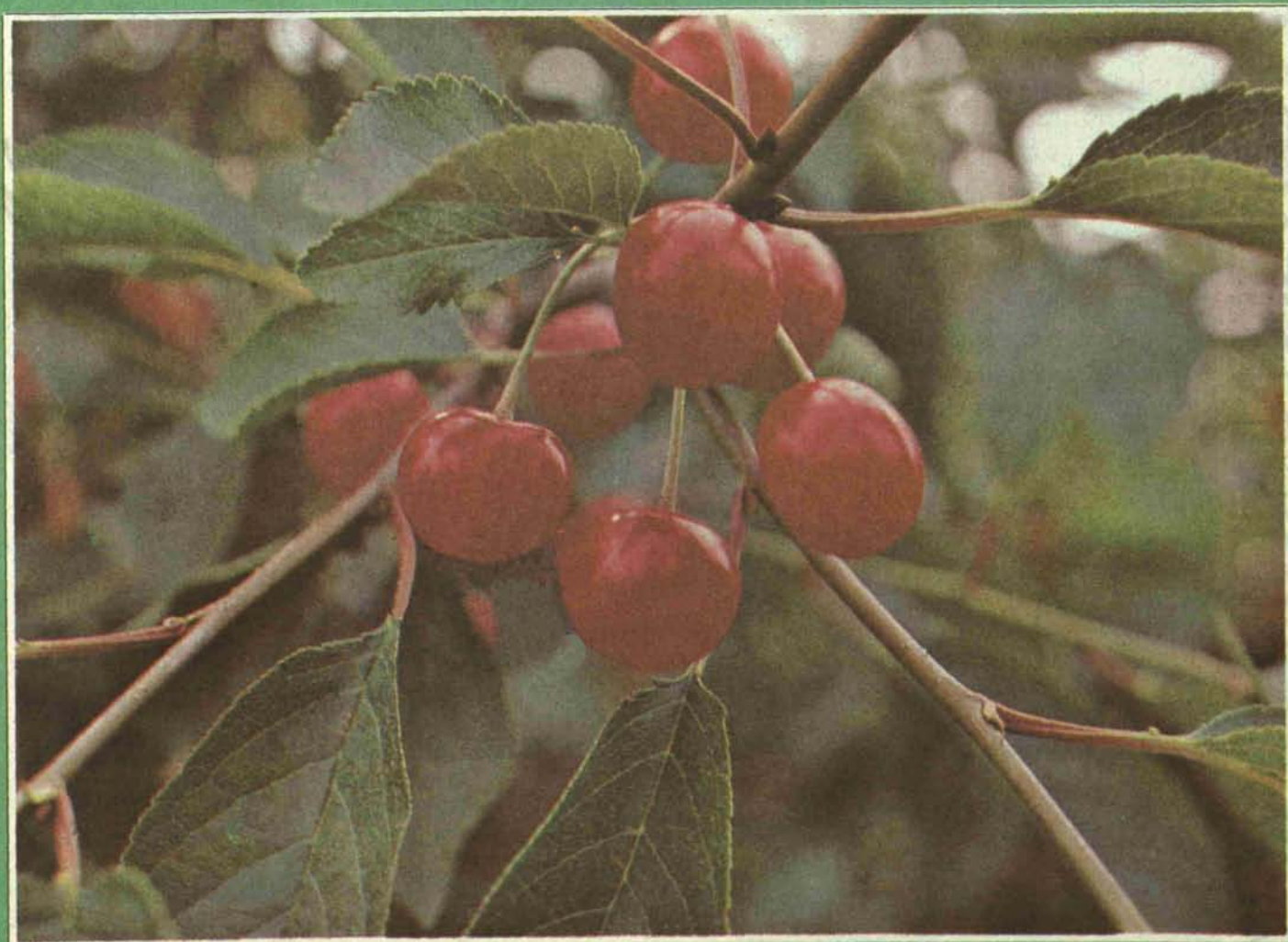


Michigan Farm News

Rural Living

August 1982



A Publication of the Michigan Farm Bureau
County Newsletter Inside

A NEW DIMENSION IN HEALTH CARE COVERAGE. DIMENSION III.

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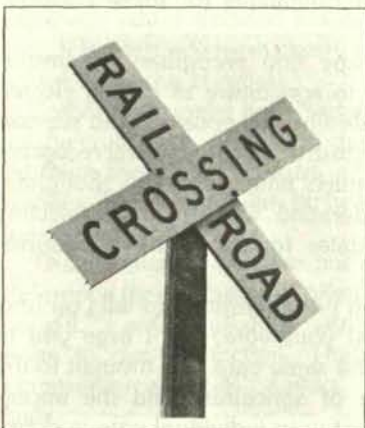
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Michigan growers, leading producers of red tart cherries, stand to lose over \$30 million as a result of the overturned 1982 cherry marketing order.

Photo by Marcia Ditchie

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Agriculture's "Friends" Need Your Personal Endorsement

July 7 was a crucial day in Farm Bureau. The action taken on that day will affect agriculture for at least the next two years.

The results of the decision made that day were announced at a press conference in Lansing on July 13. Michigan Farm Bureau's AgriPac announced support of 79 candidates who would receive the AgriPac endorsement as a "Friend of Agriculture."

The selection process was not taken lightly. During the nearly 12 hours of discussion and evaluation, AgriPac members considered recommendations for candidate endorsement submitted by 47 county Farm Bureau candidate evaluation committees. The committee also considered information from 30 minute interviews with gubernatorial candidates Richard Headlee, James Brickley and William Fitzgerald. During the previous week, several committee members had met with James Blanchard, also a gubernatorial candidate.

The voting records of candidates who had held office were evaluated to determine past support for agriculture. This allowed committee members to use a uniform criteria in measuring the candidate's support for agriculture.

Non-incumbent candidates were evaluated for recognition of agriculture's economic importance, their position on agricultural issues and possible solutions. Involvement of agricultural persons in the candidate's campaign was also considered in the evaluation of the non-incumbent challenger.

Candidates Value Endorsement

Since the endorsements have been announced, Farm Bureau Center telephones have been busy. Endorsed "Friends of Agriculture" have called to express their appreciation. Many candidates who did not receive endorsement have called to express their



disappointment. Several have asked that the decision be reconsidered. Other candidates from whom no information had been received have asked if they could be endorsed by AgriPac prior to the primary election.

It is obvious that the Farm Bureau endorsement means a great deal to those who seek office.

Voter Support Needed

My message to you, as a Farm Bureau member, is to make the endorsement meaningful where it really counts... at the voting booth. I need not remind you that endorsements and dollars cannot win elections. AgriPac endorsed candidates need the support of Farm Bureau members in their districts who are willing to work for a successful campaign. Your participation in local campaign committees even for an hour or two each week can show your support for the candidate. And finally, the Friends of Agriculture need your personal endorsement when you cast your ballot in the primary and general elections in August and November.

As Americans, we are proud that

we have a right to cast our ballot privately. No one can tell us how to vote and no one knows how we vote. But that right carries with it the responsibility of casting an informed vote.

I encourage you to review the listing of the "Friends of Agriculture" which appears in this issue of *Rural Living* magazine. Study the legislative issues and the candidates' voting records that were used by the committee in making its determinations for these endorsements.

I hope you recognize the importance to agriculture of having elected officials who will consider and support our industry. I hope you will recognize that much time, care and thoughtful consideration was given to selecting candidates for the AgriPac endorsement.

I am not attempting to tell you how to cast your vote, but I urge you to give the same care and thought to the future of agriculture and the importance of your individual vote in determining that future. I am confident you will find that the members of the county Farm Bureau candidate evaluation committees and MFB's AgriPac members have chosen candidates who will work on behalf of agriculture, the industry in which your future lies.

Ellen R. Smith

President
Michigan Farm Bureau

If you have a question or opinion that you would like to share in Rural Route, send it to Rural Living Magazine, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

Your One Little Candle

"How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world." Sounds like my mom, but it was Shakespeare.

The thought surfaced from somewhere in my brain, worming its way up through the cherry controversy, Agri-Com, AgriPac, Ag Expo and hundreds of other bits of information that hadn't yet been neatly filed by my little computer. If I could see my brain at deadline time, I'm sure it would be as cluttered as my desk!

Pressure situations do make us wonder if our one little candle can really make a difference in this naughty world. It's such a big world and our candle is so small... and good deeds take time and effort...

Things have been hectic around here lately and Farm Bureau has had priority over our home lives. We get to feeling guilty about that and every once in awhile, we try to do something nice for our families to show we care. The other night our editor decided her husband would really appreciate a homemade fresh cherry pie. It was great - except she forgot to pit the cherries!

Rather than make her a target of ridicule, he simply folded the crust back, pulled the cherries out, pitted them, tucked them back into the crust, and then praised her culinary abilities. Two good deeds by two good people and the world was a little bit better.

The question of whether our one little candle can make a difference (or our laziness) often keeps us from becoming involved. "Let George do it" and then we'll complain if it isn't done to our satisfaction. That happens in organizations, community activities, politics, almost every facet of our lives.

"Gee, mom, maybe I did make a difference!" That was the response of my daughter when I told her that Farm Bureau's AgriPac had endorsed Bill Ballenger for U.S. Senate. When she was in high school, she worked on Bill's campaign for state representative, pounding on doors and passing out brochures urging his election. Because she did, some of her friends did, and her little candle was joined by others and together they cast a bright light.

Those kids were too young to vote for Bill, and it would probably have been more fun sipping cokes at the local teenage hang-out. But someone had convinced them they could make a difference - and they did.

There will be people who won't go to the polls on Aug. 10 to vote for "Friends of Agriculture" in the primary election because they don't think their one little vote will make a difference. There will be members who won't attend their county and district Farm Bureau policy development meetings because they don't think their one little idea will make a difference. How wrong they are!

If you ever get to questioning how far your one little candle can cast its beam, just remember - the Food for Peace Program that has international impact started with one little idea at a Farm Bureau Community Group meeting!

Donna Wilber is a contributing editor to Rural Living.

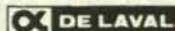
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Dairy Cow Exports - Gov. Milliken has signed an agreement with Mexico to allow the purchase of up to 10,000 head of high quality bred dairy heifers before the end of the year from Michigan and several other states. The bred heifers cannot be more than 22 months old.

The agreement was worked out by the MDA Marketing Division and the Mexican government. Michigan's responsibility is to assure the quality of the cattle and to verify the sales agreement, such as price, between the seller and buyer.

MDA, with help from Michigan State University, will set up a grading procedure and put together a list of dairy farmers who are interested in selling cattle. MDA will then inform the Mexican buyers and set up appointments with farmers.

Anyone interested in the program can receive more information by calling the MDA Marketing Division in Lansing at 517-373-1054.

African Exports - Farm Bureau was involved with an important trade conference held in Detroit July 28-30 on the possibility of exporting agricultural commodities directly to several countries in Africa.

The conference was sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the Continental Africa Chamber of Commerce, U.S.A. The African delegates included ambassadors, ministers of agriculture and private business leaders.

The conference centered on all types of export possibilities including manufactured products and material. Food and food products were of particular interest, including dry edible beans, processed fruit and vegetables, dairy products, livestock products and forest products.

Farm Bureau has been influential in opening various European and Far East markets. The conference may result in export markets for Michigan grown products to numerous African countries.

"Gleaning" Legislation - H.B. 4688 has been signed by Gov. Milliken

as P.A. 208. The legislation has immediate effect so farmers may be able to take advantage of its provisions this harvest year.

"Gleaning" means allowing a qualified charitable organization to collect left-over crops after the regular harvest to be used only for the needy. The food cannot be sold and the charitable organization cannot be operated for profit.

It provides a credit against the state income tax for the taxable year in an amount equal to 10% of the current wholesale market value of the agricultural products gleaned from the field after the harvest. The Treasury Department must provide, on request, a form required to obtain the tax credit. The credit cannot exceed the tax liability for the taxable year.

It is expected that the MSU Extension Service, through its county agents, will serve as an information and coordinating agency. Farm Bureau will also provide information to growers.

California and Oregon have successful gleaning and tax credit programs. The system works as follows:

- The farmer calls a qualified charitable group in the area indicating that he will permit the "gleaner group" to harvest what is left in the field or orchard. Farmers may also be contacted early in the year by such organizations to inform them about the program and ask their cooperation.

- The grower should provide instructions on picking, i.e. where to pick, designated time, areas to stay away from.

- The "gleaners" will consist of volunteers and will wear I.D. badges to prevent any unauthorized persons.

- The grower will be provided with identification of the charitable group and a signed form indicating how much product has been gleaned and other necessary information.

- The "gleaning" organization would also provide insurance for the volunteer workers.

There are ten "Food Banks" in the Michigan area, some of which have used the gleaning program. They are

in Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Lansing, Otsego, Port Huron, Detroit, Howell, Grand Rapids, Flint and South Bend, Indiana. Michigan Farm Bureau can provide further information.

Beginning Farm Loan Program - Interest in the provisions of the beginning farmer loan program continues to run high in Michigan's agricultural community. The bill (H.B. 5470) was signed into law by Gov. Milliken on July 10. It is now known as the Michigan Family Farm Development Act, P.A. 220.

Since the proposal was introduced by Rep. Dodak and 43 other sponsors, Farm Bureau has provided information to members on the progress of the legislation. A brief summary of the new law and eligibility requirements follows:

The law establishes a seven-member "authority" within the MDA. The authority will consist of the directors of the Michigan departments of commerce and agriculture, the state treasurer, three practicing farmers, and an officer of a federally regulated financial institution. The governor will make the appointments with the consent of the Senate.

The authority will establish the loan program within the MDA and promulgate rules and procedures for the operation of the program. Further, the authority will oversee the sale of \$100 million in tax exempt bonds to investors throughout the U.S. Revenues from the bond sales will be used to finance the program and will not be a debt to the state. Loans to beginning farmers who qualify are expected to be as much as 3 to 9% below the prime interest rate.

