

Farm Show opening ceremonies attract thousands

HARRISBURG — For the first time in the show's history, the Pa. Farm Show opened its doors to the public on Sunday afternoon. Thousands of people poured through the doors to take

part in the state's largest agriculture show.

Governor Richard Thornburgh visited the show for a short time on Sunday afternoon, and his wife, Ginny, helped out with the

grand opening ceremonies. This was the Thornburgh's first Farm Show.

Mrs. Thornburgh, who has spent most of her life in a city or suburban environment, said she feels it is

important for city people to see the life of a farm family.

"It's a life that is less predictable," she said. "A farmer has to have faith when he plants a seed that it will grow."

She said she was particularly impressed with farm families' faith and dedication. She said she enjoyed watching the animals being prepared for show and all the precompetition excitement that was in the air.

during the opening ceremonies, Mrs. Thornburgh unveiled the Pa. commodities logo.

"The Pa. Department of Agriculture wants to give farmers the best shot possible through better markets," she said.

Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell said the logo has met with positive response when the idea was presented to area merchants and produce growers.

"We have been waiting for its introduction here at the Farm Show, but Pennsylvanians will be seeing the new logo within one or two weeks," Hallowell said.

One of the benefits of the new logo, according to Hallowell, will be a more sound financial and economic outlook for farmers. Thus, he said, will help to preserve farmers and as a result, farmland.

Secretary Hallowell thanked Mother Nature for the slight scuff of snow and lots of sunshine that greeted the opening day visitors. He told the crowd this year's

show is dedicated to the 59,000 farm families in the state.

It featured over 4200 head of livestock and poultry, and thousands of other entries competing for \$110,000 in prizes. Visitors saw hundreds of machinery and commercial exhibits and tasted some of the famous Farm show baked potatoes and milk shakes.



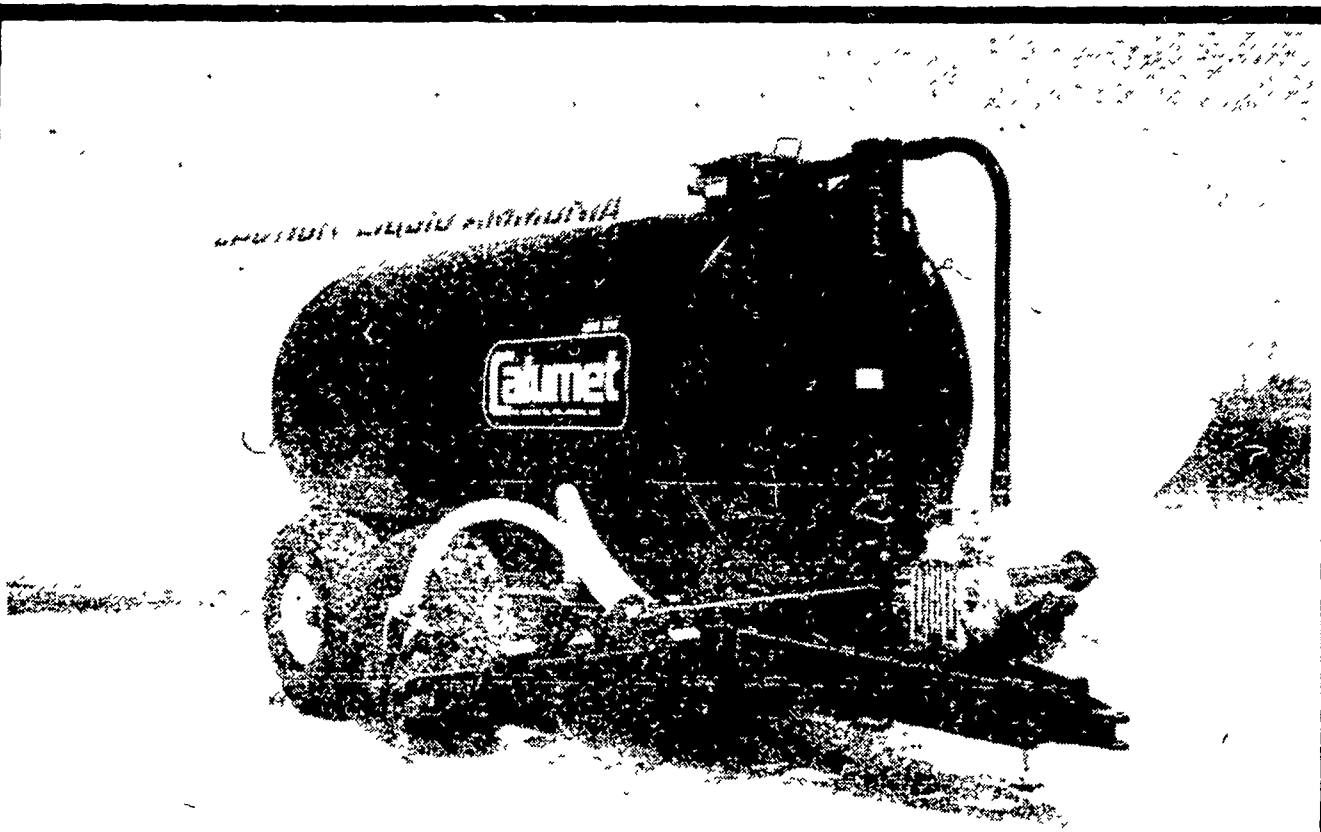
Barbara Graybill, Lititz, is the Pennsylvania Honey Queen. She offers Ginny Thornburgh a sample of some of the best Pennsylvania honey, along with tasty samples and recipes.



Governor Thornburgh and Secretary Hallowell visit with Laura Karina, Indiana. The Karina's grow some of Pennsylvania's finest Christmas trees in their nursery.



No gentleman farmer, this. Bucks County Dairyman and State Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell showed how it's done, twice a day every day. And he hardly creased his pinstripes.



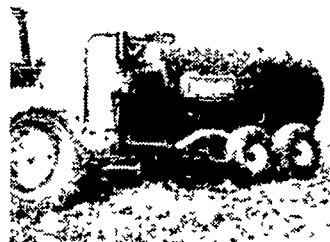
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