

# Lancaster Farming

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## Berks Co. aims grain pest elimination

By JUDY MITCHELL

Berks Co. Reporter

REPORT - On June 17,

Berks County, in cooperation

with the federal and state

sponsored biological control

program aimed at

eliminating the cereal leaf

beetle, launched its cam-

aign against the pest which

is capable of inflicting

considerable damage to

wheat, oats, barley, and

other small grain crops.

Senior County Agent

Charles F. Haldeman, who

is distributing oat stems

containing beetle larvae

infected with the eggs of a

wasp at the Berks Co.

office in Bern Township on

Friday, explained the

method of control.

According to the agent, the

stems contain beetle

larvae which have been

infected with the eggs of a

1/2-inch wasp known to

lay on the cereal leaf

beetle. The stems are placed

in growing grain in the

field, and from them the

larvae move to the growing

wheat, oats, or wheat, when

young wasps hatch, they

establish new colonies of

wasps which, in turn, work to

control cereal leaf beetles

present in the field. The

wasps, originally imported

from Europe, are minute in

size and are harmless to

humans, animals, plants -

anything except the cereal

leaf beetle.

The cereal leaf beetle is

primarily a European-Asian

pest. It was first identified in

the United States in southern

Michigan in 1962, and since

then it has been spreading

widely east and south from

that point. Both adults and

larvae of the beetle damage

grain crops by feeding on

leaves, chewing out long

slits between the veins.

Heavy feeding gives plants a

bluish-white, frosted

appearance.

Haldeman commented on

the reporter's observation

of some adverse reaction

to the cereal leaf beetle

control program in the

county may be resulting

from the controversy

over a similar program

being conducted at the

present time. The other

program is to combat the

psy moth which was

responsible for defoliating

100 acres of forest lands in

mountain regions of

York and Schuylkill

counties in 1972. Calls

received at the Extension

office, the agent



The contest was over, and what better way to refresh themselves with a tall, cool glass of milk as these three dairy princesses from Berks County are doing. They are (l. to r.) Christine Adam, second runner-up; Nedra Yoder, Dairy Princess; and Tammy Hafer, first runner-up.

## Debra Kreider is Lancaster dairy princess

By SALLY BAIR  
Feature Writer

LANCASTER - Seventeen-year-old Debra R. Kreider, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Richard Kreider, Manheim R5, was named the 1976 Lancaster County Dairy Princess at the contest held at the Farm and Home Center Saturday night. She was crowned by the 1975 Dairy Princess Donna Akers.

First runner-up was Twila Brubaker, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brubaker, Manheim R2. Both girls will be seniors at Manheim Central High School in the Fall.

June R. Grube, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Weidler Grube, Manheim, R7, was selected as Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants. She is a senior at Hempfield High School.

Other contestants were Bobbi Jean Reinhart, 17, daughter of George H. Reinhart, Kirkwood, R1; Joyce E. Denlinger, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis R. Denlinger, 262 A Belmont Road, Gordonville; Ellen L. Schmuck, 17, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Larry Schmuck, Peach Bottom R1; and Lois E. Wanner, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Guy Wanner, Narvon R2.

The selection came amidst a Bicentennial celebration setting with red, white and



Debra Kreider, Lancaster County's dairy princess for 1976, and Twila Brubaker, first runner-up, will represent the Garden Spot's dairy industry for the next 12 months.

## Dairy princess works with Shorthorns

By DIETER KRIEG  
WYOMISSING - In what all three judges unanimously agreed was the closest contest they had ever witnessed, Nedra Yoder narrowly edged first runner-up Tammy Hafer to become the 1976 Berks County Dairy Princess.

Crowned last Saturday night before a capacity crowd at the Berkshire Mall, here, Miss Yoder received her crown and accompanying responsibilities from the 1975 Princess, Cathy Yanos. She competed for the title along with nine other girls. Together, they had the judges studying their notations for more than five hours. The crowning ceremony topped off a week-long promotional effort by Berks County dairy farmers and cooperating agencies and businesses. Informative and educational exhibits were set up throughout the mall, creating what some called an "exemplary effort to reach the consumer."

Dark haired and outgoing, the new dairy princess is a 4-H and FFA member, an enthusiastic owner of Milking Shorthorn cattle, and highly active in school sports and activities. With a career in nursing in her plans and a life on the farm in her thoughts, the 17-year-old girl believes strongly in milk. She claimed to be very health conscious and cited

## Hog producers up voluntary contributions

By DIETER KRIEG  
STRASBURG - After more than 8½ years of not increasing their voluntary check-off rates, members of the national policy committee for the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) voted unanimously to seek additional funds through increased contributions.

Starting July 1, pork producers are being asked to freely give ten cents per marketed hog, and five cents per feeder pig towards national, state and local promotional programs. The decision to raise the check-off rates was made in March at the American Pork Congress.

Lancaster County hog producer, John Henkel, who had a hand in the proceedings and formulation of both the original and updated programs, proudly notes that the NPPC is the largest single commodity group in the country and stresses that the check-off program is strictly producer funded and operated. There are no strings attached to governmental agencies. According to Henkel the strength and integrity of the program lie in the fact that it is voluntary and independent.

Although the initial move for increased funding must be made by producers themselves, the Strasburg area hog producers emphasize that cooperation from marketing points is essential. "We appreciate the cooperation," he commented, "because without it we could not get our story across... but they have things to gain too, they get a better market through better hogs coming in."

There are approximately 80,000 hog producers in the United States who are members of the NPPC, and membership therein is restricted to farmers who are actually marketing hogs. Policy formulations are thus entirely representative of the producer end, Henkel noted. Approximately 65 percent of the hogs marketed in the United States come from farms where producers have voluntarily agreed to the check-off program, Henkel said.

"The Power of a Dime" is the title of a new brochure which describes the check-off program. In its introduction it states:

"The initial nickel investment helped the NPPC determine through research the best way to promote

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