Powers and responsibilities of the authority also include loan authorization, grants or deferred payment determinations, establishing standards and preparing a report each year for the governor and the Legislature.

The law provides that a beginning farmer could borrow up to \$400,000 of which \$125,000 could be used to buy farm equipment. Land and machinery must be purchased in Michi-

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gan and used only by the immediate family. Land purchased under the loan program must be enrolled in the state's farmland preservation program, P.A. 116.

Applicants must show that they have the necessary agricultural experience and education and be able to prove their ability to manage a farm.

The MDA does not expect to offer applications for the loan program before January or March of 1983, depending on the bond sale activity. However, if you are interested in receiving a copy of the application when forms are made available, please send your request along with your full name and mailing address to Michigan Farm Bureau, Public Affairs Division, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909. A list will be compiled and forwarded to the MDA.

Lansing Review is prepared by Robert Smith, MFB senior legislative counsel.

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RURAL LIVING, AUGUST 1982

Washington Report

Export Sales to the USSR -

President Reagan heard a strong voice from the private sector recently, urging him to support increased grain sales to the Soviet Union so that U.S. farmers can capitalize on a short Soviet grain crop.

AFBF President Delano has pointed out that an additional 15 million metric ton shortfall in Soviet grain production, now projected by a USDA report, gives American farmers an opportunity to dispose of a sizeable carryover in corn and wheat from banner production years on U.S. farms.

Delano noted that USDA's revision of a USSR grain crop down to 170 million metric tons is short of its earlier estimate of 185 million and substantially below the Soviet Union's own production goal of 220 million. He said this means the USSR must now go into world markets to buy 46 million metric tons of grain. At the same time, carryovers of total U.S. grain stocks exceed 100 million metric tons.

"We can make up for Soviet shortages out of U.S. carryovers and still have ample supplies for other needs," Delano said, "It's an opportunity to bolster the farm economy that we just can't afford to pass up."

Republican congressional pressure has also heightened, urging the renewal of a grain sales agreement with the USSR. The current agreement is scheduled to expire Sept. 30.

Health Insurance Deductions -

Farm Bureau has urged the House Ways and Means Committee to hold hearings on a tax bill (H.R. 3777) that would permit the deduction of a self-employed taxpayer's health insurance premiums as a business expense. In a letter to committee chairperson Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, Farm Bureau said the legislation is "important to self-employed persons, regardless of occupation."

Under current law, medical expenses for the taxpayer, spouse and dependents are itemized deductions, but are deductible only to the extent they exceed 3% of the adjusted gross income. However, a taxpayer can deduct one-half of his medical insurance costs up to \$150 without regard to this limit. Any balance is included in the taxpayer's other medical expenses subject to the 3% limit.

Many employers furnish health insurance coverage for their employees with the full cost of the coverage deductible to the employer as a business expense. This type of deduction is not available to an employee or the self-employed unless it falls within the \$150/3% category.

Animal Research - Farm Bureau's opposition to a bill (H.R. 6245) promoting humane care and development of substitutes for animals in research received a boost during subcommittee markup when an amendment exempting agriculture from all provisions of the bill was approved by a 14 to 1 vote. Farm Bureau considers the legislation, now slated for full committee consideration, unnecessary, saying that if there is a need for action, administrative regulation could be strengthened to deal with any problems.

Swine Health Protection - The USDA has assured Farm Bureau that cooking requirements for garbage fed to swine does not cover commercial waste of fresh fruits, vegetables, chocolate or fat from bakeries unless mixed with animal origin materials. Farm Bureau has expressed support for strict enforcement of the garbage feeding regulations to help prevent the spread of swine diseases, but indicated that the exemption for specific types of commercial waste was needed.

1983 Wheat Program - Responding to the recent announcement of the

Reagan administration's 1983 wheat program, AFBF President Delano said that wheat growers would likely be stuck with less income, at higher costs to consumers and taxpayers in the long run.

Delano said the decision of USDA policy makers to prepay half of an anticipated government payment to be determined under a complicated target price formula, in return for taking 20% of their land out of production, is "simply short-run, stop-gap expediency to cut back on line items in the Office of Management and Budget's 1983 budget without regard for interests of farmers, or longer run budget costs."

The 1983 wheat program would offer advanced deficiency payments equal to approximately one-half of the projected deficiency between estimated 1983 prices and target levels of \$4.30. This advance deficiency payment would be approximately 25 cents per bushel.

Sign-up for the winter wheat crop would begin Sept. 7, 1982. The sign-up for the spring wheat crop has not been announced.

Loan rates would be established at \$3.55 for the regular loan program and \$4.00 over the farmer-held reserve program.

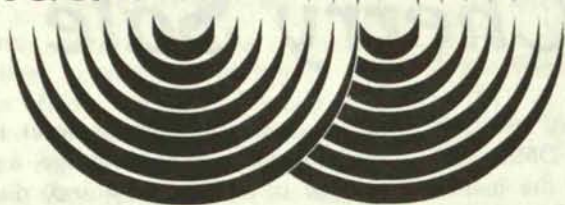
Diverted acreage would be required to be devoted to conservation uses. Farmers who agree to leave the conserving crop in place for three years would be eligible for cost-sharing for the establishment of the cover crop. No harvest of the set-aside acreage would be permitted, and grazing of such lands would not be allowed during the six major production months.

Additionally, the secretary announced that he will resume approval of new applications under the farmer storage facility loan programs up to \$40 million.

Washington Report is prepared by the MFB Public Affairs Division.

LOCAL
NEWS
WRAPUP
PG. 16-17

COUNTY NEWSLETTERS



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Dave's Cheap Cherry Sale

By Donna Wilber

"Atta, boy, Dave!"

"Right on, Dave!"

Those cheers of support for native son David Stockman came from scores of Michigan Farm Bureau members when he became a member of President Reagan's cabinet. They generally approved of the hard-nosed, market-oriented approach the former Michigan congressman took in his new job as head of the powerful Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Recent action by Stockman's OMB, however, has significantly shaken that support.

"Devastating. . . a bureaucratic blunder. . . an abuse of power" is the way

Northwest Michigan cherry producer Pete Morrison describes OMB's delayed veto of the use of the federal marketing order for the 1982 tart cherry crop.

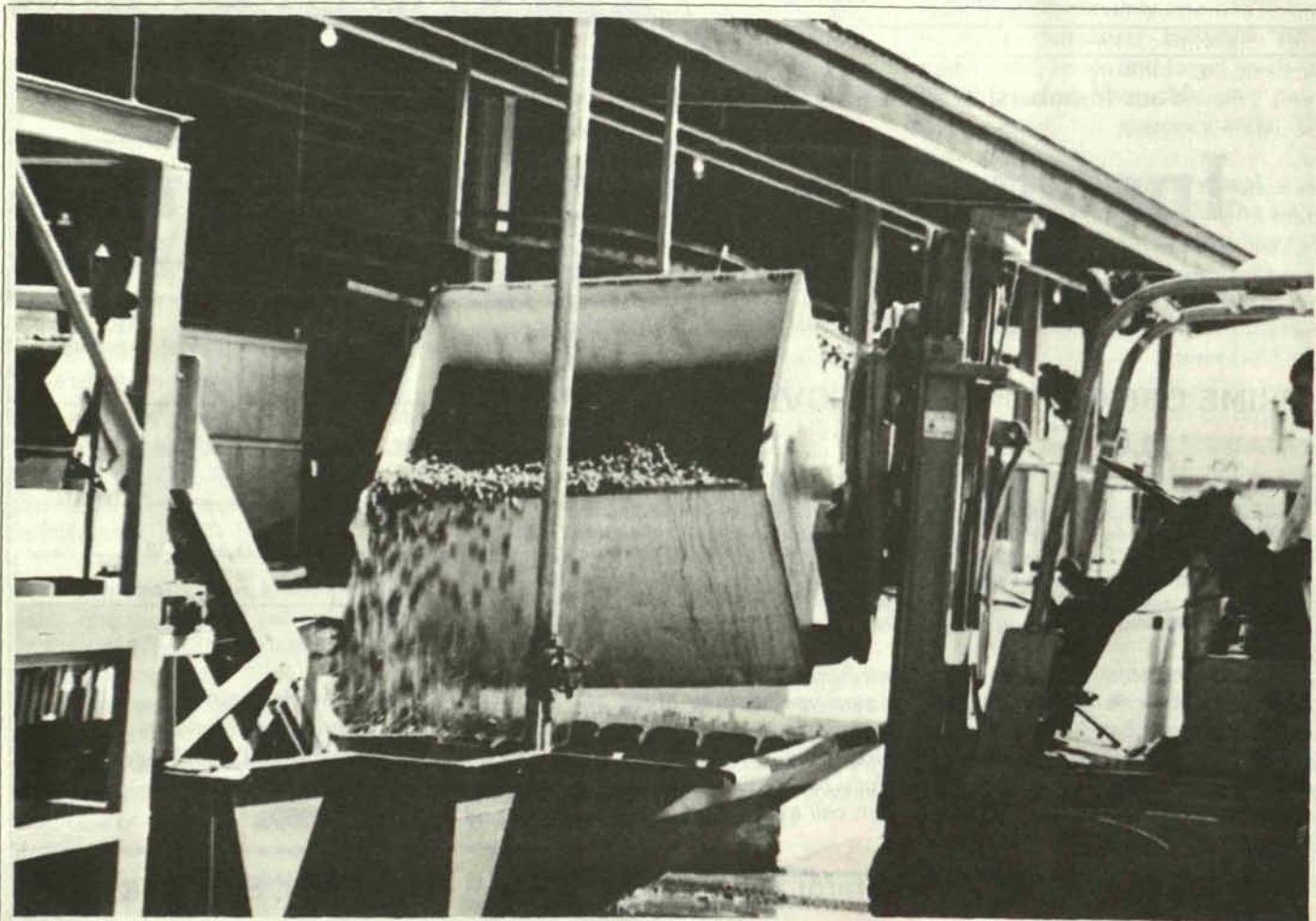
In mid-July, the state's cherry industry looked at an estimated loss of between \$30 million and \$50 million and placed much of the blame on Stockman's doorstep. But, more than that, producers of other commodities were becoming concerned that his philosophy may endanger programs that have stood the test of time in the stabilization of their markets.

It was 12 years ago that the cherry industry developed a federal red tart cherry marketing order as a way to allow them to handle their widely fluctuating crops.

Through the order, they could set aside, in cold storage, a percentage of a large crop and, during short crop years, bring the setaside out of storage and put it on the market. It allowed them, year after year, to meet the demand had for their product.

There was also the option that, if a producer did not want to commit his percentage of the setaside to the processed frozen product in storage, he could simply divert the cherries to non-food uses.

The program has worked well during that 12-year period, and in two subsequent industry referendums, the marketing order has been approved for continuation.



Decision Stalled

This year, because of favorable weather conditions, Michigan and other cherry producing states expected one of the largest crops in years, so the Cherry Administrative Board, appointed from the industry to administer the order, made application for a 20 percent setaside. The recommendation was made to the USDA on what was believed to be a timely basis. USDA was then required to secure approval from the OMB. OMB stalled its decision until cherry harvest was well underway in Southwest Michigan, and progressing into West Central and Northwest Michigan.

This delay created an untenable situation for producers because they didn't know whether they should harvest and commit to the setaside or divert. Word was finally received on July 12 that there would be no setaside approval by OMB this year.

At this writing, the OMB could still succumb to industry pressure and "save" the program, but it would be too late for producers like Pete Morrison, who makes no effort to conceal his anger at OMB and his disappointment in Dave Stockman.

"Before we're done, there's going to be a lot of fruit that won't be harvested... that will be wasted... because the U.S. government refused to let the order function," Morrison said.

"Without adequate information and knowledge, the OMB made the judgment that it would cost the consumers money. It wouldn't have cost the consumers anything. It's an industry-financed program, and the impact of OMB's decision is going to be on the grower.

"I believe OMB made a judgment a long time ago that they were not going to let this order function. Then, they let us go through all the agony, all the expense, all the work and effort, and then refused to let it happen. If they were concerned with being fair, they should have said they were not going to let the order function right off - on the first of June. Then we could have organized our business around it.

"It's too late for them to change their minds... it's history. It's a travesty. They really hurt the growers and the consumers with this decision. I don't think the OMB should have that kind of power. They've had it and they've abused it," said Morrison.

OMB is supposedly documenting its reasons for the veto and forwarding them to USDA. This document will officially state the reasoning behind the decision.

Where Will It Stop?

Unofficially, Al Almy, Michigan Farm Bureau's director of public affairs, believes the OMB views marketing orders as a degree of unnecessary regulation, as programs that, because they allow a portion of a full crop to be diverted from the market in a reserve storage program, will increase costs to consumers.

"I think it's basically a philosophical regulatory issue," Almy said. "What concerns the agricultural industry is that if the USDA cannot win the battle of this marketing order - rather small in comparison to others such as milk and citrus - then they probably are not going to win the bigger battles on federal marketing orders. This sets a precedent that is very disconcerting to agriculture.

"Whether or not the die is cast remains to be seen, but I think it's a bad sign for agricultural marketing orders."

The case of the cherry marketing order was taken directly to Stockman, not only by the USDA, but also by Farm Bureau, MACMA, and members of Congress. He got the message that marketing orders were valuable to both producers and consumers and would not lead to greater regulation. But his "closed ear" to these messages and his display of power has Farm Bureau officials seriously considering the question: "Is USDA really in command of the ship - or is OMB in command?"

"Here's a program that the industry had asked for, approved and twice reaffirmed through referendums," Almy said. "If OMB has the power to

tell the industry that they can't have a program that has worked well in the past, that has benefited not only producers but consumers as well - who knows where it will stop in the case of other marketing orders?"

