

# House okays foreign investment disclosure bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. House of Representatives has passed the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978, which is designed to keep track of purchases and sales of American farmland by foreigners. Congressman Robert Walker of Lancaster-Lebanon-Chester Counties, Pa. was one of the prime sponsors. The bill was passed on Sept. 26, after Walker first introduced it on May 10 of this year. Walker termed the bill "an important first step toward

adequately protecting America's farmland from irresponsible foreign investment."

"While this legislation does not go quite as far as I would have preferred, I am nonetheless very pleased that the House has taken this action in such a timely fashion," Walker said.

Walker, who was the first in the House to introduce legislation requiring foreigners to disclose transactions involving any substantial amount of



Robert Walker

domestic farmland, also said he felt that in several ways the bill brought to the House floor by the Family Farm Subcommittee strengthened his original proposal.

During the course of the House debate on the legislation, Congressman Charles Grassley of Iowa, the Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee, credited Walker with having originated the legislation which the final action addressed.

"Farmland is one of our nation's most precious resources and I am optimistic that this legislation will go a long way toward assuring that our nation's

food growing capacity does not fall under foreign control," Walker said.

Under the House passed bill, the purchase or sale of farmland in this country by a foreigner or foreign entity would be reported to the Secretary of Agriculture on an annual basis. The Secretary would then compile the data, analyze it and submit his findings to the President and Congress for appropriate action.

Failure to comply with the disclosure requirement would result in a civil action being initiated by the Attorney General with actual penalties left for the court to determine.

"The only shortcoming in this bill is that agents acting on behalf of foreign interests are not required to disclose their activities. In spite of this reservation, however, I feel that this legislation is a very positive accomplishment," Walker said.

He also noted that the Senate must now be urged to take up the issue in a timely fashion so that the law can be put on the books and the necessary information gathered as soon as possible.

"I firmly believe that our future is tied to a strong commitment to preserving our nation's farmland now," Walker concluded.

## Feidt wins Holstein show

GRATZ — David Feidt, winner of the Holstein and Brown Swiss contests in 4-H competition at the Gratz Fair, scored the same victories in the open show. His 4-year old black-and-white was named senior and grand champion. The junior title was awarded to Carl Miller, owner of the first-place junior calf. A junior yearling shown by Russell Miller filled the reserve junior champion slot.

Placings follow:  
Junior Calf - 1. Carl Miller, 2. Russell Miller; Intermediate Calf - 1. Ed Clugston, 2. Paul Hoffman; Senior Calf - 1. R.T. Miller, 2. Bonnie Sue Wolfe; Jr. Yearling - 1. Russell Miller, 2. Donald Buffington; Sr. Yearling - R.T. Miller, 2. Daniel Wolfe; Junior Get - Russell Miller, Daniel Wolfe.  
Two-Year Olds - 1. Daniel Wolfe, 2. R.T. Miller; Three-Year Olds - 1. Arthur Wolfe, 2. R.T. Miller; Four-Year Olds - 1. David Feidt, 2.

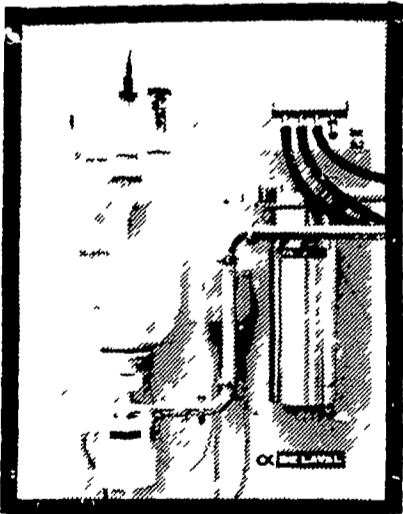
Russell Miller; Aged Cows - 1. Calvin Dimpsey, 2. Russell Miller; Best Udder - 1. Calvin Dimpsey; Senior Get - 1. David Feidt, 2. R.T. Miller; Best Three Females - 1. David Feidt, 2. R.T. Miller; Dairy Herd - 1. David Feidt, 2. Daniel Wolfe; Produce of Dam - 1. Arthur Wolfe, 2. Katherine Feidt; Dam and Daughter - 1. David Feidt, 2. Katherine Feidt.

## Chicken barbeque set

LEOLA — The Leola Fire Company will hold its annual chicken barbeque on October 21 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Leola War Memorial, 50 West Main Street, Leola.

Cost will be \$1.75. The Ladies Auxiliary will also sponsor a bake sale.

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