Tour, Leonard Stoltzfus, Douglassville, 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, August 5**  
Lower Eastern Shore Research and Education Center Field Days.

**Thursday, August 6**  
Morrison Cove Dairy Show, Memorial Park, Martinsburg, 9 a.m.  
Northern Tier Championship Show, Wyoming Fairgrounds, Meshoppen, 10 a.m.

**Friday, August 7**  
Worcester County Fair, Furnace Town, Snow Hill, thru Aug. 9.  
Southwest District Dairy Show, Morrisons Cove, Memorial Park, Martinsburg.  
Wayne County Fair, Honesdale, thru Aug. 15.  
Lebanon County Holstein Field Night, home of James and Dorothy Bennetch, 7 p.m.  
Futures Market Seminar, Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus, Fogelsville, 7 p.m.  
38th Annual Old Time Wheat Threshing Steam and Gas Engine Show, Denton, Md., thru Aug. 9.

**Saturday, August 8**  
Hereford Junior Farm Fair, Hereford High School, Parkton.  
Pa. Holstein South Central Championship Show, Shippenburg Fairgrounds, Shippenburg, 9:30 a.m.  
Clinton County Fair, Mackeyville, thru Aug. 15.  
Maryland State Picnic, Maryland Holstein Association, Coldsprings Farm.  
Kids' Day On The Farm and Old-Time Plow Boys Plowing



### To Avoid Over Heating Animals

Many dairy and broiler producers are using tunnel ventilation systems to help keep cows and broilers comfortable on hot days. For the system to function best, all barn openings are closed, except at one end of the barn.

Large exhaust fans are located at the opposite end from the inlet. The barn has been turned into a tunnel. All the air is admitted into one end, pulled the full length of the barn at a speed of about 3 to 5 miles per hour and exhausted at the opposite end. The air velocity and rapid exchange of air help improve animal comfort, as long as the fans are running.

When the fans stop, for whatever reason, the barn may quickly turn into a hot oven because the only openings are those at the one end and there is almost no air circulation. Thus, it is very important to have a back up system or an alternative ventilation plan to implement in the event of power failure or for times when no one is around the barn.

### To Scout For Corn Root worm Adults

Corn root worm beetles usually begin emerging about July 4. However, this year they emerged about 10 days early because of the early warm weather, according to Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agronomy Agent.

For the corn grower, this is an important time to be scouting corn fields for adult root worm beetles. Based on the number of beetles found by the farmer, a good estimate may be made if root worm insecticide should be applied in that field next year. Scouting now for next year is a way to determine where to spend

Show, Pa. German Heritage Center, Kutztown University, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Sunday, August 9

Pa. Hereford Association Field Day, Stone Ridge Manor, Gettysburg.  
Garrett County Ag Fair, Garrett Highway, McHenry, thru Aug. 15.  
Transfer Harvest Home Fair, Transfer, thru Aug. 15.  
Bedford County Fair, Bedford, thru Aug. 15.  
Greene County Fair, Waynesburg, thru Aug. 15.

**Monday, August 10**  
Queen Anne's County Fair, 4-H Park, Centerville, thru Aug. 15.  
Dairy-MAP, MAP On Tour, Brookside Dairy (George Family), Homer City, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
Butler Farm Show, Butler, thru Aug. 15.  
Sykesville Ag and Youth Fair, Sykesville, thru Aug. 15.

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pesticide dollars to prevent crop damage next year.

The threshold for continuous corn is an average of 2 northern or 1 western adult beetle per plant. For first year corn fields, it is an average of 3 northern or 1.5 western adult beetles per plant.

### To Practice IPM

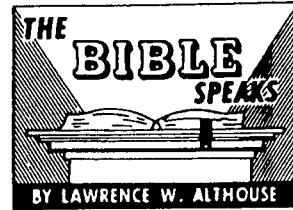
Critics of modern agricultural production practices continue to publish misinformation on farming in the United States. For example, An Environmental Working Group report claims pesticide use in agriculture is up and EPA is failing to reduce use and protect children.

The facts are EPA notes a continued decline in pesticide use on our nation's farms since topping out in 1979. Over the 1979-1995 period, use of insecticides to protect the nation's fruit and vegetables has dropped more than 50 per

cent spurred by the adaptation by farmers of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

In order to challenge these critics in the public policy arena, it is important farmers adapt and practice best management practices, IPM, develop and file nutrient management plans, etc. By showing we are sensitive to consumer concerns and are developing appropriate actions, we will be able to respond to our critics. Otherwise, our critics will have their views adopted. The future of farming will be based on our actions. So take the time and scout your fields and use pesticides only when you need them.

*Feather Prof's Footnote*  
"Quality is never an accident, rather the result of high intentions, sincere effort, intelligent direction and skillful execution."



### THE BOTTOM LINE

August 2, 1998

#### Background Scripture:

Proverbs 8

#### Devotional Reading:

Psalms 1:1-6

In the Book of Proverbs, there are essentially two voices that speak. Sometimes it is the voice of the "wise man. Sometimes it is the voice of "wisdom" personified as a woman.

Thus in Proverbs 8, it is the winsome woman who is speaking wherever she finds people to listen: On the heights beside the way, in the paths she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud..." (8:2,3).

The writer tells us a lot in these few lines. Some people then believed—as some do today—that wisdom is really an exclusive attainment of the few, that it is not intended to be possessed by all. In sharp contrast, however, *wisdom* proclaims her message, not in a secluded spot where only a select few will hear, but at the very crossroads where all may hear and receive the message. "To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the sons of men" (8:4). Using the term "sons of men" indicates that her call is not only to the people of Israel, but all humanity. The reception to that call may be limited, but the call is not.

This wisdom is straight forward, never devious: "All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them." That is the gap between information or learning and wisdom. Information may often be used for devious purposes and learning may well be perverted to selfish ends, but true wisdom cannot be perverted.

### COSMIC WISDOM

*Wisdom* goes on to poetically proclaim her unique relationship with God: "The Lord created me at the beginning of His work, the first of His acts of old" (8:22). Before the cosmic depths existed, before there were mountains, hills, fields, heavens or even dust, *wisdom* existed.

Upon reading Proverbs 8 some may become alarmed because it may seem that *wisdom* purports to have been

another divine being present with God at the creation. Some Biblical scholars believe that the Canaanites worshiped a goddess of wisdom. But the writer of Proverbs sees that, what the Canaanites worshiped as a goddess, was simply an attribute of the one God.

We come now to the most difficult words of *wisdom* in this chapter, "Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her" (8:10,11). What is difficult about these words? Surely we all agree with them!

### LIP-SERVICE

I don't think so. Without a doubt, we give lip service to them. But most of us—myself included—live in a way that indicates that money and material things are the basis of our society. Personal, public and national policies seem to be determined by just one thing: money. What is the bottom line when we attempt to determine that value of something? Money value as determined by price or profit.

Some time ago I overheard a man say that he had recently been responsible for a "wholesale housecleaning" in the church he attends and is a member of the governing board. Referring to some older members of the church staff, he said "We're going to be saving a lot of money now that we're rid of that deadwood!" I couldn't help wondering whether he ever considered the human as well as monetary values.

I believe in enterprise and profit, but not to the exclusion of wisdom and compassion. I believe in asking if something is "cost effective," but not at the price of human values. Indeed, I believe capitalism and free enterprise can be extolled only when they are guided by human conscience. The bottom line is not silver, gold, jewels or anything material: it is the wisdom that recognizes the sovereignty of a God who commands love, not profit.

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