Almy described Stockman as a strictly free-enterprise, hands-off-the-marketplace person. "In many cases, we agree with that, but in the case of the cherry order, this is not something that Congress has imposed upon the industry against their desires. The industry itself asked for it and approved it."

Pete Morrison also fears that Stockman's actions will have a serious impact on the future of the marketing order.

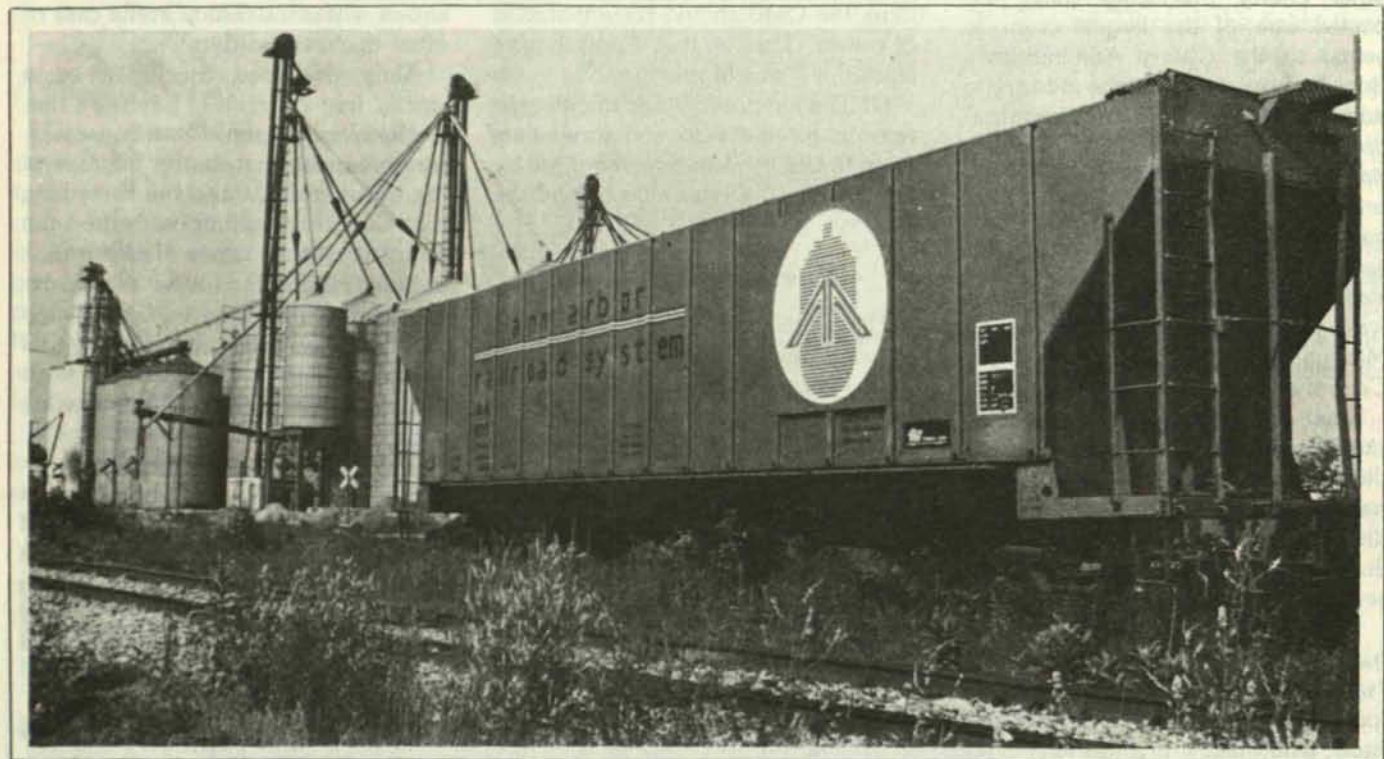
"I'm very disappointed in him. In my personal opinion, I'm not sure that what Dave has done hasn't destroyed the cherry order," he said. "To the growers and processors who, just a year ago, reaffirmed their support for the order, I think this is a terrible penalty."

Vocal Minority Opposed Order

Reports from Michigan congressmen indicate they received several calls against use of the marketing order as well as those who favored the order. Harry Foster, secretary for MACMA's Red Tart Cherry Growers Marketing Committee, maintains this vocal minority opposition came from people who buy and process cherries. Without the order, they can buy cherries at a low price because of the large crop and then sell them for a handsome margin, he said.

MACMA is now putting pressure on USDA to buy a substantial quantity of cherries out of the 1982 pack for school lunch programs and other domestic feeding programs. Growers are hopeful this effort will be successful. As Morrison puts it: "It sure would help!"

Ann Arbor Rail - Rollin' Again



"We need rail service for our farm businesses now," Saginaw County Farm Bureau members agreed. Their united efforts helped sway DOT commissioners to re-open rail service July 6.

By Marcia Ditchie

Portions of Michigan's multi-billion dollar agricultural industry were threatened by the proposed closure of the Ann Arbor Railroad at the height of the 1981 harvest season and again this spring during planting season.

The continuing controversy involves the Michigan Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Michigan Interstate Railway Co. (MIS). The Owosso-based firm took over the Ann Arbor Railroad in 1977 under a four-year contract with the state. The company operates the railroad on mostly state-owned tracks from Toledo, Ohio, to Elberta and Frankfort in Northwest Michigan, and operated three car ferries across Lake Michigan.

In fiscal 1981, MIS received more than \$6 million in subsidies from the state to operate the rail line and car

ferries. But faced with a deficit at the beginning of Michigan's 1982 fiscal year, the Transportation Commission ordered the DOT, in late September 1981, to cut state subsidies to MIS and seven other rail lines by 35 percent.

In response to the commission's order, Vincent Malanaphy, MIS president, warned he would shut the rail line from Ann Arbor to Frankfort and cease car ferry operations on Oct. 1, 1981 when his company's contract with the DOT expired.

The threatened shutdown was temporarily averted by a last minute promise of additional funds from the Legislature. The shutdown would have left hundreds of carloads of grain stranded at elevators during the height of the 1981 harvest season.

Under an agreement signed by key legislators, the DOT extended railroad operating contracts for six months.

The agreement also delayed the proposed 35 percent cut in subsidies.

The controversy between MIS and the DOT ensued again last April when the six-month extended contract expired. On April 26, MIS discontinued service on the line, again from Ann Arbor to Frankfort, and ceased all car ferry operations. The closing resulted from disagreements between the two parties over the subsidy that the state would pay the company.

After service was discontinued, the state began to look for, and found, another operator for a portion of the line. While the state was in the process of signing an agreement with a new operator to provide continuing service, MIS obtained a court injunction stopping the state from entering into the contract. As a result of the injunction, the Ann Arbor line was idle for nearly three months during spring planting.

Members Take Action

One segment of the line runs through a rich agricultural area from Owosso into Swan Creek near Saginaw. Concern about the halt in railroad service was a point of discussion this spring by the Brady Neighbors Community Action Group in Saginaw County, according to Ethel Fulton, a group member and Saginaw County Farm Bureau vice president.

"Our group discussed our concern that the line wasn't running and that we were unable to get supplies from local elevators that normally came in by rail," Fulton said. "During spring planting, we had to wait for fertilizer to come by truck, which resulted in both farmers and elevators paying more for freight.

"When I brought the rail line shutdown up for discussion at my county board meeting, others voiced their concern about carloads of grain stranded at area elevators," she said.

Following the discussion, the Saginaw County board gave Fulton their approval to hold an information meeting on the rail shutdown; she and Ed Wicke, manager of the Chesaning Farmers Co-op, spearheaded the effort.

Sponsored by the Saginaw County Farm Bureau, the meeting was held at Brady Township Hall on June 22 with interested farmers and shippers, area legislators, DOT staff and some rail carriers that were interested in providing rail service in the area. At the meeting, it was learned that the Transportation Commission would be meeting the following morning (June 23) in Lansing and part of their agenda would include a discussion about the need to restore rail service on the entire line.

Wicke, a director on the Michigan Grain and Agri Dealers Association board and a member of the association's ad hoc committee on transportation which deals directly with rail abandonments, suggested that the county Farm Bureau send a telegram to the Transportation Commission voicing their support for reopening the line. A telegram was sent not only to commission members, but to the governor, lieutenant governor, DOT personnel and MFB President Elton R. Smith. It read:

Urgent: A proposal to reopen rail service on the Owosso to Swan Creek branch line will be proposed at a Department of Transportation Commission meeting today, June 23, 1982 at 10 a.m. Due to the upcoming fall harvest and importance of rail shipment of grain and beans from shippers along this line, we urge immediate action to restore this service.

Saginaw County Farm Bureau.

After much consideration, the commission passed a motion instructing DOT staff to enter into an agreement with the Michigan Northern Railroad, or another carrier, to provide service on the Ann Arbor line immediately. The commission put in a qualification, however, that if at some future time MIS proposes an agreement and can provide service on the line at less cost to the state, then they will be given the right to resume operation of the Ann Arbor line.

Agriculture Has Impact

According to Al Almy, director of MFB's Public Affairs Division, farmers

played an important role in the commission's decision to promptly restore service on the line.

"During the course of debate on this particular issue, commissioners Hannes Meyers Jr. and Weston Vivian made some very strong and astute comments about the need for agriculture to have immediate rail service restored in the Saginaw area," Almy said.

"Commissioner Vivian, for example, said that agriculture needs service right now and farmers cannot wait until October or November to have rail service restored. Meyers made similar comments that the shutdown is having an especially adverse effect on the agricultural industry in the area, given the already low prices of commodities. They both demonstrated a real concern and understanding," Almy said.

Within a week of the commission meeting, the DOT and MIS agreed to a new three-month pact to restore rail service on the entire Ann Arbor line.

Under the agreement, the DOT will pay the company \$121,122 to run the train until Sept. 30, the end of the state's current fiscal year. However, no funds were allocated for the resumption of the car ferries across Lake Michigan. Freight runs along the line resumed on July 6.

Though the rail line is again in service, the three-month shutdown had an economic impact on local elevators as well as farmers.

"We had grain forward contracted when the railroad shutdown," said Chesaning Co-op Manager Wicke. "We had to ship all this grain out by truck to the Toledo market and freight charges cost us from 10 to 15 cents per bushel more than they would have been by rail. During that three-month period, approximately 120,000 bushels of grain were shipped by truck, which should have gone by rail."

Wicke said that his co-op also had to rely on trucks to bring in supplies. "A quarter of our spring fertilizer sales came early by rail, but everything that came after the railroad shutdown was shipped by truck. That delayed farmers getting their necessary supplies and it cost us more money."

Blue Cross Blue Shield Program Changes Announced

By John VanderMolen

Delegates at Michigan Farm Bureau's 62nd Annual Meeting in December 1981 passed a resolution entitled "Health Care" which calls for some major changes to Farm Bureau's group health care program. The resolution says in part, "Such changes could include underwriting qualifications, pre-existing health condition exemptions, area rating and age rating."

On April 6, 1982, MFB management implemented underwriting qualifications and pre-existing health condition exemption requirements for all persons seeking admission into the Farm Bureau group. Underwriting requires all applicants to fill out a brief health questionnaire. The questionnaire is a screening tool that prevents persons with severe and chronic medical ailments from becoming subscribers in the group.

The second enrollment change involved implementation of a six-month pre-existing clause. Specifically, there is no benefit during the first six months after the effective date of the contract for medical conditions which, within six months before the effective date of a subscriber's coverage, caused that subscriber to receive medical advice or treatment by a physician.

New Ratings Planned

On Aug. 20, 1982, MFB will implement the last two changes per the resolution: area rating and age rating. Area rating takes into consideration the variations in the costs of health care services between the metro area (Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw, Macomb, and Genesee counties) and the outstate area. Generally, the cost of health care services in the metro area is higher than the outstate area. Farm Bureau members who reside within the metro area will have a Blue Cross Blue Shield rate to reflect this difference in service costs.

Age rating takes into consideration the differences in health care utilization between young and older Farm Bureau members and closely matches premium charges to average utilization on a per contract, age-rated basis. Utilization statistics support the fact that people generally require more health care services with each passing year.

For example, the average 50-year-old male subscriber incurred \$591 in health care costs as compared to the average 35-year-old male subscriber who incurred \$282 in health care costs in 1981. The average 50 year old female subscriber incurred \$700 in health care costs as compared to the 35-year-old female subscriber who incurred \$542 in health care costs.

The Farm Bureau Blue Cross Blue Shield rates, effective Aug. 20, will be age-rated in four categories or groups: under age 45; 45 - 54; 55 - 64; and 65 and older.

Econo plan subscribers residing in the outstate area and having a family contract will have a monthly premium charge of:

Under age 45	\$ 67.60
45 - 54	\$100.47
55 - 64	\$110.80
65 and older	\$22.28

(Medicare Complementary)

MFB's management firmly believes these program changes will have a positive impact on the Farm Bureau Blue Cross Blue Shield plan and provide some rate stability in future years. Health care cost inflations will ultimately remain a prime factor in controlling premium costs.

Three Plans Available

Recognizing the fact that the new rates may pose a financial hardship for some members, Farm Bureau offers members a choice of three health care plans that can fit almost every member's budget. The two co-pay plans, Dimension III and Econo, cost considerably less than the Comprehensive

plan, yet offer excellent coverage. We encourage our Comprehensive subscribers to examine the two co-pay programs thoroughly.

Reopening Scheduled

A special reopening will be held Sept. 1 through 15 to allow current subscribers an opportunity to change their contract to a lower cost co-pay plan without having to complete a health questionnaire. Coverage will be effective Nov. 20 and subscribers must pay their Aug. 20 billing. Questions about the Blue Cross Blue Shield plans should be directed to your county secretary, who will be happy to assist you in any matter regarding Blue Cross Blue Shield.

