

# Grassland chapter leads Lancaster FFA winners

LANCASTER — In competition with 1246 entries from across the state, Barbara Herr and her Grassland FFA Chapter came out as big winners.

The competition was the annual state judging of FFA project books held recently. The project books are accounts kept for the preceding calendar year of the youths involvements in FFA projects.

Scoring categories for the books consisted of: Efficiency of project; labor income; and completeness and neatness. Each of the three areas received about one-third of the total points.

Herr's winning project book covered four FFA project areas including swine finishing, beef finishing, lamb finishing and lamb breeding.

Grassland Chapter FFA's win came in the chapter scrapbook competition. Advisor Clifford J. Day attributed the silver medal win to the fine work done by the school's environmental group and the artistic ability of the arrangement. He also

indicated this year's book was a follow through and improvement on last year's book which also won the silver medal.

Day also noted that while the Grassland book placed second in County competition earlier this month, it topped all other county books in state competition. "Different judges look for slightly different things," Day said.

Manheim FFA's Chapter also scored in the scrapbook competition with a bronze medal award.

In all, thirty nine Lancaster County members of the Future Farmers received awards last week in the State College competition.

In addition to the 44 category awards, Production Credit Association provides monetary awards which will be awarded to county regional and state winners at a later date.

Project areas and winners are:

Vegetable gardening - Cindy Good, Garden Spot, silver.

Dairy Herd - David Kulp, Manheim Central, gold.

Horses - Dana Armbrust, Garden Spot, bronze.

On Farm Experience - Dave Myers, Solanco, silver; Mark Weiler, Ephrata, bronze.

Off Farm Experience - Robert Fox, Ephrata, gold; Donald Good, Ephrata, gold; Lamar Groff, Ephrata, silver; Allen Ackley, Ephrata, silver; Kevin Smoker, Ephrata, silver; Chris Riggs, Penn Manor, silver; Chuck Zimmerman, Ephrata, bronze; and Joe Good, Garden Spot, bronze.

Swine Fattening - Kevin Martin, Garden Spot, gold; Larry Horst, Garden Spot, silver; Owen Hartz, Garden Spot, silver; Rick Hess, Manheim Central, silver; and Jay Frey Jr., Penn Manor, bronze.

Skills and Tasks - Wanda Steffy, Garden Spot, gold.

Farm Accounts - Judy Zimmerman, Ephrata, bronze.

Two Enterprises - Doug Hershberger, Solanco, gold; Robert Kirk, Solanco, silver; Jeff Shenk, Manheim Central, bronze; Ray Good, Ephrata, bronze; Brett Holzhauer, Solanco, bronze; Robert Lithgow, Ephrata, bronze; Melvin Williams, Penn Manor, bronze; Scott Brinton, Solanco, bronze; and Jeff Neff, Penn Manor, bronze.

Three Enterprises - Chris Herr, Garden Spot, silver; Mike Hess, Manheim Central, bronze; Harold Kauffman, Ephrata, bronze; and Doug Snavelly, Warwick, bronze.

Four Enterprises - Barbara Herr, Garden Spot, gold; Barry Geib, Manheim Central, gold; and Marvin Fox, Ephrata, bronze.

Five Enterprises - Glen Shenk, Manheim Central, gold; and David Holzhafer, Solanco, silver.

Six Enterprises - Kay Shertzer, Penn Manor, bronze.

## Legislative roundup

# Egg referendum bill passes U.S. House

BY DICK WANNER

WASHINGTON — A bill, HB 6285, that would set up a referendum to amend the nationwide egg checkoff program was passed overwhelmingly by the U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday by a vote of 288 to 82.

The bill now moves on to the Senate where, according to Mary Wright of the United Egg Producer's Washington office, it seems to be headed for equally clear sailing.

"But you never know," Miss Wright said. "We didn't expect any opposition in the House, either, but we got it from Fred Richmond, a member of the agricultural committee."

Richmond, it should be noted, lives in Brooklyn and represents an urban constituency. He sought the ag committee assignment because it gives him a forum for some of his consumerist crusades. Miss Wright reported that on the day of the vote on HB 6285, Richmond stood at the door of the House distributing leaflets explaining his opposition to the measure.

He opposed the bill because he felt it could raise the price of eggs, and because two government agencies, the USDA and HEW, have recently issued

dietary guidelines calling for reduced egg consumption.

Actually, the House and the Senate can only pass a bill authorizing a referendum to take place. If Congress approves the bill, egg producers could still turn the idea down when they turn in their ballots.

The Egg Research and Consumer Information Act of 1974 was, in fact, approved by a majority of the nation's egg producers. Under that program, all producers with more than 3000 layers contribute a nickel a case to a fund for the promotion of eggs.

The funds are collected by processors and sent to the USDA's Farm Marketing Service, thence to the American Egg Board in Chicago, which decides exactly how they are to be spent. Mostly, the money is spent on advertising and sales promotion.

Miss Wright pointed out that while all producers must pay into the program, it's actually voluntary, since any producer can get his nickel back simply by asking the USDA for it.

If the Senate follows the House lead and passes HR 6285, then egg producers would vote in a national referendum to decide whether or not the 1974 act

should be amended. If Congress and the industry accept the amendment, here's what would happen:

The official membership of the American Egg Board would be increased from 18 to 20, with the two new seats going to consumers. Everybody now on the board is closely allied with the egg industry.

The assessment rate could be increased from the current five-cents per case to 10-cents, with the initial increase not to exceed 7.5-cents per 30-dozen case.

Enforcement provisions of the act would be strengthened to allow the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to assess civil penalties for violations of the Act. The penalties could range in severity from \$500 to \$5,000 for each violation. At the present, all enforcement actions must go through the courts, and enforcement has been difficult.

Meanwhile, in Harrisburg...

Not much new was added to the legislative stewpot in Harrisburg this week, although a number of issues continued to simmer in both the House and Senate ag committees.

The Senate early this week heard from George Brumbaugh, a retired - but

only 56-year-old - Huntingdon County dairyman who has been nominated by the Governor to be the new chairman of the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board. That chair has been vacant for some time, the state's major farm groups seem to think highly of Brumbaugh, and a lot of people in the dairy industry are waiting nervously and hopefully for his confirmation.

An interesting highlight to a two-day PFA legislative seminar this week at the Penn Harris was a panel discussion featuring four members of the House ag committee speaking on the subject of "Why I Ran for Office." Sorry we missed it.

About 90 people were in attendance for the entire program, but attendance swelled to more than 200 on Tuesday night when 15 candidates for the Senate seat now held by Richard Schweiker showed up. Also on hand were both the Democratic and Republican candidates for state attorney general.



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