

# Lancaster Farming

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## Cucumber Picker Makes Job Easier

This is a cucumber picker built by a Lancaster County farmer to assist with harvesting the cash crop.

Made from scratch out of a truck chassis and 15 horsepower motor, the unit moves slowly through the field, operated by hydraulic pressure built up by the motor, according to Isaac Z. Smoker, Intercourse, who built the machine.

Folding platforms on either side of the machine allow up to

six pickers to lie face down, picking the cucumbers and placing them on a conveyor which lift them to a box container on top. The box can be hydraulically emptied into a waiting wagon, ready for delivery.

Smoker built the unit for his son-in-law, Reuben S. Stoltzfus, Gordonville RD1. Stoltzfus has one acre of cucumbers this year.

Smoker noted that more would have been planted but he

wasn't sure the new machine would work.

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## 4-H, Black and White Dairy Shows Planned

The Lancaster County Black and White Show and the Lancaster County 4-H Dairy Show will be held next week at the Guernsey Sales Pavilion.

The Black and White Show will be held Thursday, July 29, beginning at 10 a.m.

The 4-H show will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, beginning at 9 a.m. On Tuesday, Ayrshire, Guernsey, Jersey and Brown Swiss breeds will be judged, followed on Wednesday with Holsteins. All 4-H Holsteins will be eligible for the open class show Thursday.

Clarence Stauffer, Ephrata RD1, show chairman, said a total of 263 animals, more than last year, have been entered in both the 4-H and open competition.

4-H animals are automatically eligible for the open class competition Thursday. While not all the 4-H animals remain for the open competition, experience last year shows that 80 per cent will remain, Stauffer said.

Judge in the open class competition will be Neil L. Bowen, Wellsboro RD3.

4-H judges are: John P. Harris, Harrisburg, type judge; Richard A. Bailey, Doylestown, showmanship judge, and Duane G. Duncan, Carlisle, fitting judge.

Stauffer noted that all exhibitors are urged to get their animals on the grounds before

7 p.m. Wednesday for showing Thursday.

A professional photographer will sell his services to interested dairymen throughout the day.

Stauffer urged exhibitors and interested persons to drop by Monday, beginning at 7 p.m., to help put up tents.

He said entries have been received in about every class available and the animals are well dispersed among classes.

Prize money will be awarded in all the heifer and wet cow classes for the first eight places, beginning with \$8 for first, and going down 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Dry cow classes will be awarded 8, 6, 4, 2, and bulls 4, 3, 2, 1.

Assisting Stauffer on the Lancaster County Holstein Breeders Association show committee are: Loren A. Zimmerman, East Earl RD1, and J. Robert Hess, Strasburg RD1.

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See many other reports on activities of local farmers and groups, including a special report on a Lancaster County Farmer's experience with a new high-yield, high-protein grain, triticale, on page 19.

## 3 Pay \$15,000 for Cow

Three Lancaster County men combined to pay \$15,000 for a Holstein cow at the annual Black and White Show and Sale in Lancaster July 16.

This is reportedly the highest price ever paid for a dairy cow in Pennsylvania.

The three are: Robert Kauffman, Elizabethtown RD1; Elvin

Hess, Strasburg RD1, and Charles C. Myers, Lancaster.

Myers had previously bought the animal from Robert Bigsby, Lawrence, Kansas to highlight the Black and White's annual sale.

The cow, Rockledge Idol Tracey, was bred April 14 to the famous Osborndale, Ivanhoe and Myers said the three buyers are hoping for a bull calf.

Tracey was the prize 1970 Junior All-American two year old and won numerous other national awards.

Her sire was Pretz Burke Idol, purchased by the Atlantic Breeders Cooperative, Lancaster, and classified at 90 (Excellent). Her dam is Rock Home Sky Clarice VG), with a lifetime record of 114,700 pounds of milk and 4,627 pounds of butterfat for a 4.1 per cent test and still producing heavily.

Myers said he was informed by Backus Brothers, pedigree readers from New York State, that this is the highest price ever paid in Pennsylvania for a cow.

Myers said the top 100 cows in the sale averaged \$1,004 each and the entire 155 averaged \$922.



## Slave Auction Slated Thursday

These three farm youths are among several who will be available to any interested bidders at the second annual farm and Home Foundation Slave Auction next week.

The auction at 8:45 p.m. Thursday, July 29 at the Farm and Home Center is designed to raise money to help retire remaining debt incurred in construction of the Center.

Karen Horst, Lititz RD4, inspects the working apparatus of two Lititz area men who have volunteered to donate their services for an eight hour day to

the highest bidder at the auction.

Kenneth Grube, left, Lititz RD1, was the highest priced slave in last year's auction. Grube went for \$12.25 an hour when a bidding contest developed between two would-be masters.

On the right is Jesse L. Balmer, Lititz RD4 who also participated in last year's event. In the background is Forney Longenecker, Lititz RD3, foundation committee member who is helping with planning the auction.

Miss Horst is also volunteering her services to interested bidders. Girls will be available for baby sitting and housework.

Longenecker noted that while several youths between the ages of 14 and 18 have volunteered their services, others can volunteer by calling Mrs. Joan Erb, at 626-5591 or Everett Kreider at 284-4517.

Longenecker also noted that a volleyball game will be held from 7 till 8:30 p.m. preceding the auction. Refreshments will follow the game.

## Farm Calendar

Saturday, July 24

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. — Rough and Tumble Tractor Pulling Contest.

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. — Pennsylvania Angus Association field day, Twin Oak Farms, Quarryville.

9 a.m. — Lancaster County 4-H Horse and Pony Round-up, Lancaster County Riding Club, 2615 Columbia Ave., Lancaster.

Sunday, July 25

Farm Safety Week, July 25-31.

Monday, July 26

7 p.m. — Fulton Grange annual picnic, hall grounds, Oakryn.

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