A Word of Caution

Perhaps a word of caution is in order. Every time Blue Cross Blue Shield rates go up, a number of our subscribers are contacted by an insurance agent who promises "to beat" Blue Cross Blue Shield's rates by a significant margin and give the member a policy of like coverage. All too often the member who buys other health care insurance finds out, after filing a claim, that the coverage is not what he or she thought it was supposed to be and is saddled with a major health care bill.

MFB management continually compares the Blue Cross Blue Shield contract to those offered by other insurance companies. To date, we have not found a better policy for the money than those offered by Blue Cross Blue Shield. Our age and area rates are most competitive with other policies of similar benefit levels. Chances are, if someone offered you a policy for less money, you are probably getting less coverage. Don't be misled!

John VanderMolen is manager of the MFB Member Services Department.

RURAL LIVING, AUGUST 1982

Front and Center

The MFB Board of Directors took action recently to expand AgriCom, a computerized marketing information and education program which has been in its pilot phase in Michigan since Oct. 2, 1981. The board action followed approval by the AFBF to expand the program. Michigan is one of eight state FBs actively participating with 25 "AgriCom Pioneers" in the pilot program. Another 12 states are currently monitoring the program.

The expanded AgriCom program will be a regular-member only service and will provide subscribers with instant access to market advice on grains, soybean meal and livestock; market analysis on various commodities; selected cash prices; news; weather information; pest management information; legislative reports; and futures quotations updated every 10 minutes during the trading day.

Promotion of the program was kicked off at MSU's Ag Expo, July 20-22.

A State Leader Conference for FB members is scheduled for Sept. 29-30 at the Marriott Inn, Grand Rapids. Sponsored by the MFB Women's Committee, the conference will offer workshops and speakers on farm management and marketing in the 80s, understanding FB and its many programs, legislative activities, communication skills and speaking effectively, leadership skills, stress management, time management and building confidence and self-motivation.

Dividend checks totalling more than \$682,000 are scheduled to be distributed in early August to FB members participating in Farm Bureau Mutual's Agricultural Workers Compensation Safety Group. That raises the total amount paid out in Ag Work Comp Safety Group dividends to nearly \$2.3 million since the program started 11 years ago. The latest dividend, which will be paid to more than 2,700 FB members participating in the Safety Group, equalled 16.9% of the policyholder's annual premium. The large dividend was the result of the safety efforts and overall low work comp losses of the Safety Group during 1981. Farm Bureau Mutual introduced the Safety Group in 1971 exclusively for MFB members who employ agricultural workers. Last year, the Safety Group dividend paid to members exceeded \$713,000.

A total of 29 counties have reached their 1982 membership goal as of July 20. Counties reporting goal since June 10 are Allegan (Jim Beyer, membership chairperson), Wexford (John Zakrajsek), Midland (Donna Jo Varner and Marge Owens) Berrien (Alan Prillwitz, Edward Sill and Kevin Sherrill) and Oceana (Elmer Gowell). MFB is now at 97.8% of goal, with three regions, the U.P., North and West Central, over goal as well as Districts 3, 4, 7, 10 and 11.

Farmers of the Week

The Farmer of the Week program, co-sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance Group and the Michigan Farm Radio Network, honors Michigan farmers for their contributions to the community and the agriculture industry. June 1982 recipients were:

June 7 - Stephen Bristle, 41, farms 245 acres and milks a large dairy herd on his farm near Manchester. He is president of the local DHIA, a member of the Saline area board of the MMPA, a past president of the local MMPA board and the Washtenaw Soil Conservation board, a Washtenaw County FB member and is active in 4-H.

June 14 - Donald Armentrout, 54, a dairy farmer from Farwell, farms 600 acres and milks 90 cows with his family. He is chairperson of his church board, Sunday School superintendent and a teacher; has been a Clare County Road Commission member since 1972; is a member and past president of the Clare County FB; is a local DHIA board member and earned several dairy awards from the DHIA.

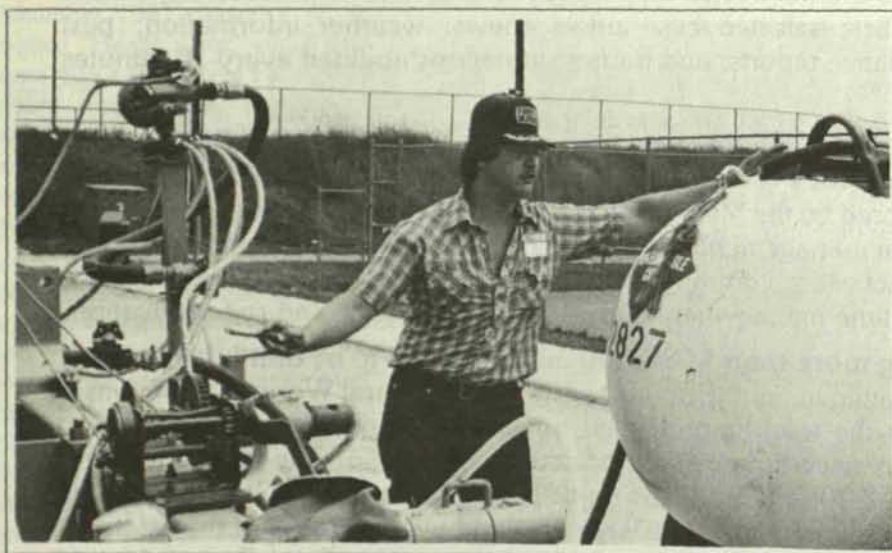
June 21 - Norman Weyher, 42, a cash crop farmer from Dundee, farms 1,150 acres with the help of his family. He is treasurer of the Dundee Community School Board, a 4-H Club leader and a Monroe County FB

member. He served as a Little League coach, is past president of the Michigan Tractor Pullers Association, past grand noble of the Odd Fellows Lodge and past ASCS committeeman.

June 28 - Henry Wender, 49, operates a 300-acre dairy farm in the Iron Mountain area. He is chairperson of the Upper Peninsula State Fair, vice chairperson of the U.P. Holstein Association, member of the Iron Range FB and the Growing U.P. Committee, and is a commissioner on the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners, serving on various county committees, including the parks, law enforcement, fairs and county planning committees.

The county Farm Bureau newsletter is published monthly by the Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909. Subscription price to members, \$1.25 per year, included in the annual membership dues.

Saginaw Valley Young Farmers Sponsor Agricultural Rescue Seminar



Randy Ester, a young farmer in Gratiot County, explained the dangers associated with an anhydrous ammonia applicator at the Ag Rescue Seminar July 10.

Farm Bureau Young Farmers from the Saginaw Valley Region sponsored an agricultural accident rescue seminar at Ithaca High School in Gratiot County on July 10.

Emergency medical teams, firemen, paramedics, police and rescue units from 12 counties joined 36 young farmers from Saginaw, Bay, Midland, Gratiot and Isabella counties in demonstrating how to properly use agri-

cultural equipment and rescue accident victims.

George Brown, from MSU's Ag Engineering Department, lectured on the various types of accidents that can happen on the farm with chemicals, anhydrous ammonia or machinery. He also advised the participants on rescuing a person trapped in a silo and explained how to deal with farm animals that go wild.

FB to Address Dairy Situation at Meetings

All Farm Bureau members who seek a clearer understanding of the milk marketing challenge are invited to attend a special meeting on Monday, Aug. 9 at the Colony House in Cass City or Tuesday, Aug. 10 in Grand Rapids at the Pick Americana Inn, sponsored by Michigan Farm Bureau.

The agenda includes a review of the national dairy situation with Hollis Hatfield, director of the AFBF Dairy Department, an analysis of the various proposals to deal with the surplus by

Dr. Truman Graf, agricultural economist from the University of Wisconsin, and representatives from the Michigan Department of Agriculture will discuss promotion programs.

The cost of the session will be \$10.00 per person, including lunch. Make reservations by calling 517-323-7000, ext. 547 or writing Michigan Farm Bureau, Commodity Activities and Research Department, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909. Reservations are needed by Aug. 4.

Summer Reality on the Farm

By Gwen Nash, 1982 MFB Outstanding Young Farm Woman

Ahh, summer and its carefree days. There's time for picnics, swimming and just sitting in the sun. Oh, how I love to soak up those warm summer rays... just sitting by the pool drinking a glass of icy cold tea and dipping a toe in the water occasionally to see if it's exactly the right temperature yet!

Don't I wish!!!

Alas, I am a farmer's wife. Those carefree days of summer are filled with the hustle of putting the hay up before the rain comes (again). And getting the combine ready for the field and finding that three little parts are needed. No one has all of them, but there's one in a store 10 miles due west, one in a store 5 miles due east and, of course the other is in Fort Wayne, Ind.!! (It will be here a week from Tuesday unless they have to back order, or I go get it.)

We do seem to picnic nearly everyday in this field or that one. There were a few days when I was busy with more pressing things and only half listened to which field everyone would be in. I think everyone was fed.

I do get to soak up those rays, of course, from the seat of the tractor. I now have a beautiful tan which extends from just below each shoulder to the tips of my fingers and from about mid thigh to the tops of my knees.

That glass of icy cold tea has been sitting in the sun for about three and a half hours now. Even though it's not icy cold, it certainly is wet.

We do slip into the pool every now and again. But there's no such thing as waiting for the right temperature.

I'm proud to be a farmer. Even though my summers are not carefree I find that stopping at the edge of a field to refuel the body with food that I have produced and refueling of the mind with the beauties of the world created long before any of us were, is more refreshing than a dip in the pool or a glass of icy cold anything.

Farm Bureau Families Host Exchange Students

West German's View of America

By Claudia Richthof
Exchange Student, Montcalm County

In October 1980 my parents in West Germany saw an advertisement in the papers for Youth for Understanding, an exchange student program. They decided that it would be good for their daughter to learn to stand on her own feet and to see how people in a whole different continent live. At first I wasn't really thrilled about the idea but the sooner the day came to leave to Edmore, Michigan, to live there with my new American family and go to school, I got more and more excited.

Today I am very glad that my parents made this decision for me. I was very lucky to get to be the member of a very nice family, and to get the opportunity to graduate from the very friendly and patient Vestaburg High School. I say friendly and patient because I believe both are necessary to overcome problems of the differences in the ways of living of both cultures and language problems.

One of the first things I learned when I first came here was that the American people have their happy times and their problems just like Germans do. They are friendly if you are friendly; they try to help you where they can and try to make your stay as enjoyable as possible. They are just people but in the list of nice people they are on top.

Not only the people though made me love this country, especially Michigan, so much. The surroundings did their part too: forests, wide fields, pretty change of the seasons, big lakes, etc. This summer I had the opportunity to go with my family up north on vacation to get to know more of the state. One thing I very much enjoyed was going by car on those long, stretching roads through these endless woods. It is a beautiful state.

I know it is going to be very hard for me to say goodbye to Michigan.

I want to thank the Johnston family which gave me all their love and made it possible to come.

(Claudia stayed with Mr. & Mrs. Dale Johnston of Edmore.)

Denmark Student Participates in Young People's Citizenship Seminar

By Peggy Edbrooke
Newaygo Newsletter Editor

Filip Dahlin, an exchange student from Denmark, was one of the 230 high school juniors and seniors who participated in the recent Michigan Farm Bureau Young People's Citizenship Seminar. He has been living with Bob & Barb Hollinger and their two sons on a dairy farm in Grant since Aug. 25, 1981.

Filip is from the very large city of Copenhagen where he lives with his parents and two brothers. Coming to the United States - especially to a farm in Michigan - was a very big adjustment for him but he truly enjoyed the experience.

When asked about the seminar, Filip's first words were "A very great experience." Coming from a socialist democratic coalition type of government to a totally democratic government was quite enlightening. Filip was

able to be nominated and win an election to become Supreme Court justice in the mock elections held during the seminar. The whole process was a great learning experience for him.

Dr. John Furbay, a world traveler, was Filip's favorite speaker. His message was one of open-mindedness and reaching out to all parts of the world. It is obvious that Filip shares the same ideas and is already beginning his world travels.

Filip would like to have seen a little more exchange between the students and also more interaction with the county Farm Bureau groups following the seminar. Unfortunately, he traveled back to Denmark on July 8 so he will not be able to share his experience with any groups first hand. He would like to thank Newaygo County for selecting him to attend and encourages all high school juniors and seniors to consider attending next year.

