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Farm Show Week begins Monday - see schedules, features inside.



Scenes from last year's Farm Show depict the anticipation, pageantry, and joy of winning.

'84,000 prize money waiting

HARRISBURG—The 1976 Bicentennial Farm Show opens its doors to the public at 8 a.m. January 5, as livestock and dairy shows get underway in the two arenas, and four days of vocational demonstration contests start in the main show building auditorium. See complete schedules of

meetings and events elsewhere in this issue.

By the close of the show January 9 at 4 p.m., thousands of head of livestock and poultry will be judged and winners honored. A perennial highlight of the judging is selection of the grand champion junior steer

in the large arena Jan. 8 at 1:45 p.m.

This year something commemorative will be added. Not only is this the 60th annual Farm Show, but it is the 50th anniversary of the 4-H steer show.

In 1926, Francis Murren of Hanover RA, exhibited the grand champion steer at the

first 4-H show. Murren has since spent a lifetime in promoting livestock and youth livestock activities.

His dedication will be recognized when he will present the banner to the exhibitor of the 1976 junior steer champion. Joining

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FFA degree to be awarded

By **MELISSA PIPER**
LANCASTER—Young men and women from all over Pennsylvania will be gathering in Harrisburg this week for the annual FFA Mid-Winter Convention which will be held in conjunction with the State Farm Show.

A number of the youths will be honored for out-

standing FFA work when they receive the Keystone Farming Degree which will be presented at an awards assembly on Wednesday, Jan. 7.

The highest state award, the Keystone Farming Degree is presented annually to 2½ percent of the youths enrolled in the FFA program in Pennsylvania.

To be considered for the award, an FFA'er must have invested \$500 into his projects. He must also have been an active member of his local FFA chapter and served as an officer or in a leadership capacity.

The Keystone Degree represents the finest in project work coupled with leadership abilities and an

interest in the FFA work and service programs.

Numerous youths from the Lancaster Farming's prime coverage area will be receiving the Keystone Degree this Wednesday. Once again Lancaster Farming has featured short biographies on these youths in the Farm Show Edition beginning on page 49.

Tobacco lacking quality

By **DIETER KRIEG**
LANCASTER—Lancaster County's tobacco crop does not appear to be as good this year as it had been in previous years. That's the conclusion that was drawn Wednesday afternoon following the County's tobacco show, held here in the Farm and Home Center. One of the more significant

revelations was that the show drew only 111 entries—that's down from 169 entries the past two years, and 200 before that. Although judges and organizers of the event were somewhat reluctant to comment on this fact, they did express some concern over it and are assuming that the lack of top quality tobacco this year has caused

a number of growers to skip the show.

The judging in the 4-H and FFA divisions was done by John Yocum of Penn State Agronomy Research Farm at Landisville. Jay Neff of Millersville captured top honors in both categories.

Maurice Hostetter, general manager for the A. K. Mann Company, and Les

Whitmore, assistant manager from American Cigar, served as judges in the open classes.

Arnold Lueck of the Lancaster County Extension staff supervised the show. Commenting on it afterwards, Lueck described the event as having had a

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Pesticides okay for corn

Corn farmers may continue to use chlordane and heptachlor up until Aug. 1 of this year, according to an announcement made earlier this week by Russell E. Train, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Most other uses, however, have been banned because of alleged ties with cancer. Corn farmers will be

allowed to continue use this year so that they might have time to find alternative management programs, an EPA spokesman said.

The EPA's ruling came after more than a year of research, debates, and controversy. Velsicol Chemical Corporation, sole manufacturer of both of the banned pesticides, sent the

following notice to editors, reporters and newscasters last summer when it learned EPA was intending to suspend the manufacture of heptachlor and chlordane: "Half-truths, unsubstantiated allegations, omissions and double-talk are not the kind of news information you would expect from a federal

regulatory agency. But that is what you got in the EPA news release, and we think you've been had."

Velsicol presented its case to the media by sending out packets of information. The allegation was that the EPA had slanted its research and news releases, and had, in

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Exhibitor honored by hog men

By **MELISSA PIPER**
YORK—For the past 45 years, J. E. Lanius, a hog producer and farmer from this county has traveled to Harrisburg to exhibit his animals at the State Farm Show. At this year's 60th edition of the event, Lanius will be honored by his fellow swine exhibitors as having the longest history of exhibits. The honor will be in conjunction with a display to be staged in the hog confinement area and is entitled "Do You Remember When?"

Lanuis first traveled to the Farm Show in 1925 with several Poland China hogs to show in the then "one and

only swine class." The producer explained that at that period in time there was no main building and classes

were judged in various buildings throughout the city of Harrisburg.

"That first year and for many after we showed in a garage," Lanuis explained "it wasn't until 1931 that the Farm Show Building was opened for the exhibits."

During the early years of the Farm Show, swine exhibits were very prominent in the agricultural scene with great numbers of exhibitors flocking to the show. The breeds then common were

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