

Elizabeth Sperry chosen Pa. Poultry queen

By JOANNE SPAHR

HARRISBURG, Pa. - In what may have been the last commodity queen contest of the year, Elizabeth Sperry was chosen as Pennsylvania's Poultry Queen on October 29 at the Sheraton-Harrisburg Inn, here, amid elegant surroundings, fine food, and a court of five other attractive young ladies who offered stiff competition.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Sperry, Atlantic, Pa., Liz is no stranger to queen contests. In 1974 she was named Miss Pennsylvania Rural Electrification which made her eligible for national competition held in San Francisco, Ca. In that national contest, she was honored by being named one of two recipients of the Miss Congeniality award.

And, just as she is no stranger to beauty contests, Liz is also no stranger to the poultry industry. She was raised on a 342 acre poultry farm which as of last year, became a family corporation, and because of the addition of a third highrise layer building, will now have 94,000 layers by next Spring. The family has also recently started growing their own replacement pullets in a 40,000 bird start-grow house. Not surprisingly, the Sperrys were one of six master farmers chosen in 1975.

And, of course, Liza has an active role in the family business.

"I'll have you know," she pertly announces with a trickster's grin on her face,



The newly crowned Pennsylvania Poultry Queen is Elizabeth Sperry, a senior at Penn State University who has set her sites on working in some facet of agribusiness.

"that I have been a certified egg candler for five years now."

Although she says that statement with a big grin on her face and laughter in her voice, she is definitely proud of being part of the operation.

Now a Senior at Penn State with an interdisciplinary major in general arts and sciences which she fashioned herself, Liz has high hopes of going into an agri-business related occupation which, she explains, will combine her college education with the way of life she's always known.

"I'd really like to work with cooperatives," she said when asked to state her preference for job opportunities. She went on to explain that she has been actively working with cooperatives in Crawford County, her home county. For example, she has been a resource leader for a PAFC summer institute, and this past season she was a summer Extension assistant for the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service of Crawford County.

A peppy young lady who described one of her favorite hobbies as "enjoying life in general," Liz won the hearts of the audience and judges with her knowledgeable answers and good sense of humor.

During the contest, each girl was asked to answer one of three industry questions

and a general knowledge question relating to poultry. (Continued on Page 99)

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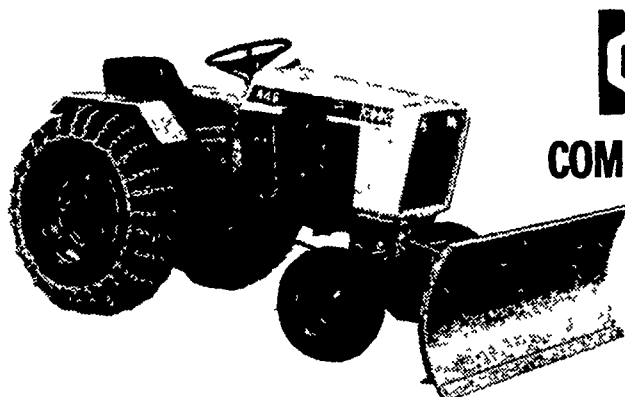
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