No.	Product	Price	Amount
_____	Dried, Tart Pitted Cherries, 4 oz.	\$ 1.90	_____
_____	Tart Cherries, 30 lbs., IQF	\$17.80	_____
_____	Sweet Cherries, 22 lbs., no sugar	\$17.70	_____
_____	Cling Peach Slices, 32 lbs., 5 to 1	\$21.20	_____
_____	Sliced Strawberries, 30 lbs., 4 to 1	\$25.00	_____
_____	Black Raspberries, 10 lbs., IQF	\$15.70	_____
_____	Blueberries, 30 lbs., no sugar	\$26.20	_____
_____	Whole Strawberries, 30 lbs., IQF	\$29.30	_____
_____	Apple Slices, 10 lbs., IQF	\$ 6.30	_____
_____	Blackberries, 10 lbs., IQF	\$14.60	_____
_____	Blueberries, 15 lbs., no sugar	\$15.20	_____
_____	Sweet Cherries, 10 lbs., IQF	\$ 9.60	_____
_____	Tart Cherries, 10 lbs., IQF	\$ 6.80	_____
_____	Cling Peach Slices, 10 lbs., IQF	\$ 8.80	_____
_____	Red Raspberries, 10 lbs., IQF	\$18.50	_____
_____	Whole Strawberries, 10 lbs., IQF	\$13.50	_____
_____	Peas, 12/2 1/2 lb. pkgs.	\$23.90	_____
_____	Asparagus, 12/2 1/2 lb. pkgs.	\$38.70	_____
_____	Cauliflower, 12/2 lb. pkgs.	\$21.25	_____
_____	Broccoli, 12/2 lb. pkgs.	\$21.25	_____
_____	Sliced Mushrooms, 2/5 lb. pkgs., IQF	\$15.70	_____
_____	Stew Vegetables, 10 lbs., IQF	\$ 9.40	_____
_____	Hickory Stick, 4 lb. average	\$10.60	_____
_____	MACMA Hams 4/4 lb. average	\$2.64 lb.	_____
_____	Bacon, Thick-Cut, 10/1 1/2 lb. pkgs.	\$29.45	_____
_____	Wyoming Buffalo Stick, 12 oz.	\$ 3.50	_____
_____	Mississippi Whole Catfish, 15 lbs., IQF	\$27.70	_____
_____	Michigan Apple Conc., 24/12 oz. cans	\$28.50	_____
_____	Florida Orange Juice Conc., 24/12 oz. cans	\$33.80	_____
_____	Florida Grapefruit Conc., 24/12 oz. cans	\$28.20	_____
_____	Florida Lemonade Conc., 24/12 oz. cans	\$14.20	_____
_____	Florida Skinless Peanuts, 20 oz. can	\$ 2.60	_____
_____	Florida Redskin Peanuts, 20 oz. can	\$ 2.40	_____
_____	New Mexico Pecans in Shell, 10 lb. box	\$16.20	_____
_____	Wisconsin Sharp Cheddar, 4/1 lb. pkgs.	\$11.65	_____
_____	Wisconsin Medium Cheddar, 4/1 lb. pkgs.	\$11.65	_____
_____	Wisconsin Colby Cheese, 4/1 lb. pkgs.	\$10.95	_____
_____	Wisconsin Monterey Jack, 4/1 lb. pkgs.	\$10.95	_____
_____	Swiss Cheese, 12/10 oz. pkgs.	\$22.65	_____
_____	Mozzarella Cheese, 12/10 oz. pkgs.	\$21.00	_____
_____	Pepper Jack Cheese, 12/9 oz. pkgs.	\$17.00	_____
_____	Swiss Almond Cheese Spread, 1 lb.	\$ 2.65	_____
_____	Regular Cheddar Cheese Spread, 1 lb.	\$ 2.65	_____
_____	Onion-Cheddar Cheese Spread, 1 lb.	\$ 2.65	_____
_____	Total Units	\$ Total	_____

MACMA Summer Frozen Fruit Sale Deadline Aug. 31

Many county Farm Bureaus are participating in MACMA's Summer Frozen Fruit Sale. Contact your county secretary for details. The order deadline is Aug. 31, with deliveries scheduled for the weeks of Sept. 20 and 27. Use this form to order these delicious member-to-member products.

Name _____

Address _____

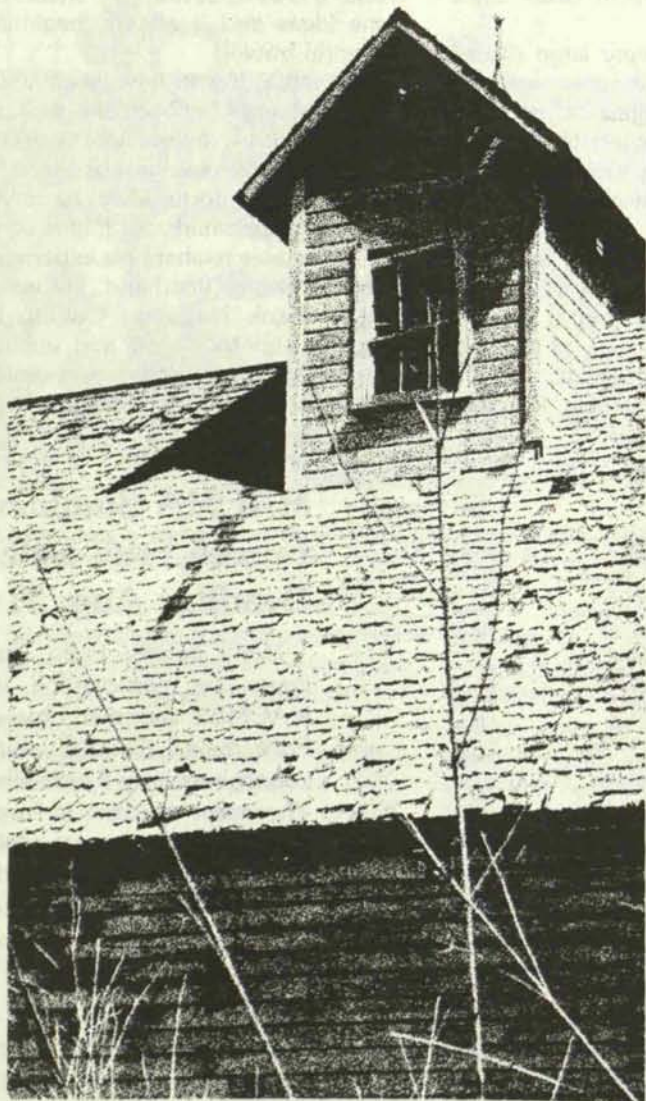
Phone _____

Other Phone _____

It all started in 1949. . .

And we've been treating you special ever since

Exclusive member benefits from Farm Bureau Insurance Group



Back when Farm Bureau Insurance Group was founded in 1949, we offered only one product: low-cost auto insurance for Michigan Farm Bureau members. That was our first member benefit, and it was the start of something big.

Today we offer many money-saving and innovative insurance programs exclusively for Farm Bureau members. . . programs like:

- **Mutual Auto Insurance**, providing complete coverage for your personal autos and farm trucks at competitive rates.

- **Farmowners Insurance** from Farm Bureau Mutual, the state's largest farm insurer. We pioneered the first Farmowners policy in the nation in 1960 and have been improving coverages ever since. Effective Nov. 15, 1981, coverages were expanded 14 ways at no additional cost to policyholders.

- **Member Life Insurance**, protecting your whole family for just \$25 a year.

- **Agricultural Workers Compensation Insurance** at rates 25% lower than state standard rates.

- **Ag Work Comp Safety Group**, a program that returns dividends to members if the group experiences a safe year with low work comp losses. This year's dividend is \$682,000, bringing the total paid since 1972 to \$2.3 million.

- **Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance**, providing coverage in the event of accidental death or injury.

- **Guaranteed Arrest Bond**, which guarantees bail for any member arrested for specific traffic violations.

We've been specializing in protecting Michigan Farm Bureau members for over 33 years. It's that kind of knowledge and experience that makes us Michigan's largest farm insurer.

**We're working to make your future
a little more predictable.**

**FARM BUREAU
INSURANCE
GROUP**



FARM BUREAU MUTUAL • FARM BUREAU LIFE • FARM BUREAU GENERAL • FB ANNUITY

AgriPac 'Friends' Win Support

The political action arm of the Michigan Farm Bureau, AgriPac, has endorsed 79 candidates in the 1982 primary election. Announcement of the designated "Friends of Agriculture" was made by AgriPac Chairperson Jack Laurie at a news conference at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing on July 13.

With the exception of the gubernatorial candidates, the endorsements will continue for the Nov. 2 general election if the candidates are successful in the primary. AgriPac endorsed both Republican Jim Brickley and Democrat William Fitzgerald, candidates for governor, for the primary elections only. Following the primary, which will be held Aug. 10, AgriPac will select one gubernatorial candidate for endorsement in the general election.

"Farmers realize they must take an aggressive political posture in order to meet today's economic challenges and have an impact on the legislative actions that affect our farming operations," Laurie told reporters. "We have found that our endorsement of 'Friends of Agriculture' is valued by candidates. This designation has also helped motivate legislators to be responsive to our positions on issues - positions which have been based on policies developed by our farmer-members."

Two sets of criteria were used by AgriPac for endorsing candidates, one for incumbents and another for non-incumbents.

Criteria for incumbents included voting records on major issues affecting agriculture; degree of special ef-

orts to introduce, support or oppose legislation in accordance with Farm Bureau policy; and special factors such as attendance at Farm Bureau-sponsored meetings and communications with farmers on legislative issues.

Voting records of incumbents on 15 different key issues affecting agriculture were used in the evaluation of candidates for U.S. and state senators and representatives.

Criteria for non-incumbents included position on agricultural issues and possible solutions, recognition of the importance of agriculture to the economy and involvement of agricultural persons in the candidate's campaign.

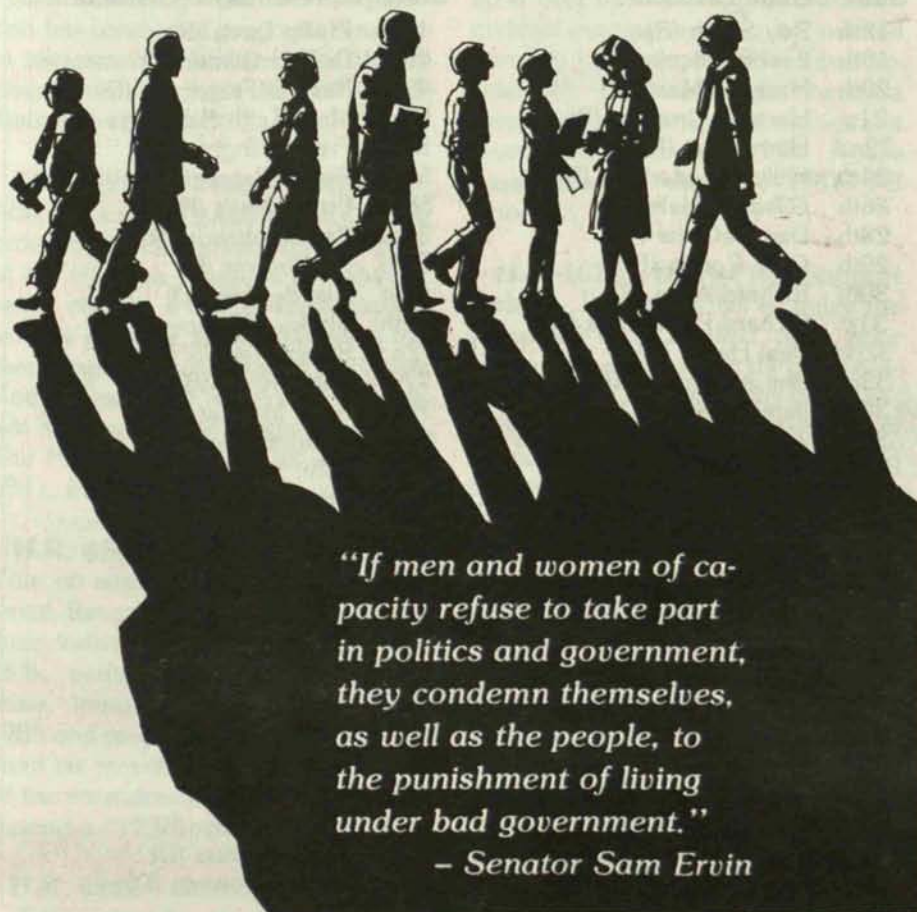
AgriPac also used evaluations provided by 47 county Farm Bureau candidate evaluation committees, a new procedure called for by voting delegates at the 1981 Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

AgriPac is composed of seven politically bipartisan Farm Bureau members appointed by the MFB board of directors. Besides Laurie, they are Ronald Wood of Scottville, David Conklin of Corunna, Joe Kreusel of Fair Haven, George McManus III of Traverse City, George Stover of Berrien Springs and Mike Wicke of Hemlock. Two MFB staff members also serve on AgriPac as ex officio members without voting privileges.

One Tradition Ends; Another Begins

With the exception of the 1974 and 1976 elections, when a farmer running for the MSU Board of Trustees was endorsed, the Michigan Farm Bureau had historically maintained its non-partisan position at election time. Although members, as individuals, were involved in partisan politics, the state and county FB organizations had taken no position on candidates seeking public office.

That tradition ended when dele-



"If men and women of capacity refuse to take part in politics and government, they condemn themselves, as well as the people, to the punishment of living under bad government."

- Senator Sam Ervin

AgriPac Sets Successful Tradition

gates to the 1977 MFB annual meeting gave unanimous approval to the formation of a political action program with designated "Friends of Agriculture" receiving active support in the 1978 elections. It was time, they decided, to rethink their traditional involvement in politics. If agriculture in general - and Farm Bureau specifically - were to increase their strength in the legislative and regulatory arenas, then farmers were going to have to be more aggressive and visible in partisan politics, they decided.

During that first year, AgriPac endorsed and supported 73 candidates in the 1978 elections. Of these, 66 were successful, giving the fledgling PAC a 90 percent average for its first-time effort.

During the 1980 primary and general elections, AgriPac supported 81

candidates, and 75 were successful in their bid for public office, for a 92.5 percent average.

AgriPac and the Farm Bureau members who support "Friends of Agriculture" through voluntary contributions hope their success record will continue through the 1982 elections.

According to MFB President Elton R. Smith, "1982 is an important year for agriculture. Farmers face another year of low net farm income and stubbornly high interest rates. But, at the same time, we see progress in the fight against inflation, and we're eager to support candidates who understand their economic needs and concerns."

Farm Bureau members are urged to support designated "Friends of Agriculture" in their campaigns for election and with their votes on Aug. 10.



JACK LAURIE
AGRIPAC CHAIRPERSON
MFB VICE PRESIDENT

MFB's 1982 'Friends of Agriculture'

U.S. Senate

William Ballenger (R)

U.S. Representative District

2nd Carl Pursell (R)
4th Mark Siljander (R)
5th Harold Sawyer (R)
6th Jim Dunn (R)
9th Guy Vander Jagt (R)
11th Bob Davis (R)
16th John Dingell (D)
18th William Broomfield (R)

Governor

Republican Primary Only

Jim Brickley

Democrat Primary Only

William Fitzgerald

State Senate Districts

1st Ted Stopczynski (D)
4th David Holmes Jr. (D)
6th Robert Geake (R)
7th James DeSana (D)
8th Donald Bishop (R)
9th Kirby Holmes (R)
11th Donald Doty (R)
12th William Faust (D)
13th Robert Welborn (R)
14th Robert Young (R)
15th Dana Wilson (D)

State Senate Districts

18th Roy Smith (R)
19th Everitt Lincoln (R)
20th Harry DeMaso (R)
21st Harmon Cropsey (R)
22nd Harry Gast (R)
24th William Sederburg (R)
26th Gilbert DiNello (D)
28th Dan DeGrow (R)
29th Gary Corbin (D)
30th Richard Allen (R)
31st Richard Posthumus (R)
32nd Paul Henry (R)
33rd Phil Arthurhultz (R)
34th James Barcia (D)
35th John Engler (R)
36th Connie Binsfeld (R)
37th Mitch Irwin (D)

State Representative Districts

3rd Matthew McNeely (D)
7th George Cushingberry (D)
18th Sidney Ouwinga (R)
19th Don VanSingel (R)
21st Roy Raker (R)
23rd Phil Hoffman (R)
25th Dennis Dutko (D)
30th Joyce Symons (D)
43rd Carl Gnodtke (R)
44th Lad Stacey (R)

State Representative Districts

46th Phillip Davis (R)
48th Donald Gilmer (R)
49th Richard Fitzpatrick (D)
50th Mary Keith Ballantine (R)
51st Fred Dillingham (R)
54th Paul Hillemonds (R)
56th Ernest Nash (R)
58th Paula Johnson (R)
59th Paul Sterns (R)
61st Claude Trim (D)
68th Shirley Johnson (R)
72nd Robert Perakis (R)
77th Timothy Good (R)
78th Keith Muxlow (R)
83rd Charles Mueller (R)
84th John Strand (R)
86th Lewis Dodak (D)
88th Robert Bender (R)
89th Gary Randall (R)
95th James Dressel (R)
96th Mickey Knight (R)
97th Edgar Geerlings (R)
98th Ed Giese (R)
100th Michael Busch (R)
102nd Michael Hayes (R)
103rd Ralph Ostling (R)
105th Tom Alley (D)
107th Bob Davis Jr. (R)
109th Jack Gingrass (D)
110th Donald Koivisto (D)

Friends Support Ag Policy Issues

U.S. House of Representatives 97th Congress (1981-82)

House Concurrent Resolution 115 - FY 1982 Budget Targets - Passage of substitute (Gramm-Latta I) to bill reported by the House Budget Committee. The substitute decreased budget authority by \$23.1 billion, outlays by \$25.7 billion and revenues by \$31.1 billion resulting in a FY 1982 deficit of \$31 billion. The substitute was a test of the administration's program to cut federal spending. The House passed the substitute May 7, 1981. *Farm Bureau favored a "YES" vote.*

H.R. 3480 - Legal Services Corporation - Passage of bill to reauthorize the Legal Services Corporation for FY 1982 at a cost of \$241 million. The Legal Services Corporation has conducted programs resulting in harassment of farmers. The House passed the bill June 18, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.R. 3982 - Budget Reconciliation - Passage of substitute for the rule providing for House floor consideration of the bill. The substitute permitted a single vote on a budget reconciliation savings package as an alternative for more costly package drafted by House Committees. The vote was another test for constraint in federal spending. The House passed the bill June 25, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.R. 4242 - Income Tax Cuts - Vote on substitute amendment to Internal Revenue Service Code to reduce individual income tax rates by 25% across-the-board over three years, index tax rates beginning in 1985 and provide business and investment tax incentives. The House passed the amendment July 29, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.R. 4242 - Economic Recovery
Final passage of the Economic

Voting Record - U.S. House of Representatives 97th Congress (1981-82)

KEY

Y or y - voted for
N or n - voted against
X - paired against (interpreted as a "no" vote)
- paired for (interpreted as a "yes" vote)
? - did not vote or otherwise make a position known

(Capital letter is consistent with Farm Bureau position)

	FY 1981 Budget Targets	Local Services Corporation	Budget Reconciliation	Income Tax Cuts	Economy Recovery	Dairy Price Support Delay	Dairy Price Support Revision	Sugar	Grain Export Bank	1981 Farm Bill Life	1981 Farm Bill	Daylight Saving Time	Emergency Petroleum Allocation	1981 Farm Bill - Final	FY 1983 Budget Targets	Votes Supporting FB Policy	Votes Opposing FB Policy	Absent or Not Voting
Broomfield (R-Birmingham)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	?	y	y	y	y	N	y	n	x	Y	7	7	1
Davis (R-Gaylord)	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	y	y	N	n	n	Y	10	5	0
Dingell (D-Dearborn)	n	y	n	n	Y	?	N	N	N	N	y	y	Y	Y	n	7	7	1
Dunn (R-East Lansing)	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	y	N	y	y	y	Y	Y	Y	10	5	0
Pursell (R-Plymouth)	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	y	N	?	#	y	Y	n	Y	9	5	1
Sawyer (R-Rockford)	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	y	N	y	Y	Y	Y	12	3	0
Siljander (R-Three Rivers)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	N	N	y	N	N	n	n	Y	11	4	0
Vander Jagt (R-Luther)	Y	N	Y	Y	?	Y	N	N	N	?	X	N	x	Y	Y	12	1	2

Recovery Tax Act to cut individual income tax rates across-the-board by 25% over three years, require that individual income tax rates be indexed annually beginning in 1985, allow accelerated depreciation for business assets and provide special savings and investment incentives. The House passed the bill Aug. 4, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.R. 4612 - Dairy Price Support Delay - Passage of bill to delay the scheduled Oct. 1, 1981 dairy price support increase and set the price support at \$13.10/cwt. until Nov. 15, 1981, to discourage further growth of surplus milk production. The bill also delayed the wheat producer referendum. The House passed the bill Oct. 1, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.R. 3603 - Dairy Price Support Revision - Vote on amendment to the 1981 Food and Agriculture Act to set dairy price support levels at a minimum of 70% of parity for FY 1982 through 1985 with mandatory annual readjustments, except that the secretary of agriculture could forego the annual adjustment in years when anticipated cost for surplus dairy purchases exceeded \$750 million. In such

years, the actual price support could not go below the previous year's level of \$13.10/cwt., whichever was lower. The amendment would have abandoned the longstanding parity concept of the dairy price support program. The House defeated the amendment Oct. 7, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.R. 3603 - Sugar - Vote on amendment to delete the price support program for sugar included in the 1981 Food and Agriculture Act. The House passed the amendment Oct. 15, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.R. 3603 - Grain Export Bank - Vote on amendment to the 1981 Food and Agriculture Act to establish a bank to finance U.S. grain exports and to permit the secretary of agriculture to set a minimum price for U.S. grain sold abroad. The amendment would have allowed competitors in export markets to capture potential U.S. sales by selling just underneath the established minimum price. The House defeated the amendment Oct. 20, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.R. 3603 - 1981 Food and Agriculture Act - Vote on amendment to give the act a two year life

Agricultural Policy Issues (continued)

(1982-83) rather than four year life. The amendment would have reopened the act to further political influence within a short time period and canceled program reauthorizations for 1984-85. The House defeated the amendment. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

S. 884 - 1981 Farm Bill - Vote on final passage of the Senate version of the 1981 Food and Agriculture Act as amended by the House passed bill. The act was considered to be too costly and continued unnecessary government involvement in agriculture. The House passed the bill Oct. 22, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.R. 4437 - Daylight Saving Time - Passage of bill to extend daylight saving time by two months by starting it on the first Sunday in March instead of the present last Sunday in April. The House passed the bill Oct. 28, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.R. 4700 - Emergency Petroleum Allocation - Passage of bill to give the president standby authority to allocate oil supplies in the event of a severe petroleum supply disruption. The bill would have given agriculture a priority position in the event of an emergency requiring allocation of available energy. The House passed

the bill Dec. 14, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S. 884 - 1981 Farm Bill - Final - Adoption of the conference report on the 1981 Farm Bill to authorize price support and other farm programs for four years and food stamps for one year. Failure to enact the program would have brought agriculture back under outmoded farm programs of the 1930s and 1940s. The House adopted the conference report Dec. 16, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

House Concurrent Resolution 352 - FY 1983 Budget Targets - Vote on substitute for the president's FY 1983 budget. The substitute sets budget authority for FY 1983 at \$800.4 billion, outlays at \$765.2 billion, revenues at \$666 billion and deficit at \$99.3 billion. The vote was considered a test of support for lower levels of federal spending than proposed by the president. The House passed the substitute June 10, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

1981-82 State House Votes

H.B. 4128 - Water Surveillance - Eliminates the maximum rate for water pollution surveillance fees. Dischargers of wastewater, including many farmers, were being assessed a fee to cover the cost of the DNR monitoring the discharges. Because of the maximum amount that could be charged to a single discharger, a multiplier was being used to increase the fee of small dischargers. The multiplier allowed the DNR to collect the total cost of its monitoring activities. The House passed the bill March 31, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 4359 - Wood Harvesters - Allows special license fee to continue for vehicles used in harvesting timber. Failure to enact the bill would have resulted in higher license fees for such vehicles. The House passed the bill April 14, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 4337 - Livestock - Eliminates implied warranties for certain farm animals which comply with state and federal animal health laws. Pre-



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SUSPENDED

FEATURES:

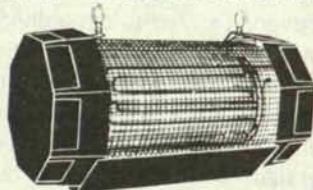
- Lure; 3 30-watt U-shaped black lights
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(Some items may not be stocked at all participating dealers, but are available and may be ordered.)

Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

Voting Record - Michigan House 81st Legislative Session (1981-82)

KEY

Y or y - voted for
N or n - voted against
a - absent or not voting
(Capital letter is consistent
with Farm Bureau position)

	Water Surveillance	Wood Harvesters	Livestock	Milk	Pork	P.A. 116	Work Comp Premiums	Work Comp Benefits	Work Comp Fringes	Work Comp Definition	Work Comp Benefits	Potatoes	Summer Tax	Milk	Beginning Farmers	Votes Supporting FB Policy	Votes Opposing FB Policy	Absent or Not Voting
Alley (D-West Branch)	a	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	a	Y	10	2	3
Ballantine (R-Jackson)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Barcia (D-Bay City)	Y	a	Y	a	Y	Y	y	N	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	2	2
Binsfeld (R-Maple City)	Y	a	Y	y	Y	a	N	N	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	a	a	9	1	5
Busch (R-Saginaw)	n	a	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	11	2	2
Cropsey, H. (R-Decatur)	a	a	a	a	a	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	10	0	5
Cushingberry (D-Detroit)	a	a	a	y	a	Y	y	a	a	n	n	Y	a	Y	Y	4	4	7
DeGrow (R-Port Huron)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	12	2	1
Dillingham (R-Fowlerville)	a	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1
Dodak (D-Montrose)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	a	y	n	n	n	Y	Y	a	Y	8	5	2
Dressell (R-Holland)	a	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1
Dutko (D-Warren)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	3	0
Fitzpatrick (D-Battle Creek)	a	Y	Y	N	a	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	1	2
Geerlings (R-Norton Shores)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	3	0
Giese (R-Reed City)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Gilmer (R-Augusta)	a	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1
Gingrass (D-Iron Mountain)	n	Y	a	y	Y	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	3	1
Gnodtke (R-Sawyer)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Hayes (R-Midland)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Henry (R-Grand Rapids)	Y	n	Y	y	Y	n	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	3	0
Hillemonds (R-Holland)	Y	n	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Holmes (R-Utica)	n	Y	a	y	Y	n	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	3	1
Johnson (R-Royal Oak)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0
Knight (R-Muskegon)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0
Koivisto (D-Mass City)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	11	3	1
Lincoln (R-Albion)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
McNeely (D-Detroit)	Y	a	Y	y	Y	Y	y	n	n	n	Y	a	Y	a	6	6	3	
Mueller (R-Linden)	Y	Y	Y	y	a	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	12	2	1
Muxlow (R-Brown City)	n	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0
Nash (R-Diamondale)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0
Ostling (R-Roscommon)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	Y	12	2	1
Randall (R-Elwell)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0
Smith, Roy (R-Ypsilanti)	Y	a	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	12	1	2	
Stacey (R-Berrien Springs)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Stopczynski, T. (D-Detroit)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	11	4	0
Strand (R-Lapeer)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0
Symons (D-Allen Park)	a	a	a	a	y	a	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	a	n	6	3	6	
Trim (D-Davisburg)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	3	0
Van Singel (R-Grant)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Welborn (R-Kalamazoo)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0
Wilson (D-Hazel Park)	a	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	a	a	10	1	4

viously the seller could be held liable for diseases, poor production and other problems of the animals under the ownership of the buyer. The House passed the bill April 29, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 4621 - Milk - Allows optional addition of Vitamin A to milk. Previous law required a minimum standard for Vitamin A content in milk to ensure that it is a healthful product to the consumers. The House passed the bill May 12, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

H.B. 4714 - Pork - Provides standards for ground pork. Previously no standard existed for ground pork which restricted its market potential. The new standard is expected to help increase the market for ground pork. The House passed the bill June 15, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 5049 - P.A. 116 - Includes Christmas trees in definitions under P.A. 116. The bill clarifies that Christmas trees are an agricultural product and such farms are eligible for P.A. 116 enrollment. The House passed the bill Oct. 27, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

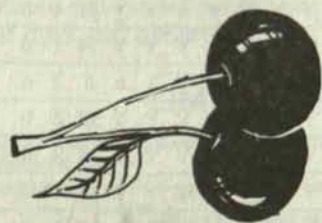
H.B. 5036 - Workers' Compensation Premiums - Provides for a mandatory 20% reduction in Workers' Compensation premium rates charged by private insurance companies. The bill represents government interference with private industry and does not address the need for Workers' Compensation reform. The House passed the bill Dec. 3, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

S.B. 595 - Workers' Compensation Benefits Amendment - This vote was on an amendment to adopt a House Labor Committee version of coordination of benefits for Workers' Compensation claims. The amendment would not have resulted in meaningful reform. The House defeated the amendment Dec. 10, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

S.B. 573 - Workers' Compensation Fringes - Provides for limited inclusion of fringe benefits when com-

MACMA PRIZE CHERRY SALE

Contact your county secretary or see your county newsletter (page 16-17) for details on participation in your area.



