

# Lancaster Co. Dairy Goat club to form

By KENDACE BORRY PEQUEA — Dairy goat owners of Lancaster County have the opportunity to band together to learn more and share their experiences next week.

Due to increased interest in dairy goats in the area, the first meeting of the Lancaster County Dairy Goat Club will be held March 14 at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the club is to promote interest in dairy goats in Lancaster County and to distribute information to goat owners. Anyone who presently owns goats or would like to own dairy goats is encouraged to attend, according to organizational leader Mrs. Pat Kauffman, Pequea R1. Suggestions for discussion topics and demonstrations at coming meetings will be sought. The club will be used to help create unity among goat owners, give a channel to pass information between owners, and help plot the growth of the dairy goat industry.

At the same time, a 4-H dairy goat club will be started that will be open to all youngsters 8 to 18 years of age. Youth and their parents that would like to join are urged to attend the first meeting of the Lancaster County Dairy Goat Club. The two clubs will be operated jointly.

"Goats are a good pet and an interesting animal," Mrs.

Kauffman stated. "If you have a back yard, they're less expensive than a dog to keep, and they're not expensive to buy, if you use grade goats, and in the club you will be able to."

She has owned goats for six years, the first one being a present from her father. Now she owns 40 goats, mostly grades with a reg. Toggenburg buck. She uses the animals for milk production, and ships the milk to Natural-Lee, Inc., New Freedom. "Goat milk is becoming more popular," she noted. "People may get them as a pet and then find that they are a good way to

get banks cleaned as well as being an endearing animal. They're a challenge and their offspring are cute."

She told that she would like to see even those people with one goat or those just interested in the animal to come and talk to other goat owners. "There is a possibility that we may be able to combine our dairy goat 4-H roundup with one of the local fairs," she added. Many plans will be discussed at the meeting.

For more information about the group, one can call the Lancaster County Extension Office in Lancaster at 717-394-6851.



Mrs. Pat Kauffman poses with a few of her goats at her home near Pequea. She will be the organizational leader of the new Dairy Goat Club.

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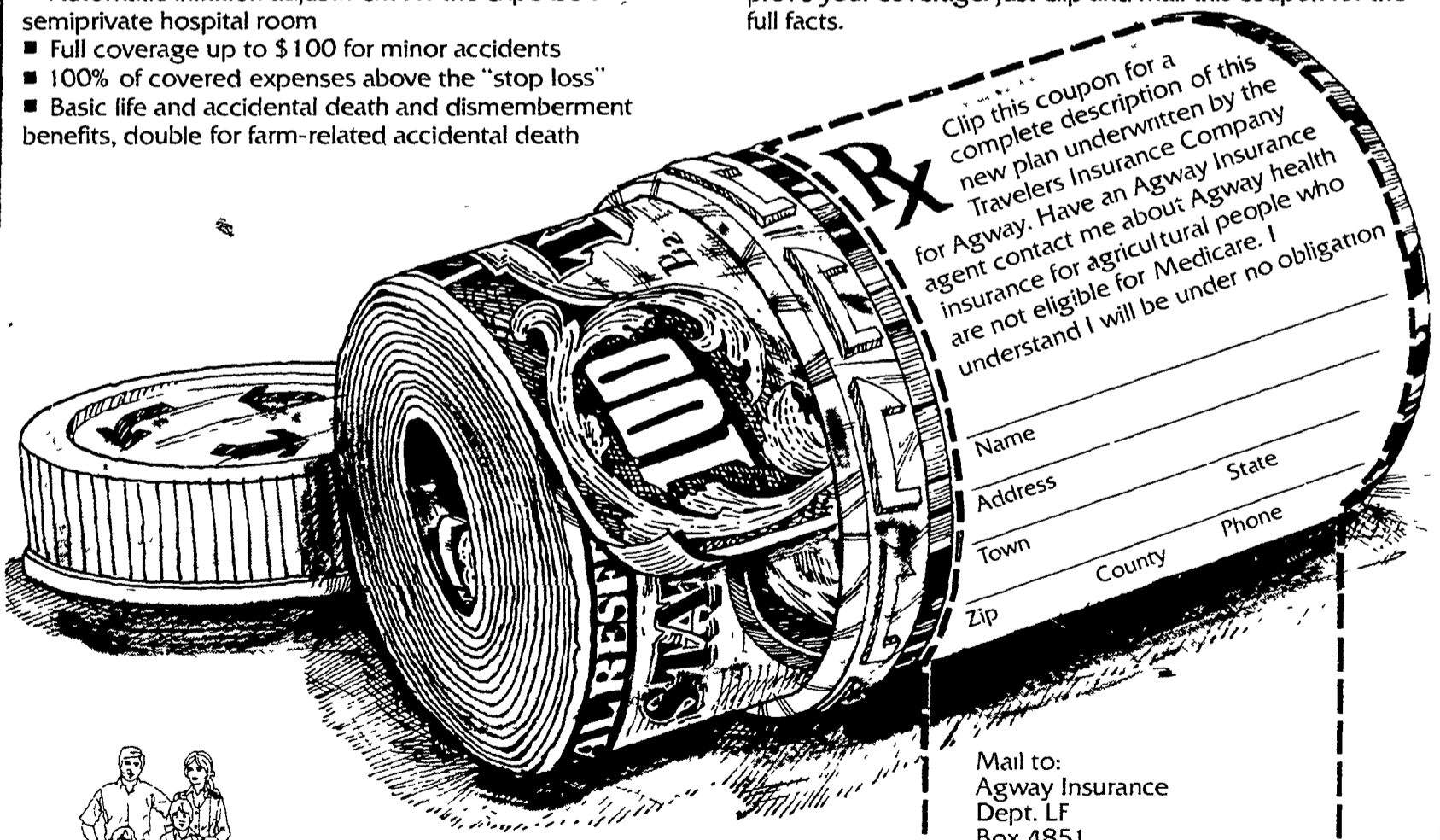
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## Commercial red meat production up

HARRISBURG — Red meat production in Pennsylvania during January 1979 totaled \$1.2 million pounds, up four per cent from a year earlier, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Cattle slaughter at 77,100 head was up nine per cent from a year earlier. Calf slaughter at 24,900 was down three per cent and hog slaughter at 279,100 was down only slightly. Sheep and lamb slaughter at 12,100 was up 10 per cent from January 1978.

Nationally, commercial red meat production in January 1979 totaled 3.28 billion pounds, up two per cent from January 1978. Beef production at 2.07 billion pounds was down slightly. Veal production at 41 million pounds decreased 34 per cent from a year. Pork production totaled 1.5 billion pounds, up nine per cent from a year ago. Lamb and mutton production declined eight per cent to 23 million pounds.



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