



Lancaster Farming

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Lancaster Farming Photo
Diane M. Crider, RD2, Nottingham, was selected as the 1974 Lancaster County Dairy Princess at the annual pageant held last Saturday evening at the Farm and Home Center. See story page 31.

House Looks at Loans For Cattle Producers

A government loan program to help bail out troubled cattle growers may be under consideration by the U.S. House this week. It would provide up to \$350,000 to individual producers who've lost money in recent months as a result of high input costs and falling live weight prices.

The Senate has already passed a bill similar to the House version. Both versions would permit guaranteed loans to producers of beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs and poultry. The House version would also include goat and sheep producers. Under the program, the government would guarantee up to 80 or 90 percent of loans made by commercial lenders to striken producers.

Asked to comment on the house version, a spokesman for Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman's office told Lancaster Farming that the

Congressman is in favor of helping area farmers. "But the people we've been talking to," the spokesman said, "are more interested in trying to stabilize the market than they are in borrowing more money."

That sentiment was echoed by an embittered Lancaster County beef man who said he's been losing money on his beef operation for the past year or so. "I don't need a loan, I need to make money on my cattle. And the government is

making it impossible for me to do that," this producer, who didn't want to be identified, said.

"A month ago, when prices were as low as they've ever been, I read government reports saying we were importing more beef than the year before. How does that kind of thing help the American farmer?"

"And just three weeks ago, you know what I heard on the radio? I heard a government shopping expert telling housewives to just walk on

by the meat counter if they want to save money on their grocery bills. That sure didn't help me to sell any more beef."

This producer said he loses money on every animal he sells for less than 55-cents a pound. He predicts that half the beef barns in the area will be empty in the near future if prices don't get stronger. "I have very few cattle now," he said, "and I wouldn't have any if I didn't have a silo full of feed. When

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Youth Speaks on Opportunity

Joseph Lefever, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Titus Lefever, RD4, Manheim has been an active young man in many Lancaster County activities.

Joe was the past president of the Manheim Central FFA Chapter and also held the position of vice-president for the State FFA Association. Joe has applied for the FFA American Farmer Degree and is awaiting the decision as to whether he will be accepted by the National committee.

Joe explained that the American Farmer Degree is

awarded to only a few members of the FFA each year and is based on the member's activities and work experience.

"I think my agribusiness work experience helped me to be chosen to apply for the degree," he said. "I have worked for Stauffers and am presently working for Dunlap's Commission Firm at the Lancaster Stockyards."

Joe has also been quite active in 4-H work for the past ten years. He has taken swine and beef projects

almost every year and has also completed rabbit and horse projects.

Along with being the president of the Lancaster 4-H County Council, Joe is also serving as president of the Red Rose Baby Beef and Lamb Club and the Elm-Penryn Community Club.

Joe has also demonstrated his leadership abilities by attending State Capitol Days, State 4-H Days and 4-H Club Congress. In July, he will attend a 4-H Leadership Seminar in Washington, D.C.

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In Lancaster Co. . . .

4-H'ers Compete In Demonstration Days

Fifteen 4-H members representing clubs from all over the county participated in the 4-H County Demonstration Day held Tuesday afternoon at the Farm and Home Center.

Cindy Risser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Risser, Leola, won first place and a blue ribbon in the junior division of the demonstration

event, with her talk on how to make bean-bag turtles.

Other junior winners were Martha Gregory, RD1, Lititz, Lee Young, RD1, Manheim, Karen Huber, RD1, Conestoga and Julia Sourbeer, RD1, Conestoga.

In the senior demonstration contest first prize went to Sue and Nancy Herr, daughters of Mr. and Mrs.

Carl Herr, Penn Grant Road, Lancaster. The girls pooled their efforts in a team demonstration on selecting good beef and the nutrition value it offered.

Second place in the senior division was captured by another team demonstration performed by Gary Brubaker, son of Mr. and Mrs.

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Lancaster Farming Photo
Barbara Myer explained to the audience how to keep "Bessy Lou" a

healthy cow during the Lancaster County 4-H Demonstration Day.

FARM TRENDS by Dick Wanner

Watch Out For Rustled Goats!

Thieves rustled five goats early Monday morning from a pen on the farm of Mrs. Edward Watson, 1819 W. Strasburg Road, West Chester. Mrs. Watson told Lancaster Farming she felt especially bad about the loss, because she was only boarding the animals for Margaret Jacobs, Pottstown. Mrs. Jacobs is a well-known Chester County goat breeder and 4-H club leader whose story appeared some weeks ago on these pages.

There's a good possibility, Mrs. Watson feels, that these goats may turn up at some of the local livestock auctions. If you see any of these animals at an auction, bring them to the attention of the auction officials. Here's a description of the pilfered goats:

Large brown milker. Tattoo on right ear - MPJ. Left ear - D24.

White yearling kid, half LaMancha, short ears. Tattoo on tail - IHM F-6.

Senior doe kid, off-white front quarter, black dorsal stripe and brown hind quarters. Right ear tattoo - IHM. Left ear - H-1.

Three-month-old brown kid. Right ear - IHM. Left ear - H-3.

All white kid. Right ear - IHM. Left ear - H-2.

July 15 Is Last Chance For Feed Grain Signup

The deadline for enrolling in the 1974 Wheat and Feed Grain Program is fast approaching. Area ASCS

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Joseph Lefever

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