



Lancaster Farming

OPINION

Increase Farm Income

Corn growers took another step toward higher incomes with the recent announcement by the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) of a \$2.5 million research project to create new, higher valued consumer products for corn fiber or bran.

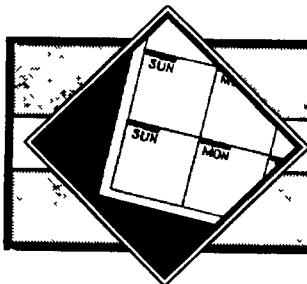
"We're looking up the value chain for corn products," says Lee Klein, a farmer from Battle Creek, Neb., and president-elect of NCGA. "This research will create a process that will take corn fiber or bran that's currently going into the market as low-priced feed that we're practically giving away and instead convert bran into feedstocks for consumer products such as paint and plastics and into ethanol. And reducing the supply of corn ultimately improves prices.

"It's another example of NCGA's stewardship of checkoff dollars. Growers will get the benefit of the entire project and leverage their investment of checkoff dollars 10 to 1. That's an enviable return on investment. NCGA will manage the project in a cost sharing partnership with Archer Daniels Midland of Decatur, Ill. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is contributing \$1.7 million and Battelle Pacific Northwest National Laboratory of Richland, Wash., will be a subcontractor for this project," says Klein.

This is a milestone on the road to having renewable resources claim 10 percent of the consumer chemical feedstock market by 2020. The 10 percent is the Vision for the Agricultural Industry of the Future program sponsored by DOE. In 1996, the agricultural and chemical industries and the DOE, with leadership from NCGA, developed the Plant/Crop-based Renewable Resources 2020 program to achieve the 10 percent level. This DOE grant is part of the agency's Bioproducts and Bioenergy Technology program. This is a new effort that develops opportunities in bioproducts, biopower and biofuels and supplements the Ag Vision program that focuses only on bioproducts.

"If plants were the feedstock for 10 percent of the chemical market today, farm income would be more than \$5 billion higher," says Klein. Furthermore, the increased use of renewable resources in chemical feedstocks would decrease oil imports, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create new industries in the U.S.

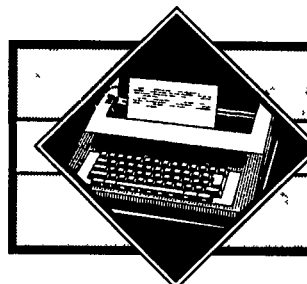
We know livestock farmers depend on low feed costs to produce milk and meat. But we believe there should be enough margin in the food chain to support both higher grain prices and higher milk and meat prices.



FARM CALENDAR

Saturday, July 22
Pasture Walk, Robby and Kathleen England, Millerton.
Cecil County Old Time Farm Days, Fairgrounds, thru July 23.
Cecil Co. Fair, Elkton, MD

Sunday, July 23
Clarion County Fair, thru July 29.
Monday, July 24
Jefferson Township Fair, thru July 29.
Kimberton Community Fair,



FARM FORUM

Editor:

The movie "Chicken Run" has certainly brought agriculture and specifically poultry production into the spotlight of the American public. As a poultry industry, we welcome the opportunity to share our advances in consumer food safety, animal welfare, and environmental stewardship. A recent letter to the editor which contained some significant misleading facts and implications about poultry certainly warrants a response with some of the real facts on poultry in Pennsylvania.

It is fully disingenuous to imply that this poultry is "packed with antibiotics, hormones, pesticides." There are no hormones used in poultry production.

The author is correct in stat-

ing bacteria, specifically Salmonella, can be found on poultry products as well as many other things, including vegetables. As with any raw food product, proper handling plays a big role in keeping the food safe.

In fact, every package of raw poultry meat contains a label with proper food handling instructions including washing your hands before and after cooking, don't cross contaminate, keep the product cold, and cook the product thoroughly.

With a few simple food safety practices, poultry remains one of the safest and most nutritious foods in the market.

James A. Shirk
Assistant Vice-President
of the Poultry Council
PennAg Industries Association



Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz
Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Be Aware Of Corn Rootworm Beetles
Adult corn rootworm beetles usually begin emerging about July 4th, however, this year they were emerging almost 10 days earlier because of the warm weather, reports Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agronomy Agent. When adult rootworms begin to emerge from the soil, most of the root feeding has been completed. At this time some are adult, most are in the transition pupa stage and only a few are still actively feeding larvae. When feeding stops, the corn plant will begin generating new roots above the feeding zone. Within a short period of time, the new roots will almost hide the feeding damage. If this root growth is sufficient before a storm, it may not cause the corn plant to lodge. Depending on the weather and the extent of root feeding, yields maybe impacted without seeing the damage of lodging corn.

To Scout For Corn Rootworm Beetles
Scouting now for next year is a way to determine where to spend pesticide dollars to prevent crop damage next year, according to Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agronomy Agent. Based on the number of beetles found by the farmer now, a good estimate maybe made if a rootworm insecticide should be applied in that field next year. The threshold for continuous corn is an average of two northern or one western adult beetle per plant. For first year corn in a field, the threshold is an average of three northern or one and half western adult beetles per plant.

