

Isabel Flattens Cornfields

(Continued from Page A28)

"There might be some fields we have to abandon," Kammerer said.

This week, Kammerer was waiting for drier conditions to work in the fields again. He uses a multidirectional head for harvesting corn silage.

"It probably isn't the best head for down corn, but for 15-inch (row spacing) corn, there's no other choice," he said.

Earlier planted fields generally stood better in the storm and will be OK for grain harvest, according to Roth. But because so much of the corn crop was planted late, many farmers will be harvesting more silage than they anticipated.

That will likely result in a shortage of harvesting machines in some areas, including Lancaster County and the Big Valley.

Leon Ressler, extension director in Lancaster County, is com-



Conestoga River meets the top of the bridge on Rt. 322 in Hinkletown Tuesday afternoon. Traffic was closed westbound at the Martindale Road intersection.



Flood waters look almost scenic at the Conestoga River near Farmersville Tuesday afternoon.

piling a list of custom harvesters who will be available to harvest corn silage in Lancaster County, as well as a list of farmers who need someone to harvest their corn. Read his Now Is The Time column on page A10 this week. Those who want to be put on the list should contact Ressler at (717) 394-6851.

Farmers interested in learning about innovative

harvesting machine attachments for down corn can also check out Greg Roth's Website: cornand-soybeans.psu.edu.

Other ag-related reports in the wake of Isabel include fruit tree damage and apple losses in the south-central part of the state and scattered destruction to farm buildings and trees.

Dave Lower of Boyer Nurseries and Orchards, Biglerville, es-

timated about 5 percent of their apple crop was dropped by the wind. A small percentage of trees also blew down, he said.

However, damage was worse in some other orchards, according to Lower. He said he spoke to a small-scale Franklin County apple grower who lost about half his crop.

In the Elizabethtown area of Lancaster County, a Virginia-

style cattle barn was reportedly destroyed by the wind.

Rains Monday night and Tuesday morning raised water levels into the streets in many areas. Much of the west parking lot at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex was flooded Tuesday during this week's All-American Dairy Show, and Rt. 322 was closed at Hinkletown because of flooding.

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