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About 400 members of dairy farm families attended the Lancaster County Holstein Club field day Thursday. The cow judging contest was one of the day's highlights.

Red Rose Holsteins hold annual field day

BY CURT HARLER

ELIZABETHTOWN — A perfect score in the judging contest and an update on embryo transplants from a local veterinarian highlighted the Lancaster Holstein Field day held Thursday near Elizabethtown.

John Cope, Grantham, manager of Ashcombe's Dairy, scored a perfect 150 points in placing three classes of cows in the annual judging contest.

Dr. Alan McCauley of Em-Tran, Embryo Transfer, Inc., told dairymen the embryo transfer system has been perfected to a point where a healthy donor cow has an 85 percent chance of producing a pregnancy.

Dr. McCauley addressed a group of about 400 dairymen and their families attending the annual meeting held this year at the Robert H. Kauffman family's Penn Springs Farms, R1 Elizabethtown.

Dr. McCauley said a healthy donor cow will give six to seven eggs at a flushing, although the range of egg production ranges from zero to 34 eggs.

With the 85 percent success ratio on breeding, Dr. McCauley said farmers could expect about four pregnancies from a flushing.

He recommended farmers use mature cows, not virgin heifers or first calf heifers as donors for flushing.

"There should be no risk from flushing a donor cow," he told the group, although there may be a temporary loss of 10 to 15 percent in milk production.

Em-Tran has been involved in over 2000 pregnancies. Dr. McCauley said best results come with a superior cow who is reproductively sound and

has showed she can throw good dairy traits.

Farmers had the opportunity to look at a number of sound cows during the morning cow judging session.

First place in the men's division and overall high score was turned in by John Cope, president of the State Holstein Association.

Second place went to Rick Hess, Strasburg; third, Robert Pepple, Oxford, who obviously was in close agreement with the show judge — his wife, Jane; fourth place went to Lloyd Sensenig, Quarryville; and

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Holly given time to submit plans

MT. HOLLY SPRINGS — Holly Milk Producers Cooperative was given 15 additional days to file a complete facility permit application with the Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Water Quality, according to a department spokesman.

This permit application was originally scheduled to be filed no later than August 1 as called for by the February 29 Consent Order and Agreement.

According to Lee Yohn, Compliance Specialist, Bureau of Water Quality Management, Harrisburg Regional Office, the milk cooperative submitted their application on Friday, July 25. However it was incomplete.

"There were several items lacking, but the major thing missing was the Pollution Incident Prevention Plan. We've given them 15 days to get the completed application to us," said Yohn.

Under the stipulations of the February ruling, Holly agreed to meet effluent criteria established under the state's Department of Environmental Resources discharge permit.

Since that time, Holly has been required to submit monthly progress reports on plans to upgrade their treatment plant.

In March, the preliminary engineering plans were due, said Yohn.

On Wednesday of this week, Ivo V. Otto, director of the Cooperative, said everything for the permit was in order.

When asked about the recent reports that the treatment plant was not functioning properly and was allowing some effluent to discharge into Mountain Creek, the director stated that this was "erroneous information."

"The discharges are pretty well meeting the requirements," he said. "Somedays we're under

them, and sometimes we're over."

DER's Yohn, however, pointed out that in the month of March the cooperative was penalized \$4000 for effluent violations. The penalties were levied at \$250 for each day the effluent was in excess of the limitations.

Monitoring the discharge is done both by the Cooperative and DER. Yohn stated the limitations for Holly are 18 milligrams per liter for Biochemical Oxygen

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At Lancaster FFA Show

Herr shows grand champion hog

BY SHEILA MILLER

LANCASTER — Christian Herr, Narvon, showed this year's grand champion hog at the 18th Annual Lancaster County FFA Market Hog Show, held Thursday at the Lancaster Union Stockyards.

The 225 pound Duroc was the champion hog in its weight class and the middleweight champ before being selected by Judge Henry Gruber of A & B Packing as the best hog in the show.

Herr, who will be attending Penn State in the Fall as an agricultural engineering student, purchased the hog at the Lancaster Swine Producers Sale earlier this Spring. It was out of the pen of pigs shown and sold by Clyde McCaughy, Smicksburg.

In his four years of showing hogs here in Lancaster, Herr said this is his first grand championship. He smiled as he recalled his first year of showing when he took home the reserve champion honors. In the interim, he said, he has always done well, but not enough for a championship.

What made the difference this year? Herr said he just made sure his hog had "a lot of exercise and enough feed." He added that he

weighed it pretty often, especially the last two weeks before the show.

Herr sold his grand champion to Hatfield Packing for \$3.30 a pound.

The reserve grand champion hog was exhibited by Shawn Charles, from Penn Manor FFA. The Duroc x Hampshire crossbred weighed 205 pounds.

Charles' hog was the champion lightweight hog and its class champion. It too was purchased by Hatfield Packing for \$1.60 per pound.

Charles also exhibited the open champion market hog and the reserve champion in the middleweight class, while Herr exhibited the reserve champion in the heavyweight class. The

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Mushroom meeting spawns ideas, but little action

BY SUSAN KAUFFMAN
Staff Correspondent

AVONDALE — "In the last five years there has been a sixty-seven per cent increase in mushroom imports," Alden Hopkins, Delaware's Secretary of Agriculture said. "The fresh market for mushrooms is not elastic enough to absorb such an increase."

Hopkins was addressing a group of mushroom growers Tuesday evening during a meeting sponsored by the Chester County Farmers

Union at the Silver Springs Restaurant, here.

Hopkins said that "Twelve domestic firms once handling mushrooms in 1974 have now disappeared."

The second concern of the industry which Hopkins voiced was the many chemical substances prohibited in the U.S. which are thought to be in use in foreign countries, including DDT. "We have no knowledge of the chemicals used in growing mushrooms

in the foreign countries," he said.

Dr. Robert Tetrault, an entomologist from Penn State, explained problems of finding insecticides which are effective in the mushroom industry, collecting data on residue and other side effects, and then getting these chemicals approved, registered and used by growers.

Local growers at the meeting expressed a third concern, the lack of

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August proclaimed county poultry month

MAYTOWN — August has been proclaimed Poultry Month by the Lancaster County Commissioners.

The commissioners signed the proclamation at their last July meeting and on Tuesday toured the egg production facility owned by the John H. Hershey family, R1 Marietta.

The commissioners noted

Lancaster County ranks first in Pennsylvania in number of laying hens and broilers, and fifth in the nation in broilers.

In addition, the proclamation said, the county poultry business provides nourishment for over three million people to the tune of \$100 million.

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