Agricultural Policy Issues (continued)

puting Workers' Compensation claims. The bill will help reduce the cost of Workers' Compensation. The House passed the bill Dec. 11, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 590 - Workers' Compensation Definition - Provides for definition of disability in considering Workers' Compensation claims. The definition will eliminate many of the abuses which resulted in Workers' Compensation being paid for injuries not related to the job. The House passed the bill Dec. 12, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 595 - Workers' Compensation Benefits - Provides for coordination of benefits when computing Workers' Compensation payments. The bill will reduce the cost of Workers' Compensation by taking into consideration other compensation paid to a worker for injuries. The House passed the bill Dec. 12, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 110 - Potatoes - Requires certain security arrangements for licensing wholesale potato dealers. The bill is designed to update previous licensing requirements to protect producers against nonpayment for potatoes sold to dealers. The bill passed the House Feb. 4, 1982. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 5405 - Summer Tax - Provides summer tax collection deferment for farmers. The bill would allow farmers to defer summer collection of property taxes and instead continue to pay property taxes in the winter as presently collected. The bill passed the House March 25, 1982. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 338 - Milk - Requires certain security arrangements for licensing of Grade A milk processors. The bill is designed to protect producers against nonpayment for Grade A milk sold to processors. The bill passed the House April 8, 1982. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 5470 - Beginning Farmers - Creates a Michigan Family Farm Development Authority in the Department of Agriculture to assist beginning farmers to finance land, buildings and equipment. The loans to beginning farmers would be funded from the sale of bonds. Interest on the loans would be at somewhat lower rates than charged by commercial lending sources. The House passed the bill June 11, 1982. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

1979-82 State Senate Votes

S.B. 3 - Wetlands - Provides for protection of wetlands. The bill requires permits to drain wetlands but was amended to exempt farmers from obtaining a permit to drain a wetland for food and fiber production. The Senate passed the bill May 8, 1979. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 4391 - Wood Harvesters - Provides for special registration for wood harvesting vehicles. The bill brings vehicles owned by wood harvesters and used exclusively for wood harvesting operations under the special registration fee previously limited to agriculture. The Senate passed the bill June 12, 1979. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 443 - Land Inventory - Provides for a land resource inventory. The bill establishes a process to conduct an inventory of the total land area of Michigan and a program to assist local government in utilizing the inventory when making land resource decisions for their local unit of government. The Senate passed the bill July 12, 1979. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 376 - P.A. 116 Refunds - Requires state to pay interest on late payment of refunds under P.A. 116. The bill would provide persons who have entered into contracts with the state under P.A. 116 remuneration in the form of interest for refunds owed them, but not paid, for extended periods of time. The Senate passed the bill

April 1, 1980. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 5701 - Welfare - Provides that an employable person who refuses work is ineligible for welfare for three months. The bill is intended to reduce the overall cost of welfare. The Senate passed the bill July 3, 1980. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 4128 - Water Surveillance - Eliminates the maximum rate for water pollution surveillance fees. Dischargers of wastewater, including many farmers, were being assessed a fee to cover the cost of the DNR monitoring the discharges. Because of the maximum amount that could be charged to a single discharger, a multiplier was being used to increase the fee of small dischargers. The multiplier allowed the DNR to collect the total cost

of its monitoring activities. The bill passed the Senate May 13, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 112 - Grain and Hay - Requires certain security arrangements for licensing of grain and hay dealers. The bill is designed to strengthen protection to producers against nonpayment for grain and hay sold to dealers. The Senate passed the bill June 11, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 4054 - Right-to-Farm - Provides that a farm is not a nuisance if the operations are conducted in accordance with generally acceptable agricultural and management practices. The right-to-farm bill will help protect against nuisance suits from persons moving into agricultural areas. The

(continued on page 27)

Voting Record - Michigan Senate 80th and 81st Legislature (1979-82)

KEY

Y or y - voted for
N or n - voted against
a - absent or not voting
(Capital letter is consistent with Farm Bureau position)

Wellands
Wood Harvesters
Land Inventory
P.A. 116
Welfare
Water Surveillance
Grain and Hay
Right-to-Farm
Chemicals
Work Comp Fringes
Work Comp Benefits
Work Comp Premiums
Agricultural Impact
TB Testing
Dairy
Votes Supporting FB Policy
Votes Opposing FB Policy
Absent or Not Voting

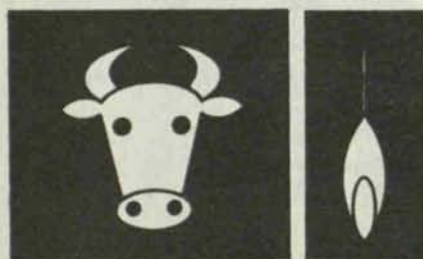
Allen (R-Lansing)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	Y	n	Y	13	2	0	
Arthurhultz (R-Whitehall)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0	
Bishop (R-Rochester)	n	a	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	N	Y	Y	y	n	Y	Y	10	4	1	
Corbin (D-Clio)	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	n	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	10	4	1	
DeGrow (R-Pigeon)	n	Y	Y	a	Y	a	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	11	2	2	
DeMasco (R-Battle Creek)	a	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	Y	a	a	Y	N	a	Y	Y	10	0	5	
DeSana (D-Wyandotte)	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	Y	n	Y	12	2	1	
DiNello (D-Detroit)	Y	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	n	Y	Y	12	2	1	
Engler (R-Mt. Pleasant)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	n	n	Y	12	3	0	
Faust (D-Westland)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	a	12	2	1
Gast (R-St. Joseph)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n	Y	N	Y	Y	y	n	n	Y	11	4	0	
Geake (R-Northville)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	n	n	Y	13	2	0	
Holmes (D-Detroit)	a	Y	Y	Y	a	Y	Y	Y	N	n	Y	a	Y	Y	Y	11	1	3	
Irwin (D-Sault Ste. Marie)	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0	
Sederburg (R-East Lansing)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	n	Y	a	12	2	1	
Young (R-Saginaw)	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	y	Y	n	Y	12	3	0	

MACMA FROZEN FRUIT SALE

Contact your county secretary or see your county newsletter (page 16-17) for details on participation in your area.



1982 Economic Outlook Shows Little Change as Harvest Season Begins



Batten down the hatches! Our economic outlook for the grain sector remains relatively unchanged. Bumper crops, sluggish domestic demand caused by a decline in the number of livestock, and weak foreign demand caused by the strong dollar will continue to keep grain prices depressed.

The USDA set-aside programs will have little effect on reducing total production. It was not expected that farmers would plow their crops under unless cash prices took a massive tumble during the planting season or bad weather damaged the crops' value.

We look for grain prices to remain near current levels for the remainder of calendar 1982. Corn will be under further pressure as we get into new crop supplies and it will probably approach the \$2 per bushel level.

One bullish influence was USDA Secretary Block's July 14 announcement of a 20 percent reduced acreage program for the 1983 wheat crop. The regular loan rate will continue at \$3.55 and the reserve loan rate will continue at \$4.00. Based on the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981, the target price will increase to \$4.30 per bushel. This exposes the federal budget to a maximum 75 cent per bushel deficiency payment (the difference between the target price and the regular loan amount).

The major new feature is that farmer participants will receive an advance of 50 percent of the expected deficiency payment at sign-up. Block has hinted the payment might be around 25 cents per bushel and essentially would serve the role of a diversion payment. Sign up begins Sept. 7 in Michigan.

It appears that the seasonal demand for wheat is picking up; more ships are ready to load at the gulf ports. As we get closer to the fall harvest season trade in corn and soybeans will also pick up.

Many farmers have not made plans to sell enough grain to clear storage for soybeans and corn. Prices are now down to levels equal to or below the loan rate, plus interest and storage charges. Using the government loan

program as their only marketing plan has been expensive to farmers this year. The market price structure has adjusted over the last few years to offer maximum profit potential when the crop is planted, not after it is harvested. Farmers will have to start to recognize this fact to stay in balance.

Estimates for beef and pork prices are higher for the remainder of the year based upon the strong run-up in prices which has occurred the last couple of months. The livestock sector is perhaps the most profitable throughout the agricultural industry. However, we do believe that we have seen a top in hog futures prices for 1982 and expect fluctuations during the next few months.

While the general economy remains weak, the decrease in livestock supply, along with strong consumer demand, has had an excellent effect on prices. This supply demand relationship has also lead to modest increases of our price forecasts for poultry and eggs.

In spite of the significant improvement in livestock prices and the profits available to those producers, we expect realized net farm income for U.S. agriculture to decline in the range of \$17 to \$18 billion for 1982. High interest charges and increased taxes have hurt and during the second half of the year we see little favorable improvement for interest rates and unfortunately, see gasoline prices returning to 1981 levels after their recent dip.

While the dairy industry continues to face challenges, good dairy managers should continue to be able to generate profits in their farm businesses. We are anticipating changes in the National Dairy Price Support Program after the November elections. Those changes will affect the future supply/demand outlook for the dairy industry.

Agrinomic Update is prepared by MFB's Commodity Activities and Research Department.

Agricultural Policy Issues (continued)

(continued from page 25)

Senate passed the bill June 24, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 37 - Chemicals - Provides for an inventory of chemicals and hazardous materials and regulations and banning of certain materials. The bill would have provided for a comprehensive "cradle-to-grave" reporting system and increased the likelihood of chemicals being banned without adequate scientific data being required. The Senate defeated the bill July 1, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

S.B. 573 - Workers' Compensation Fringes - Removes fringe benefits from average weekly wage when computing Workers' Compensation benefits. The bill will help control the cost of Workers' Compensation and bring much needed savings to employers. The Senate passed the bill Dec. 5, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 595 - Workers' Compensation Benefits - Provides for coordi-

nation of benefits in reforming Workers' Compensation. This issue was considered the true test of a senator's interest in reforming Workers' Compensation. The Senate passed the bill Dec. 5, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 5036 - Workers' Compensation Premiums - Provides for a 20% mandatory reduction in Workers' Compensation insurance premiums. The bill establishes a bothersome precedent of government dictating the premiums private business can charge for services rendered. The Senate passed the bill Dec. 15, 1981. *FB favored a "NO" vote.*

S.B. 261 - Agriculture Impact - Requires an Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) to be filed for projects involving essential agricultural land. The AIS would be required whenever a project using any state funds would occupy five or more acres of essential agricultural land as identified by the

local Soil Conservation District. The bill passed the Senate Dec. 16, 1981. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

H.B. 5004 - TB Testing - Eliminates mandatory testing of TB for cattle sold in the state. Previous law required that certain cattle, including breeding stock, be tested for TB before being moved from one farm to another within the state. Continuation of the test was considered unnecessary because TB has been virtually eliminated in Michigan. The Senate passed the bill March 8, 1982. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

S.B. 338 - Dairy - Requires certain security arrangements for licensing of Grade A milk processors. The bill is designed to protect producers against nonpayment for Grade A milk sold to processors. The bill passed the Senate March 10, 1982. *FB favored a "YES" vote.*

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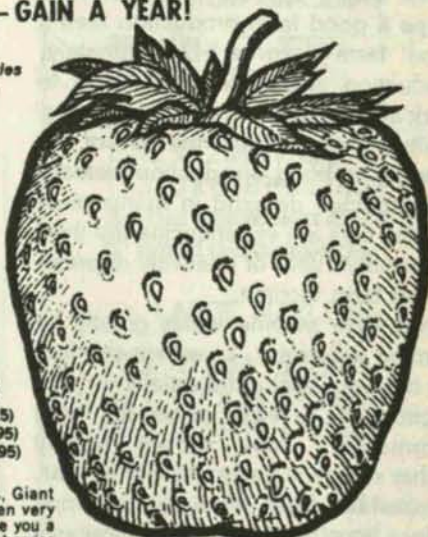
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Improving Farm Income: No Easy Answers

Price and production work against each other as U.S. farmers prepare for another record harvest.

It becomes more apparent each day that, barring some widespread catastrophe, farmers will again harvest another tremendous crop of soybeans and corn. Added to what is forecast to be another excellent national wheat harvest, this demonstrates the American farmers' capacity to produce.

We would all be in top economic shape if good farm production meant good farm income. Unfortunately, production and price often seem to work against each other. American agriculture has overbuilt the size of the production plant. Production exceeds the expected demand in many cases and farmers are experiencing the third consecutive year of relatively depressed net farm income.

Net farm income varies greatly by farming enterprise. Livestock producers have cut back substantially on production. As a result, prices for these commodities have moved rapidly higher since the beginning of the year. Meanwhile, grain producers continue to face large production, and increases in carryover; the result is depressed prices. Dairy producers have come through the past year in relatively sound financial condition. Fruit and vegetable producers have seen their incomes fluctuate due to frost and wet weather in their own growing region or in other parts of the country.

We see clearly that agriculture cannot afford to allow continued increases in production to go unchecked. Con-

tinued over-production can only drive prices down further.

A market orientation for agriculture demands that both the public and private sectors of the industry encourage production to meet the reasonable demands of domestic and foreign markets.

This year many farmers chose to participate in the 1982 set-aside or Reduced Acreage Program. As an incentive, eligibility to use the loan bank of the loan program in the farmer-held reserve and to receive deficiency payment under the target price program was tied to set-aside participation. Economic forecasters urged farmers to use the set-aside as a defensive measure to protect their investments.

