



P. E. I. group being welcomed in the Ardel Experimental Farm at Guelph by members of the animal husbandry department. Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. Left to Right: P. E. I. Live-



P. E. I. farmers visiting the farm of Allan Cook, a popular Yorkshire producer, at Fergus, Ontario. Members of the Tour in the background are: L. MacMillan, West



Members of the Prince Edward Island farmers' tour are shown here admiring Roblen Ruthven Rose Marie, one of the federated colleges' prize

DISEASE CONTROL EXPLAINED

Research farm is visited

During their tour of Ontario farms, a large group of Prince Edward Island farmers spent an entire day at the research farm of Master Feeds.

The very complete tour of the farm started in the poultry department. Here the men were shown the research work that is carried out to learn how feed improves egg size, shell texture, yolk colour and egg quality at all seasons of the year.

Work on disease control was explained in the chick pens where pen after pen is tested with many drugs to be sure that the right one will do the job without side effects.

A great deal of testing is carried out with laying birds so as to improve feeds, housing and management. Tests on this farm show that feed in krum form gives better conversion for egg production than either pellets or mash.

In the dairy barn, a very average Holstein herd in good condition and with very fine milk production records above them, proved the value of the Master's hay equivalent system of feeding. A surprise to many was the fact that this herd has had no acetonemia for many years, this is credited to this feeding method.

In the hog barn, the first department was to the very comfortable ordinary farrowing pens where an average over the past year, of 11 pigs per litter weaned, and 10½ pigs per litter weaned, was recorded. Continuous testing goes on to try and develop strains which will produce grade A pigs fast and at the least possible cost. It was explained

Good seed is said vital for quality production

The use of good seed is an important and basic step in producing crops that are high in quality and yield. Agriculture Minister Harry Hays said recently.

The minister noted that growers who purchase certified seed of recommended varieties are getting the best available—seed that is pure as to variety, and has a high level of germination and uniformity of results in the field.

He also pointed out that freedom from disease and weeds are some of the other dividends

Need of insurance is stressed

The importance of covering potatoes and grain with the protection crop insurance afforded was emphasized by Edison Drake, chairman of the crop insurance agency for the provincial department of agriculture.

The potato crop is perhaps the major need said Mr. Drake, who explained that there are more than 40 different diseases that can affect the crop adversely.

Fusarium Rot caused losses in 1960 which led eventually to having more than \$500,000 being paid out in compensation. Two years ago a combination of heavy blight infestation and barvesting difficulties caused an unusually wet autumn caused unusually heavy losses.

Last year hollow heart was prevalent and inspectors were warning very closely for it, Mr. Drake recalled.

10-YEAR AVERAGE

Explaining the insurance, he said "we take 10 per cent of the estimated 10-year average yields which works out to 145 bushels per acre. A man who has a 120 bushel yield, for example, would be paid at the rate of \$1.00 per bushel for the 25 bushels per acre his crop is below average. For a complete crop loss the man would be compensated at the rate of \$138.06 per acre."

The premium payable is \$5.06 per acre. The actual insurance costs run to \$6.50 per acre but the government pays the balance, Mr. Drake said. Three acres is the smallest acreage on which insurance is available. A crop of 50 acres is the largest on which insurance has been sold thus far, he stated.

The McIntosh represents 40 per cent of Canadian apple production.

McIntosh and Delicious apples can be kept in controlled atmosphere storage until late spring following harvesting.

Seed potato certification was given to 34 varieties of potatoes in 1963. Sebago and Kennebec leading in acreage.

For grain insurance the minimum acreage acceptable is 10 acres. The premium 50 cents per acre and the maximum coverage payable is \$20 per acre for total loss of crop.

If the yield falls below 27 bushels per acre, the man will be compensated at the rate of 76 cents per bushel. Approximately \$10,000 was paid out in potato crop insurance last year and approximately \$3,000 in grain coverage, Mr. Drake said.

VISITS CENTRES

The agency chairman will be at various centers throughout the province this summer starting at Tighish on May 4 and running through Alberton, O'Leary, Tyne Valley, Hunter Riv-

er, Morell, Mt. Stewart, Souris and Montague.

Coverage is also available at Mr. Drake's Charlottetown office in the old Customs Building on Great George Street and from the agricultural representatives Graeme Linklater, Summerside; David Peacock, for Queens and David Smith for Kings County.

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