A LANCASTER FARMING EXCLUSIVE * **The Official Publication For The** PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN **GROWERS ASSOC.**

SPECIAL SECTION IN LANCASTER FARMING

JANUARY 30

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PMCGA's First President A 'Student of Corn'

RANDY WELLS Indiana Co. Correspondent

DAYTON (Armstrong Co) - Despite the relatively dry weather this summer in Armstrong County, George Rumbaugh was able to walk into one of his corn fields near here on the first day of September and gaze up at the green stalks stretching well above his head The ears had filled out nicely, too, he noted, and he predicted his crop would probably yield 80 or more bushels per acre

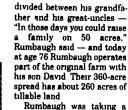
Rumbaugh probably knows as much about growing corn as any farmer in his county and perhaps the state He had not only been growing corn but studying it for years when he was asked in the early 1970s to serve as the first president of the newlyformed Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association (PMCGA)

"George was a student of corn He not only grew it, but

he watched it to see how it reacted to weather and soil conditions," said Bill King a retired Armstrong Penn State Extension Service

Rumbaugh lives on the Wayne Township, Armstrong County farm his great-grandfather bought in 1857, and he

lives in a 131-year-old brick farm house along with a two-lane blacktop that winds through the rolling farmland Eventually the farm was



Rumbaugh was taking a critical look at his corn crops even before PMCGA was started Rumbaugh, along with extension agent King and Willard Kimmel, another Armstrong County farmer. conducted some of the first interval corn planting tests in the state

Despite the conventional wisdom of that time that corn should not be planted before mid-May, the three men started planting corn as early as mid-April -- six rows each of the same seed variety in the same field -- and continued the weekly plantings through May The results



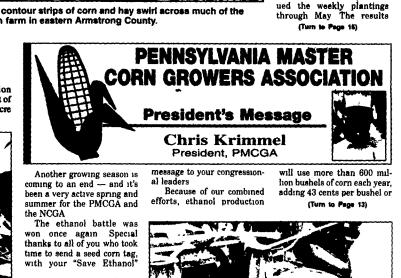
Lush, alternating contour strips of corn and hay swirl across much of the 360-acre Rumbaugh farm in eastern Armstrong County

30,000 Could Be Corn's **Optimum** Population Rate that "optimum population rate." That rate is the amount of ANDY ANDREWS

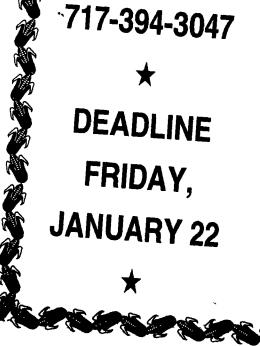
(Turn to Page 8)

Lancaster Farming Staff PEACH BOTTOM (Lancascom seeds to put down per acre ter Co.) - Producers often seek





orn Silage Management Solanco meeting, Young Farmers Association, Solan-



and sliage corn, the optimum population rate could be 30,000 seeds per acre. The best stands were planted this year at that rate, according to Ed Hermann, adviser to the Solanco Young Farmer Association.

co High School, 7:30 p. Lucsday, November 3 Ag Service School, Meadville, (Turn to Page 11)

A harvester demonstrated to the crowd At Ag Progress uses a rotating blade. See story page 14.

GROWERS INFORMATION

- FEATURE INTERVIEWS
- STATE & NATIONAL **ASSOCIATES NEWS** PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER