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More than 20 forage harvesters followed one another through corn fields at Penn State this week as part of the Ag Progress Days activities. The main exhibition area is visible in the far background.

Nearly 50,000 visit Ag Progress

By DIETER KRIEG

ROCK SPRINGS - An estimated 40 to 50 thousand people traveled to Centre County during the middle of this week to participate in the biggest agricultural show of its kind in the East - Ag Progress Days. It amounts to a huge, outdoor Pennsylvania Farm Show minus the livestock shows. In its place, however, are field demonstrations of various pieces of equipment, for which visitors crowd around by the thousands.

An annual highlight of the plowing contests, which were spread over two days this year. In Tuesday's contests, held beneath a cloudless late summer sky, William Crain of Mechanicsburg came up with the best furrows for large plows and was automatically in the running for a shot at the national

contest. An eliminations contest for that big event took place on Wednesday and Crain again came up on top. He'll represent the state

at the National Plowing Contest, in El Paso, Illinois on Sept. 14 and 15. Crain, a Cumberland County farmer, won his

county's plowing championships earlier this month. (See story on page 113). Placing second in the large plow contest on Tuesday was

John Flick of Berlin, followed by Marlin Detterlein of New Enterprise, Kenneth Glazier of McConnellsburg, Andy Myers

of Dallastown, Donald Stahl of Fayetteville, and Richard Binkley of Columbia. In Wednesday's matches, | (Continued on Page 22)

Tobacco growers report excellent crop

By JOANNE SPAHR

LANCASTER, Pa. - There's no doubt about it. On the whole, this year's tobacco crop is a good one. At first, the dry conditions around transplanting time looked a slight bit threatening, but as it turned out, became a blessing in disguise for many farmers throughout Lancaster County. The plants rooted deep, and, then, when they needed the most moisture, in July, the rains came at nice intervals without too much force to pelt the ground. As a result, the ground in most

parts of the county is loose, which allows for good drainage, and most important, a good tobacco crop.

As evidence from touring the county this week, this year's tobacco size is excellent. In many fields, the

leaves are long, broad, and lush, covering the separation between rows. Nearly all farmers report

an excellent crop, and in most cases, say it is better in nearly all respects in | (Continued on Page 18)

Tomato crop down, prices same

By KENDACE BORRY

LITITZ - The tomato crop appears to be average, or "mediocre" as one grower put it this past week when Lancaster Farming surveyed Lancaster, York, and Schuylkill Counties to see what the harvest is like.

Karl Fuller, representing the farm department of the Charles G. Summers, Jr., Inc. Packing House, New Freedom, Pa. believes that the major reason there is not a bumper crop in the York County area is due to the lack of rainfall in the area. This is making the tomatoes smaller than usual. Although he stated that the rains in the last few weeks have helped, he added that now that the

harvesting is in progress, the best thing would be for the rains to hold hold. Having good harvesting

weather seems to be the main concern of tomato growers throughout the area. B.S. Warfel, who runs

a tomato brokerage firm near the Buck, stated that the hot, humid weather has | (Continued on Page 24)

Lehi Coop reorganizing

ALLENTOWN - Lehigh Valley Cooperative Farmers this week instituted a major internal reorganization program designed to im-

prove its retail customer service and to increase efficiency in all areas of operation. According to Robert P.

Barry, president of the Allentown, based dairy processing and marketing co-op, Lehigh is moving | (Continued on Page 36)

Berks Countians recognized

By LAUREL SCHAEFFER Berks County Reporter KUTZTOWN - For the first time ever, the Kutztown Fair presented an Outstanding

Farm Family Award to a Berks County family. John Schaeffer, chairman of the Fair Committee sponsoring the award believes the

award will continue to be presented every year. This year the award was presented to the P. William | (Continued on Page

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