

# Lancaster Farming

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TYPE JUDGING Contest winners at the Lancaster County Holstein Field Day are (left to right), Richard D. Hess, Youth; Mrs. Elvin Hess, Ladies; and

Richard Hess, Men. The annual event was held at the farm of Paul Zimmerman, Ephrata. L. F. Photo

## Breeders Told They Have Not Kept Pace With Moon Age

We live in an era when we send men to the moon, but we have gotten behind in our breeding programs," said James Pound, National Holstein Association Extension Director.

Speaking at the Lancaster County Holstein Association Field Day Wednesday, at Paul Zimmerman's farm, Ephrata, Pound said, "I am of the opinion we need to draw all the program elements together."

Using a satire style Pound accused some breeders of looking only for high classification, others of looking only at show winnings and still others of looking only at production. "What we need," he said, "is a combination that results in functional type that will permit the cow to live trouble free for seven to ten years."

Referring to the latest sire summary, the breed director told the group gathered on the barn floor due to the rain outside that he found only 240 bulls out of 4,000 listed that met a minimum requirement of +15 for type and +100 lbs. of milk. "We must not be breeding the right kind if only 240 bulls are transmitting it. We are not breeders," he said. "We are only cattle multipliers."

Proposing a national Holstein performance registry Pound said, "what good is it to discuss which of a 96 point cow or a 97 point cow is the better while the milk market is being sucked out from under us?"

Pound would make no provision for special classification and would allow cow scores to be lowered though he would increase the frequency of the regular classification. "This would put everyone on the same basis and help make classification a

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## Farm Calendar

**Saturday, July 26 (today)**  
9 a.m.—Lancaster County 4-H Horse Show, Lancaster County Riding Club, Columbia Pike.  
11 a.m.—Pa. Master Farmer's Annual Picnic, Farm and Home Center.

**Monday, July 28**  
8 p.m.—Milk Marketing Committee meeting, Farm and Home Center.

**Tuesday, July 29**  
9 a.m.—4-H Dairy Round-up, (Colored breeds), Guernsey Barn.  
10 a.m.—County Plowing Contest and related activities, Earl Hurst Farm, Lititz R3

**Wednesday, July 30**  
9 a.m.—4-H Dairy round-up, (Holstein), Guernsey Barn.

**Thursday, July 31**  
10:30 a.m.—Lancaster County Black and White Show, Guernsey Barn.

## County Youths Named To Attend Convention

Linford Martin, East Earl R1, and Matt Young Peach Bottom R1, both Lancaster Cooperative Council delegates to the Pennsylvania Association of Farmer Cooperatives Summer Institute held last week at Shippensburg State College, have been named the state FFA representative to attend the American Institute of Cooperatives annual meeting at the University of Illinois, August 3-7.

Their selection climaxed the five-day institute in which 200

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## Busy Week Coming

It's a busy week coming up for local farmers who like to attend fairs and contests. After the milk marketing meeting on Monday night at the Farm and Home Center, Tuesday dawns with the Lancaster County Plowing Contest, the 4-H Tractor Driving Contest and the FFA and 4-H Land Judging Contest at the farm of Earl Hurst, Lititz R3.

And if that isn't enough for one day you can stop in at the Guernsey Barn, East Route 30, for the start of the 4-H Dairy Round-up featuring the colored breeds.

On Wednesday, it's the 4-H Holstein Show and Thursday the Lancaster County Black

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## Group Of 120 Local Farmers Attend State Livestock Day

A group of local farmers, 120 strong, took Conestoga busses and a few cars to Penn State Thursday, to participate in the Livestock Field Day sponsored by the Pennsylvania Livestock and Allied Industry Association and the Animal Industry Department at the college.

Highlights of the event included steer judging, swine breeding information, visits to deer and beef breeding areas and a movie on the Penn State football team of last season. Max Smith was also elected a director of the Livestock Association at an afternoon business meeting.

For the steer farmers, the morning session started with Bill Grey, Penn State's Herdsman; using two heifers to demonstrate beef type that is being sought. Then they had a class on selecting feeder and replace-

## Lanc. Breeder Developing Small Broiler Breeder Hen

They aren't saying much about it yet, but a local breeding firm is developing a small broiler breeder hen that could revolutionize breeder flocks around the world in the next ten years.

Indian River Poultry Farms, 2501 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, has put out trial flocks of miniature broiler hens in Japan and Brazil as well as across the United States. By next year these flocks will prove if six years of research work will pay off.

John Sams, Research Director for Indian River, said Monday morning, "The main reason for seeking to develop a midget breeder hen is to save on the cost of production. Since feed costs account for a large percentage of the total cost of production — both in getting the pullet into production and maintaining her after she is in the flock — this is the area where the most likely reduction in cost can be made."

The midget breeder weighs about 4½ pounds instead of the normal 7½ pound bird.

Figures show the smaller type breeder should save at least \$100 per bird at the minimum in feed costs. "This may not sound like a lot," Sams said, "until you realize that we have customers who have several million birds. When you talk in those kind of figures, you are talking about real money saved."

The breeder takes into consideration the double number of the miniature birds you can care for with approximately the same labor and floor space. On the negative side is the lower fowl weight to sell after production usefulness is finished.

Just how these miniature breeders are being developed is

classified information. But basically, they have genetically introduced a gene that restricts growth in the parent but is covered up when it is mated to a normal cockerel so that all the progeny broilers come out normal size. Sams said the gene is called a dwarf but really it is a miniaturized gene rather than a dwarf.

If the trial flocks now out in the industry show the same results as the first tests have shown, Sams predicts that a major share of the broiler breeders will be midgets in ten years. "By next year we'll know," he said.

Indian River Poultry Farms have customers around the world. They are a division of the Pioneer Seed Corn Company.



Paul Eckman

## Eckman On FFA Study Tour

A Garden Spot High School senior was scheduled to leave yesterday from Washington D.C., for a three-week trip to Northern Europe as a member of the Summer FFA Study Tour.

Paul Eckman, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Eckman, Strasburg R1, goes by TWA Airlines to Scotland, the original home of the Angus breed of beef cattle first. Then it is on to England and the David Brown Tractor Company.

The Lancaster County FFA President will visit Amsterdam, and farms that have been reclaimed from the sea. IJsselmeer Dam is also on the schedule and a trip down the Rhine River through the German vineyards. Paul says he will visit Berlin—even East Berlin.

During the last week of the tour Eckman will stay in Denmark with two host families. A one day visit to Sweden is also scheduled.

The study tour is sponsored by the National FFA Association and the International Agriculture Exchange Association.

ment stock and judging of four classes of cattle.

Grey said that we will lose a little of the cuteness in our cattle when we start stretching them up and out with selective breeding. But he indicated it is this stretch that pays the bills. He said mature size for a beef bull should be 1,800 to 2,200 pounds and cows should weigh 1,100 to 1,200 pounds.

Lester Burdette, Penn State Livestock Specialist, said that in selecting replacement stock we try to compromise between grade and rate of gain. Formerly we had tried to put cattle in their grade class and disregarded the rate of gain.

The swinemen were shown the Penn State boars, judged several classes and visited the hog research facilities.

After a noon lunch at the

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