

Solanco Young Farmers

(Continued from Page A16)

James Huber. The banner was recently purchased as a token of the appreciation from the FFA for the help that many young farmers have given FFA members since the Young Farmers Solanco Chapter began nineteen years ago.

Production awards were presented for dairy and corn enterprises judged upon results from DHIA records and corn contests conducted last growing season.

Robert L. Kauffman, Jr., received awards for high Holstein herd, high Holstein cow for milk and high Holstein cow for fat. Herd average for Kauffman was 19,133 pounds of milk and 715 pounds of fat. High cow finished with 28,298 pounds of milk and high cow for fat had 991 pounds.

William Arrowsmith took all three categories in Jersey cattle. His Jersey herd completed records of 11,786 pounds of milk and 555 pounds of fat. High cow for milk recorded 15,654 pounds and high Jersey for fat produced for Arrowsmith 758 pounds.

Donald Trimble's Brown Swiss took honors for high herd - 12,412 pounds of milk and 520 pounds of fat, high cow for milk - 18,437 pounds and high cow for fat - 751 pounds.

High Red and White Holstein Herd produced for Carl Herr 17,910 pounds of milk and 690 pounds of fat, High Red and White cow for milk - 23,661 pounds, and high Red and White for fat - 932 pounds

P. Robert Wenger had the herd that improved the most in milk production over the past year and C. Dale Bollinger's herd was most improved in butterfat

In the corn awards, Martin Greenleaf, Jr., was first in shelled corn with 164.8 bushels; second was H Grant Troop with 162.2 bushels; third was Carl Kreider with 158.4 bushels. First in silage yield was Karl Herr with 26.3 tons per acre, second was Carl Kreider with 25.5 tons per acre; third was Edwin Harnish with 23.5 tons per acre

Matthew Young was selected as the Outstanding Young Farmer under thirty and Paul Welk was chosen the Outstanding Young Farmer over thirty

Dale Herr was named the most active young farmer. William Fredd, retired vo-

ag teacher and former young farmer advisor, was honored with a plaque of appreciation for his contributions to the Solanco Young Farmers' Association.

Representative Armstrong told the group that the one bright spot on the economy is farming production.

"We have the competitive edge when it comes to the abundance and the variety of farm products we have in the United States," he said.

"We have a thirty billion dollar export market in farm products. Without it we would be in worse shape than we are now with the imbalance of trade; we are helping to pay for imported oil with our farm exports"

He broke down figures for Pennsylvania and Lancaster County pointing out that agriculture is the second leading industry in Pennsylvania with 59,000 farms in the state - 5,100 of them in Lancaster County. The state produces one billion dollars in dairy products, 113 million dollars in Lancaster County alone.

Stressing the geographic location of the state in relation to major Northeast United States population centers, Armstrong pointed out the state's advantage for marketing locally in light of rising transportation costs.

Concerned for the preservation of productive farmland in the state, Armstrong stated that 4.5 million more acres are under cultivation in the state than in any other northeastern state.

He outlined basic steps the State House has taken to promote agriculture

Eliminating nuisance ordinances in the Right to Farm bill, considering revisions in inheritance tax laws to discourage selling off farmland, deed restriction laws, milk security funding, land condemnation board approval and land preservation comprehensive planning all attempt to keep agriculture possible, according to Armstrong.

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURE



WE'RE GROWING BETTER



Solanco corn award winners included, from left: Troop and Martin Greenleaf, Jr. Karl Herr, Ed Harnish, Carl Kreider, H. Grant

Agriculture itself, agribusiness and tourism all thrive in the County, especially the southern end, Armstrong added. Haphazard development will affect all of them.

"Farming is big business, it is complicated. One has to be on top of finances to survive," he cautioned.

Estate planning and proper wills can help, but farmers ought to be on top of genetics, marketing, legislation and politics as well, he added.

"As a nation we cannot continue to operate with big deficits. Our nation can turn things around, but cutbacks will be necessary," he concluded



Tina Bucher, president of the Solanco FFA, presented the Young Farmers Banner to officers Victor Brinton, treasurer-secretary; James Huber, president; and Dale Herr, vice president. Advisor is Ron Althoff.

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