

# 1974 - The Year in Review

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burned under the summer sun, and finally, as we reported in our August 3 issue, the rains came. But they came too late. The corn crop, especially, was devastated in many areas, resulting in shortages and high corn prices now being felt by area farmers who must but livestock feed.

Other bad news for the month included a report that fertilizer supplies were expected to remain tight, and that cattlemen were expected to be pressed even harder in the cost-price squeeze.

Grape and tobacco growers, both of whom

stated harvesting during August, reported excellent yields from two of the county's most important cash crops.

Dauphin Countians elected their dairy princess, Debra Miller, during August, and saw her go on to be crowned Pennsylvania Dairy Princess later in the year. Susan Seidel, Richland, became the Berks County Dairy Princess just one day after Miss Miller first donned her crown.

Area farm youths featured in the pages of Lancaster Farming in August were Jeff Martin, New Holland R1, Jane Gergory, Lititz R2, Christine Erb, Mt. Joy R1, the Strauss Brothers,

Ephrata R1, and Don Weaver, New Holland R1.

## September - A REALLY Fair Month

September fair season got underway on September 18 with the Solanco Community Fair in Quarryville. This year there was a new Lancaster County fair - at Elizabethtown - bringing the total number of community fairs in the county to six.

A visitor to the Solanco Fair was Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture James A. McHale, who told Lancaster Farming he has no plans to quit his job and as far as he knew, the governor had no plans to fire him. Dr. Thomas Conrad, Bird-



October 26 - Three of the Northeast's top poultrymen sat on a Neppco panel in Philadelphia this week to discuss the future of the poultry industry from Maryland to Maine. The panelists were, from left to right, Robert Graybill, Lancaster,

president of Pennfield Corporation, Robert Blades, Easton, Md., president of Bayshore Foods, and Herbert C. Hutchings, Jr., Belfast, Maine, general manager of Penobscot Poultry Company.



June 15 - Ruth Miller, center, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Miller, Myerstown, was named Lebanon County's dairy princess this week. She's shown here with the 1974 runner-up, Sharon Bomberger, right, and Donna Bennetch, the 1973 Lebanon County Dairy Princess.

in-Hand, hosted an open house for Simmental breeders and those who'd like to be during the month.

## October -

### More Bleak Forecasts

Poultrymen and dairymen were both told they could expect more financial strain in the months ahead. At the annual Northeastern Poultry Producers Council convention in Philadelphia, leading poultrymen from the northeast predicted higher feed and marketing costs, and price uncertainty. Penn State dairy expert Richard Adams told a group of Lancaster County dairymen that they should start thinking about feeding their cows more for profit than for production.

There was another meeting on the general issue of property rights and land use, this one at the Farm and

Home Center, Lancaster, under the sponsorship of the Conestoga Valley Association.

And in October, Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative sued the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board for inaction, a move which eventually resulted in the rescheduling of PMMB milk price hearings.