Economists tell us that each 100 million bushels of corn put into the reserve increases the price by about 10 cents per bushel. They warn, however, the boost is temporary. Reserve bins are not markets. All commodities must be sold eventually.

Under present conditions, taking the same 100 million bushels of corn out production would have increased prices by about 15 cents per bushel.

In the business of farming, producers recognize that it is impossible to attain prosperity through non-production. Certainly, supply and demand factors greatly influence farm incomes, but cost of production has a significant impact on the net price farmers receive for their commodities.

A popular myth is that high interest rates are the main cause of income problems for all farmers and that low interest rates would solve the problem.

High interest rates may have been the straw to break the back of some farming operations, but are not the heart of the problem faced by producers. Interest expense has gone up rapidly since 1970 from \$3.4 billion to \$6.4 billion in 1975 to \$10.0 billion in 1978 to \$18.9 billion in 1981. Note

that in 1978 when interest rates were relatively low, interest expense was three times the 1970 level.

Much of the increase in interest expense has been caused by a higher debt level. Farm debt, which was \$53 billion in 1970, increased to \$81.8 billion in 1975 and to \$119.3 billion in 1978. In 1981, the farm debt reached \$174.5 billion. Lower interest rates would lower interest expense somewhat, but the total farm debt load in agriculture must be reduced in the long run.

Like most American businesses, agriculture has been faced with ever increasing input costs. Total production of agricultural products increased about 30 percent since 1970, while production expenses have more than tripled. Virtually all of the 30 percent increase in agricultural production since 1970 has gone into the export market.

In Michigan, agriculture exports in 1981 increased 27 percent for a total value of nearly \$944 million. This represents nearly 30 percent of the total farm cash receipts for the year. Two out of five acres harvested in this state are exported. In 1981, about two-thirds of Michigan's dry beans were exported.

These increases in exports have moved Michigan upward in the ranking of export states, from twentieth in 1980 to fifteenth in 1981. The state rates third in the export of vegetables and dry beans, sixth in dairy product exports, and seventh in export of fresh and processed fruits and ninth in feedgrains and feed products. In addition, the state's agricultural exports include animals and meat products, hides and skins, fats, oils and grease, and poultry products.

But further expansion of our foreign markets is needed for Michigan and for the entire agricultural economy. Without an expanded market for a tre-

mendous production, prices could remain depressed and those producers unable to reduce their heavy debt load will be forced out of farming.

Increasing the amount of agricultural exports will not be easy. The federal government has encouraged long-term storage of grain in this country. Therefore, many foreign buyers consider the United States as a supplier of last resort of grain to the world. Buyers simply will not bid aggressively for U.S. supplies and the prices will remain low as long as there is no incentive to bid on the U.S. supplies.

In addition, the use of embargoes, trade sanctions and restrictions to trade, used as a part of the U.S. foreign policy arsenal, has cost U.S. agriculture in dollars and its reputation as a reliable supplier to the world.

Non-farm income of farmers is also an important factor. Farmers, as a group, get more of their net farm income from off-farm sources than from on-farm sources. Farmers with gross farm incomes of less than \$40,000 get

substantially more of their income from off-farm sources than from on-farm sources. While often these smaller farmers are viewed as living out on the margin, they in fact are better able to weather the variability of farm income than the larger producers. Farms which gross less than \$40,000 per year account for about 72 percent of the farms in the United States.

Discussion Questions

•Should agriculture expand the market for its products or reduce the size of its production?

•What can government do over the next two years which would be of the most benefit in increasing the net farm income?

•What can farmers do to cut costs and maintain profitability?

The Discussion Topic is prepared by Ken Wiles, manager of the MFB Member Relations Department.

Over 40,000 Attend Ag Expo



MFB's Commodity Activities and Research Department staff members talked with many prospective AgriCom subscribers during Ag Expo, July 20-22. Interested farmers registered for a free color computer donated by the Radio Shack Computer Center in Lansing.

The AgriCom display was one of 32 Farm Bureau product and service exhibits in the huge "Win with Farm Bureau" tent. MSU's Ag Expo attracted over 40,000 people.

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Cookware Parts! Presto, Revere, Mirro, Farberware, Pyrex Percolator. Send description, model number. Stevenson, Box 3392D, Orange, Calif. 92665. (7-3t-18p-ts)

FOR HOMEMAKERS

Nuts! Quart each pecan halves, pecan pieces, walnuts. Three-quart sampler, \$14.95 postpaid!!! Canecreek Farm, Box 2727-MF, Cookeville, TN 38501. (2-12t-20p-ts)

Home tested recipe - Fast, easy, delicious. Featuring this month barbecue and summer salad recipes. \$2. Phyllis Stillman, 10670 Nine Mile, Whitmore Lake, Mich. 48189. (8-24p)

Now! Frozen Tomato Slices! Enjoy garden fresh flavor, year round! Complete, easy instructions \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minn. 56073. (8-21p-ts)

Coldwater Dillpickles! Can in minutes! No hot brine. Delicious, crisp, factory secrets! Recipe \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minn. 56073. (8-21p-ts)

100 year old recipes, pickles, salads, breads, cakes, cookies. 50 cents each, 5 for \$2.00. SASE. Tom Paton, Box 362, Kingsley, Mich. 49649. (7-2t-20p)

NURSERY STOCK

PLANTS: Raspberries • Blackberries • Strawberries • Currants • Gooseberries • Rhubarb • Blueberries • Others. Free catalog - wholesale and retail. Makielski Berry Farms, 7130P Platt Road, Ypsilanti, Mich. 48197. 1-313-434-3673 or 1-313-429-9355. Please order early. (8-5t-29p)

REAL ESTATE

40 acre farm - 6 acres wooded - 4 bedroom home - garage, barn. By owner - reply to Don Willson, P.O. Box 189, Eben, Mich. (6-3t-22p)

224 acre farm, SW Michigan. Beautiful home, in-ground heated swimming pool, large dairy barn, two ponds, river frontage. 70% tillable, farrowing house. Close to I-94 and 1 1/2 miles from town. 616-674-8571. (6-4t-32p)

Selling A Farm? Wanted: Dairy-Beef-Hog-Cash Crop-Horse-Poultry-Orchards and Berry Farms in Tuscola, Bay, Huron, Sanilac, Lapeer. From \$100,000 to \$1,000,000, can be stocked and equipped. See, write, call United Farm Agency - National Brokers, 1764 M-24, Caro, Mich. 48723. Phone 517-673-6888. (8-45b-ts)

If you know of anyone locating in Lenawee County, have them check this home out. Attractive four bedroom, energy efficient home with natural woodwork on 1.3 well landscaped acres with lots of barn and garage storage. Located among some of Lenawee's most productive soil. Only minutes from Adrian or Toledo. Priced in the 60s and an assumable mortgage is available. Linehan Realty Co., contact Ken Mitchell, 517-265-2164 or 517-423-8147. (8-69b)

For Sale: Farms-Ranches-Businesses in Michigan and 46 other states. Write, call for FREE brochure or catalog. United Farm Agency, 1764 M-24, Caro, Mich. 48723. 517-673-6888. (7-6t-26p-ts)

For Sale: 300 acre high producing crop farm - Ingham County. Excellent investment for absentee owner. High quality tenant-operator. Terms available. Please call: Bob Oesterle - 517-655-3388 or Martin Associates - 517-351-2200. (7-3t-29p-ts)

For Sale: 80 acre farm, brookston and Miami soil, some tiled, evergreen pine grove and timber - newly remodeled spacious old farmhouse, hot water and electric heat, wood burner, barn, garage, shed, crib, henhouse. Recreation, hunting - deer, small game. \$1,500 per acre, cash. Southern Saginaw County. Send inquiries to Rural Living Magazine, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909. (7-2t-56p)

33 Acre Farm - 3 bedroom older remodeled home, large garage, barn. 3 1/2 miles to Genesee Valley Center, 7 miles to Flint. Land contract. By owner: Roy Traynor, 4228 W. Reid Road, Swartz Creek, 48473. (8-30p)

For Sale: 80 acre farm. Large house, barn, milk house, trench silo, corn cribs. Immediate possession. Five miles from Hastings, Mich. Additional 70 acres available. 40 of hay. 616-945-2581. (8-2t-28p)

FOR SALE: One lot with modified Chalet on water channel leading into Chippewa Lake in Mecosta County. Contact Bob Crossman, 517-323-7000, ext. 733. (8-23p)

Horse farm, pref. Metamora, Mich. Contact H. Rother, 101 Chicago Blvd., Detroit, Mich. 48202. (8-14p)

40 Acre Hog Farm: Fully automated: 120 day turn: 720 capacity; 7,200 square feet of buildings; oil, gas and mineral reserved. Traverse City area; \$130,000 (\$100,000 assumable by qualified buyer at 12% percent interest); 217 additional acres available to lease. Traverse City, Mich. 616-946-0881. (8-44p-ts)

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ONLY **688** STANDARD MODELS

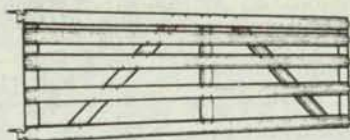
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PACK WATCH SECURELY
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ENCLOSE \$2.00 EXTRA FOR SELF WIND \$4.00 EXTRA FOR ELECTRONICS

Universal 10' & 12' Gate Sale

5-panel
steel



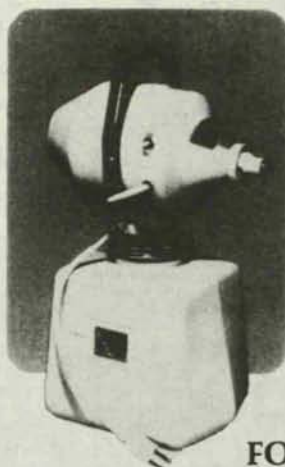
SG-105	10'	\$39. ⁹⁰
SG-125	12'	\$43. ⁹⁰



Galvanized
2" & 1½"
tube gate

TG-110B	1½"x10'	\$53. ⁹⁰
TG-112B	1½"x12'	\$59. ⁹⁰
TG-210B	2"x10'	\$66. ⁹⁰
TG-212B	2"x10'	\$75. ⁹⁰

Barn Fogger Atomist Electric Sprayer



\$**94**⁵⁰

MODEL 1952

- Effective up to 100 ft.
- 1½ gallon poly tank
- 20' 120V cord

FOR USE IN

- Dairy barns
- Stable
- Poultry buildings
- Homes
- Green houses
- Gardens

NEW



SC-2

UNIVERSAL Squeeze Chute with Headgate

\$1095⁰⁰

SPECIAL

Special price includes discount
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REGULAR \$1250⁰⁰

Note: Price does not include wheel
package and tires.

(Shown with optional
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- Designed for one man operation
- Front exit headgate
- Rear cutting gate
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- Adjust to 12", 14", 16", 18" and 20"
width at floor line
- Nine vertical drop bars
- Full length drop boards

Allow two weeks for delivery

BARNYARD BARGAINS AUGUST SPECIALS

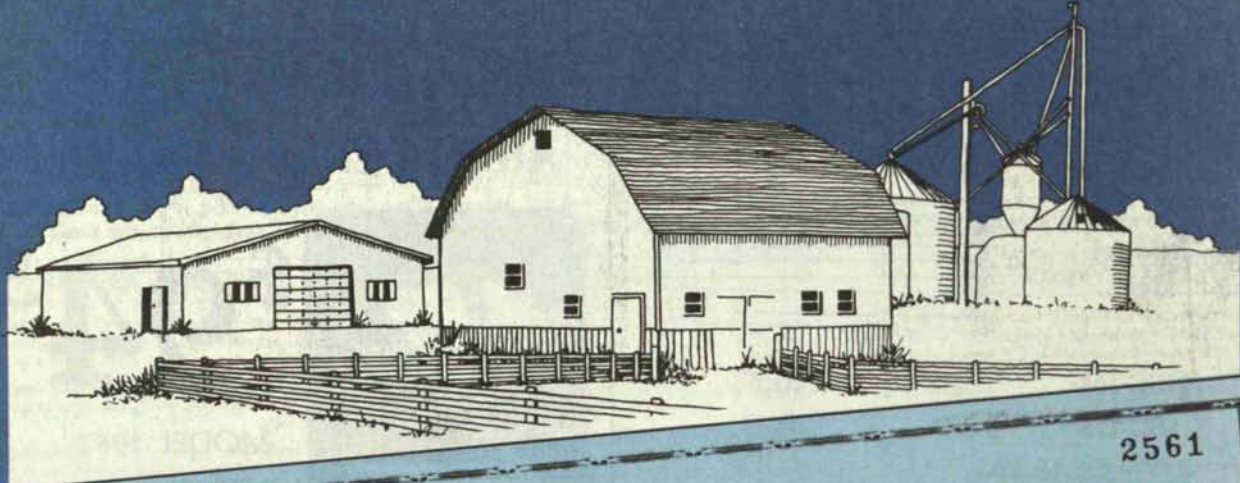
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Climax	Battle Creek FB Climax Branch	616-746-4286
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Another Ag Work Comp Safety Group Dividend . . . \$682,000 More For Michigan Farm Bureau Members

Michigan Farm Bureau members participating in our Agricultural Workers Compensation Safety Group received another large dividend this year . . . a dividend equal to 16.9% of the premium they paid for ag work comp coverage in 1981. That's a total of over \$682,000 being returned to Safety Group members this year by Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan.

The dividend, the second largest ever paid in the history of the Safety Group, was the result of the group's safety efforts and overall low work comp losses during 1981. Nine other dividends have been declared in Safety Group history, including last year's record high of \$713,000.

Formed in 1971 exclusively for Farm Bureau members who employ agricultural workers, Farm Bureau Mutual's Safety Group program has paid out nearly \$2.3 million in dividends over the past 10 years. That kind of service to Michigan farmers is one more reason why we're Michigan's largest farm insurer and the state's leading provider of ag work comp insurance.

**We're working to make your future
a little more predictable**

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