

Adams County Fruit Farm And Market Emphasizes Ag Education

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produce is sold as fresh fruit. The remaining 40 percent is sold for processing. Although some of their fresh produce is sold in the farm market, a portion of it is sold wholesale to clients in Iowa, Vermont, and Florida. The remaining portion is sold to Rice Fruit Company. The processing fruit is sold to Knouse Foods and Motts, USA.

The farm market is open from early April through December each year. Along with offering their homegrown

fruits, the Hollabaughs also sell other local produce, preserves, baking mixes, and other gift items.

Originally opened in 1955 when the Hollabaughs first purchased the farm, the market has grown "by leaps and bounds" over the years.

"It seems like every two years we add on to the market," said Kay Hollabaugh. "This year we've purchased an observation hive and will have an education room where people can learn more about the importance

role bees have in fruit growing."

The Hollabaughs have emphasized education as a business priority for several years. They hosted their first school tour five or six years ago. Each year around 1,200 school children come to tour the farm and market.

"We take them out on a tractor and wagon and talk to them about fruit growing," said Hollabaugh. "We let them pick five apples, and then we bring them back to the market to try cider sam-



Hollabaugh Brothers Fruit Farm and Market features 500 acres of apples, peaches, plums, pears, and other fruit. Several thousands of people travel to the farm each year to learn more about fruit growing and its role in our food supply.



Hollabaugh Market has grown "by leaps and bounds" since its opening in 1955. The market started out in this little shed on the opposite of the road from today's farm market.

ples. We also take them into the cold storage room and explain cold storage to them."

The observation hive will be arriving at the Hollabaugh's market in June, just in time for the fall tour schedule.

"The kids will be able to sit on bleachers and watch a working bee hive," said Hollabaugh. "We can talk to them about the importance of bees and discuss problems we have with animals and pests."

The Hollabaughs charge \$3.25 per person to give the tours. Along with conducting school tours, they also host tours for the Elderhostel

group, which is a group of retired people who travel around the country for education purposes.

"Basically they travel to an area and spend a week there learning about the culture," said Hollabaugh. The group comes to Adams County to explore the Gettysburg Battlefield, and they visit the Hollabaugh's fruit farm to learn about fruit growing.

Family tours are also available by appointment. "We need to have at least 15 people to host a tour," said Hollabaugh. "We host the tours mainly for education purposes."

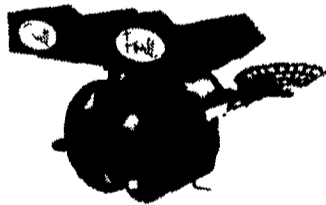
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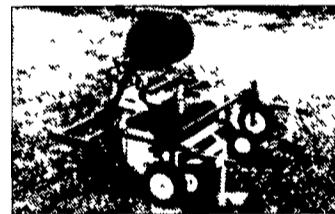
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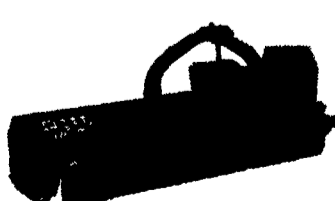
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