## November -

### Dairymen in Washington

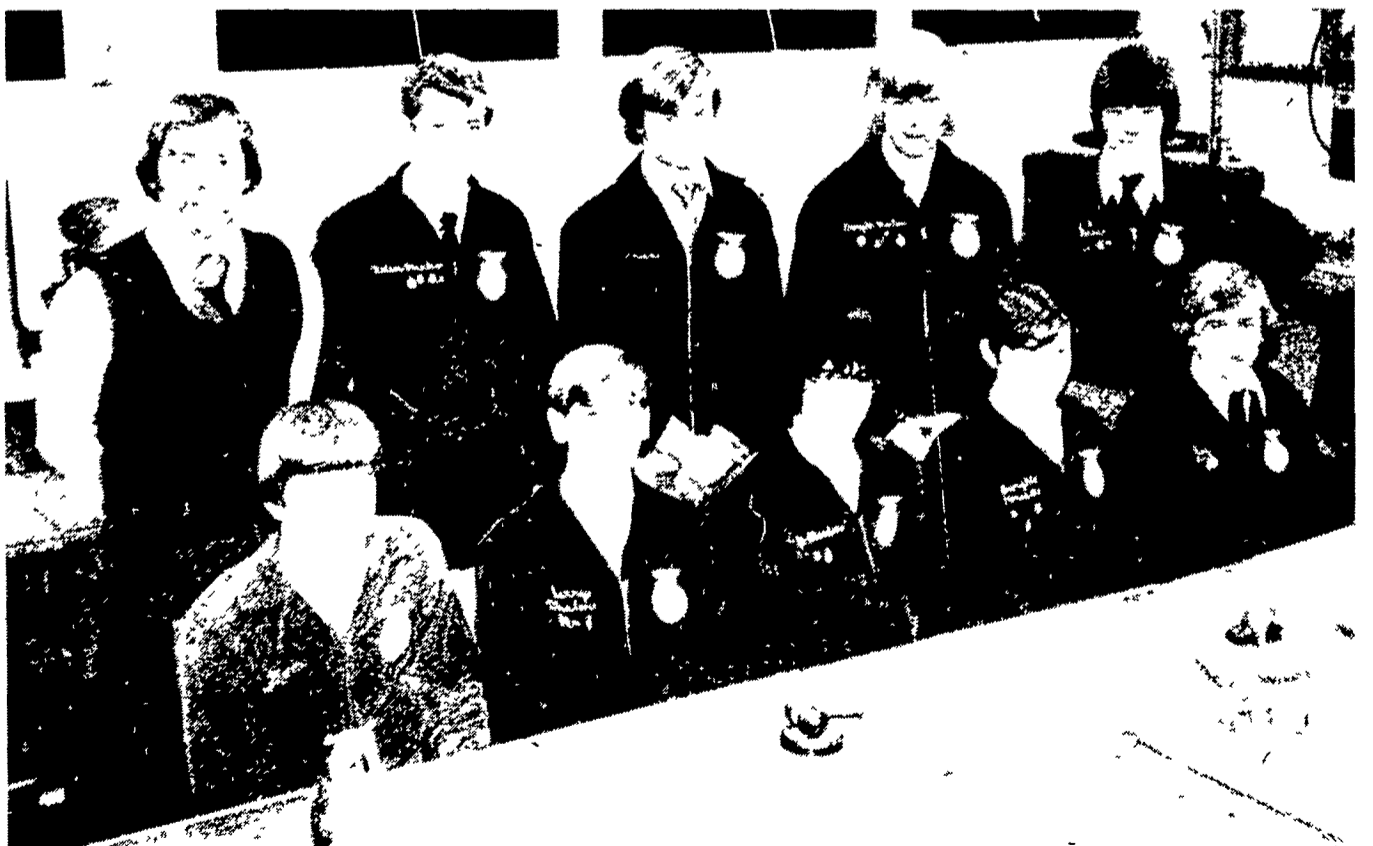
Dairy farmers became so dissatisfied with the size of their milk checks, that they chartered buses and drove to Washington to talk to the nation's press and to representatives of the USDA. The movement was organized by Inter-State, and some 3000 dairy farmers and wives made the trip. In November, Berks

Countians got their first official look at their new Agricultural Center, a gleaming white building sitting in a lush expanse of green lawn. This was also the month a group of Marticville Middle Schoolers decided to drop eggs from an airplane to see how many could survive the fall.

Honors this month went to Donald Parke, Lancaster, executive vice-president of PennAg Industries Association, who was elected president of the Pennsylvania Livestock and Allied Industries Association at that group's annual meeting in Harrisburg. Also to Donald Hershey, Manheim RD6 who won the community service award presented annually by the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association.



April 20 - Mrs. Hazel Hansen and daughter Evelyn and their Cottonwood Nursery Greenhouse were featured in a Laura McSparran story.



April 6 - Spring produced a new crop of FFA award winners in the Lancaster Farming area. This quartet from Pequea Valley High School in Lancaster County were, left to right:

Don Miller, Chapter Star Farmer, Tom Denlinger, Star Red Rose, Fred Leaman, Star Chapter Farmer, and Elvin Weaver, Star Greenhand.