To Prepare For Storms
The recent thunderstorms reminds us that high winds, light-

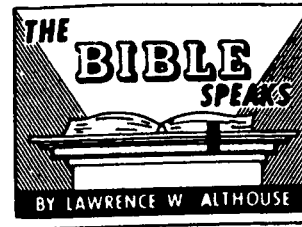
thru July 29.
Shippensburg Community Fair, thru July 29.
Troy Fair, thru July 29.
West Central District Dairy Show, Butler County Fairgrounds, Prospect.
Tuesday, July 25
Ag Horizons 2000 Conference, Holiday Inn, Grantville.
Lehigh County Horse Council meeting, Reining, Willow Brook Farms, Catasauqua, 7:30 p.m.
Field Crops Day, Northwestern Branch, Custer.
Adams County 4-H Swine and Sheep Show and Sale.
Penn Allied Nursery Trade Show, Fort Washington Expo Center, thru July 27.
Native Plants In the Garden Short Course, Pittsburgh Garden Place, thru July 27.
Farm Tour, We Grow With The Seasons, Norbert Kohlmeyer, Hopewell Junction, N.Y., 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

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ning and falling trees can cause unpredictable interruptions to electric service. The following precautionary measures will help minimize the inconvenience of an interruption of electrical service. Keep a battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of fresh batteries in hand where you can find them in the dark. Avoid the use of candles. Mishandled or unattended candles could cause a fire at a time when all public safety resources are strained. Keep a radio or light plugged in and turned on so you know when the power is restored. Turn off or disconnect appliances such as air conditioners, computers, heat pumps,

televisions, washers and dryers. If all these appliances begin operating at the same time after power is restored, your dwelling's fuses could blow or circuit breakers could trip. Fill a tub, several large bottles or pots with water. Your water supply could stop if your home uses a well and pump. A fully loaded freezer can keep food cold for 36 to 48 hours if the door remains closed. Remember, touching a vehicle, fence, person or water in contact with a downed line is dangerous.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." Eleanor Roosevelt.



BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

WALKING THE WALK

July 23, 2000

Background Scripture:
Ephesians 5 through 6:4.
Devotional Reading:
Ephesians 5:6-20.

Let's start with the hard part: "Wives be subject to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is head of the church...as the church is subject to Christ, so let wives be subject in everything to their husbands" (Eph. 5:21-23).

It's in the Bible then — the husband is the head of the wife and wife shall be subject to the husband. Is this an authoritative teaching for all Christians? I do not believe it is.

There are other teachings in the Bible that Christians do not count as authoritative. In Leviticus, Moses, speaking for God, commands the people of God to abstain from certain foods that are "unclean." (Lev. 11). In Leviticus 20:10 we are commanded that "If a man commits adultery with the wife of his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall be put to death!" In Deuteronomy 2:14 the father and mother of "a stubborn and rebellious son" are commanded to bring the son to the elders at the city gate "and stone him to death with stones."

I do not know of any Christians today who obey these commandments even though they appear unequivocally in the Bible. Though these commandments are represented as the will of God, and although nowhere in the gospels does Jesus revoke them, we do not hold them to be authoritative for us. My own experience of Jesus Christ does not permit me to live by these rules.

What Is Authoritative?

Sometimes we rationalize this problem in holding that the New Testament supersedes the Old. But there are also many Old Testament teachings that we do hold authoritative for us — the Ten Commandments, for example.

Furthermore, there are some teachings in the New Testament that we do not regard as authoritative for our lives in Christ. For example: the prohibition against divorce (I Cor. 7:10,11), the stricture against marrying "unbelievers" (2 Cor. 14), and the acceptance of slavery (Eph. 6:5), among others. Although Paul counseled the Romans to "let every person be subject to the governing authorities" and "he who resists the authorities resists what God has appointed..."

(Ro. 13:1,2), in the days of the Third Reich, some German Christians resisted the godless Nazi regime as a matter of Christian conscience.

My point is not to deny the Bible's authority, but to honestly acknowledge that no one lives in literal compliance with all the teachings and commandments we find there. All of us interpret the scriptures in accordance with what we believe to be the spirit of Christ. Often we may not agree on what is authoritative in the Bible. Much as we love and respect it, our loyalty is not to a book, but the Lord whom we encounter within it.

So, Paul's view of the superior role of the husband over the wife simply reflected the male-dominated society in which he worked. Because he believed that the triumphal return of Christ was near, he did not attempt to change the structure of that society. Instead he sought to infuse that structure with a new spirit: "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." (Eph. 1:2).

Imitating God

The teaching in Ephesians is so radical, so revolutionary that it transformed all human relationships: husbands, wives, children, slaves and masters. If we imitate God, we find in emulating the self-giving love of Jesus that there can ultimately prevail no injustices, no inequalities, and no subjugations.

The emphasis is not upon how we talk the faith, but how we walk it — "Walk as children of the light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true) and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord" (5:8a,9,10). Walking is following Christ. Walking is witnessing.

It is said that one day St. Francis of Assisi invited some of his monastic colleagues to go with him into town to help him preach to the people. Throughout the whole excursion he spoke not a word to the people and his disciples were confounded. "But, Master," they said at last, "you said we would be preaching as we went, but we never spoke to them." St. Francis then explained to them that the way they walked through the town was the preaching the people needed.

We can witness with words, but often the witness of the way we walk with Christ is more convincing.

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