

Berks County PFA members learn of PACMA

By LAUREL SCHAEFFER
Staff Correspondent
FLEETWOOD - Berks County farmers were given an opportunity to see first hand, the type of cattle which can be purchased through the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association PACMA services on September 13.

Hosting the meeting was Robert Kopfer of Fleetwood. Kopfer had just received a shipment of sixty head of feeder cattle averaging about 750 pounds each through the program and was very pleased with the program.

On hand to explain the services and answer any questions was PACMA cattle buyer, Howard Sparlin. He explained that he travels from farm to farm to obtain the type of cattle needed to fill his orders. Once purchased, the cattle are weighed and shipped directly to their buyer's destination. "We eliminate as much stress as possible by going farm to farm," he said. "And there is no worrying about sale barns," the buyer added. The cattle are usually purchased from the southern states such as Virginia and West Virginia. "Their cattle

are just as good as the cattle from the Midwest," Sparlin remarked. Poor cattle are eliminated on the farms at once, with approximately 90 per cent of the cattle purchased through PACMA grading out as choice.

Sparlin explained that the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association has outstanding working relations with the other State Farm Bureaus in regard to feeder cattle purchases. But added that at times it has been difficult to obtain the cattle wanted. "Sometimes it may take three weeks to fill an order," he remarked.



Robert Kopfer of Fleetwood hosted a meeting for Berks County PFA members concerning the PACMA service. Kopfer, left, had recently purchased feeder cattle through the program. Howard Sparlin, PACMA cattle buyer and Jack Kooker, Berks County Farmers' Association participated in the meeting.

Williams promoted to Weaver post

Aneurin Williams, 102 Miller Drive, Manheim, has been promoted to the post of night employment supervisor at Victor F. Weaver, Inc., New Holland. Williams is a 1978 graduate of Millersville State College, where he received his B.A. degree in psychology. He joined Weaver in 1979 as an assistant employment supervisor, a post he has held until his recent

promotion. Prior to joining Weaver, he held managerial posts with several Lancaster companies.

In his new position, Williams will be responsible for the employment of hourly night shift personnel and inter-related employment activities.



Aneurin "Bill" Williams

"The competition in bidding is high," he explained. Presently we are buying them when we see them, he continued, "you don't get a second chance to go back and look again." To order cattle through the PACMA program, a farmer must be a member of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, or in some instances may be charged a service fee amounting to the same figure. Cattle are described as close as possible to the prospective buyers and are quoted a price. If the prospective

buyer wants the cattle they are shipped directly to him. All trucking arrangements are made by PACMA, and included in the price of the cattle. The cattle price also includes the commission and insurance. "The insurance is worth quite a bit alone," Sparlin remarked. It covers the cattle from the loading point until 24 hours after delivery. Any cattle which develop problems or die within this period will be refunded if PACMA is notified in enough time. Once fattened, the cattle can be sold through PACMA

again. They are sold on a dressed weight basis and a commission of three dollars per head is charged. Hogs can also be purchased and sold through a similar program. Sparlin also commented that he doesn't believe there will be a let up in feeder cattle prices for quite some time. But added that the emphasis will be on how the grain harvest does and what its prices are. However, he also told the farmers present that there will be enough cattle for the people with the money.

4-H'ers compete

(Continued from Page 16)

YORKSHIRE

Class 1

1. Ronald Wilson, 2. Jeff Wilson.

Class 2

1. Ronald Wilson, 2. Jeff Wilson.

Class 3

1. Ronald Wilson, 2. Steve Bankert.

Class 4

1. Steve Bankert, 2. Jeff Wilson.

Class 4A

1. Ronald Wilson, 2. Steve Bankert.

Class 4B

1. Ronald Wilson, 2. Steve Bankert.

Grand champion —

Ronald Wilson, Reserve champion — Ronald Wilson.

LANDRACE

Class 1

1. Harold Mummert, 2. John Mummert.

Class 2

1. John Mummert, 2. Harold Mummert.

Class 3

1. Shelly Bankert, 2. Harold Mummert.

Class 4

1. Harold Mummert, 2. John Mummert.

Class 4A

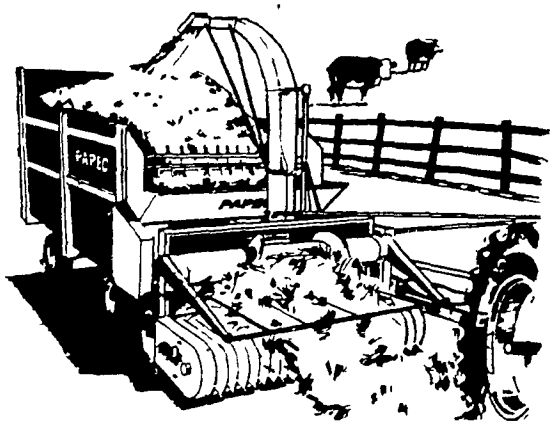
1. Shelly Bankert.

Class 4B

1. Shelly Bankert.

Champion — Harold Mummert, Reserve champion — Shelly Bankert.

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