

EPA withdraws proposal for crop buffer zones

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a surprise move, the Environmental Protection Agency has withdrawn its proposal for pesticide application "buffer zones."

The EPA announcement follows a meeting last week between American Farm Bureau Federation President Robert B. Delano and EPA Administrator Douglas Costle at which Delano declared the proposal "an economic, environmental and political disaster."

The EPA proposal would have required states to enforce "buffer zones" between cotton fields and "sensitive areas" such as houses and roads.

The buffer zones, areas where pesticide applications could not be made, would have become "nonfarming" zones, where insects and weeds could thrive to reinfest adjacent crop lands.

EPA first advanced the

proposal in early August "to be effective upon release." Later, the agency said it would publish the proposal in the Federal Register for public input.

Agency officials had recently implied that following the cotton action — the buffer zone idea would be extended to other crops.

Delano, in commenting on EPA's withdrawal of the proposal, said, "Farmers and ranchers recognize their responsibility to protect neighbors and the environment from pesticide drift. However, the EPA proposal was not a constructive step towards achieving that goal, and we support the agency's decision to withdraw it."

Delano pledged continued Farm Bureau support of workable pesticide application programs intended to protect farm and non-farm needs.

Montgomery 4-H livestock team tops at Allentown

ALLENTOWN — Members from Montgomery County 4-H Livestock Club participated in a livestock judging competition at the Allentown Fair.

Members were asked to rank cattle and sheep on the basis of quality. The ten highest scores received award ribbons. There were three classes of beef cattle and three classes of sheep.

In the 4-H livestock judging, Steve McMahon of Montgomery County 4-H Club placed first, Phil McMahon, placed fourth and Jim Roth placed tenth. The

combined scores enabled the Montgomery County 4-H team to score tops in the livestock judging and received a trophy for this honor.

Bradford lamb sets record

ATHENS — The second Annual Bradford County 4-H Livestock Sale was held recently at the Valley Stockyard, Inc., Athens.

According to Orville Yoder, County Agent, 17 buyers paid a total of \$4,612.08 for 19 market animals.

Auctioneer for the sale was Roy Hottle of Hottles Auction Service, Wysox.

A record price of \$3.80 per pound was paid for the Grand Champion Lamb owned by Melissa Horton, Ulster, and was purchased by Leona Meat Plant, Troy.

The Reserve Grand Champion Lamb owned by Robert Moore, Jr., Nichols, New York, was bought by First Bank of Troy, Troy for \$2.40 per pound.

Third place lamb, owned by Jennifer Price, Hollenback 4-H, was bought by Troy Sales Co-op. for \$2.20 per pound.

Fourth place lamb, owned

by Melissa Horton, North Towanda 4-H Club, was purchased by Glen Shores Livestock, R5 Towanda, for \$2 per pound.

Fifth place lamb, owned by Rebecca Price, Hollenback 4-H, went to Wyalusing Livestock for \$2.20 per pound.

The 204 pound Grand Champion market hog, owned by Mark Urevich, Wyalusing, was purchased by Judson's Agway, Columbia Crossroads, for \$2 per pound.

Michele Urevich, Wyalusing, sold her Reserve Grand Champion Market hog to Norm Shores Tractor Sales, R5 Towanda for \$1.25 per pound.

Third place hog owned by Tammy Schrader, Windham, sold to Hottles Auction Sales, R2 Wysox, and fourth place hog owned by Rebecca Price, Hollenback 4-H, went to Nichols Brothers Farms, East Smithfield, for \$1.21 a pound.

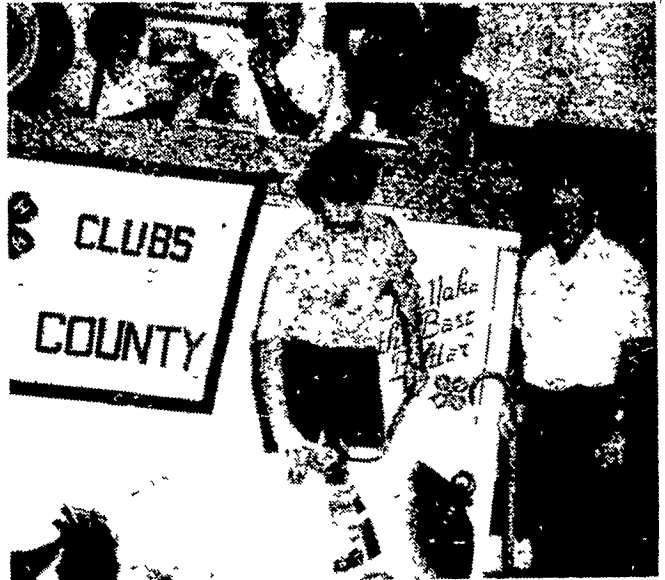
Fifth place hog owned by Jennifer Price, Hollenback 4-H, was purchased by Scott's Holsteins, Troy for \$1.20 per pound.

The champion market beef animal was a blue ribbon heifer owned by Keith Ayres, Troy Ag 4-H. It weighed 710 pounds and was purchased by Richard Burgess, Meshoppen.

The sale average for nine market lambs was \$2.11 per pound; average for nine market hogs was \$1.18 per pound.



Melissa Horton's Grand Champion Market Lamb sold to buyer Chas. Debach, Leona Meat Plant for \$3.80 per pound.



Mark Urevich, Wyalusing, sold his Grand Champ to Judsons Agway, Columbia Cross Roads for \$2 a pound.



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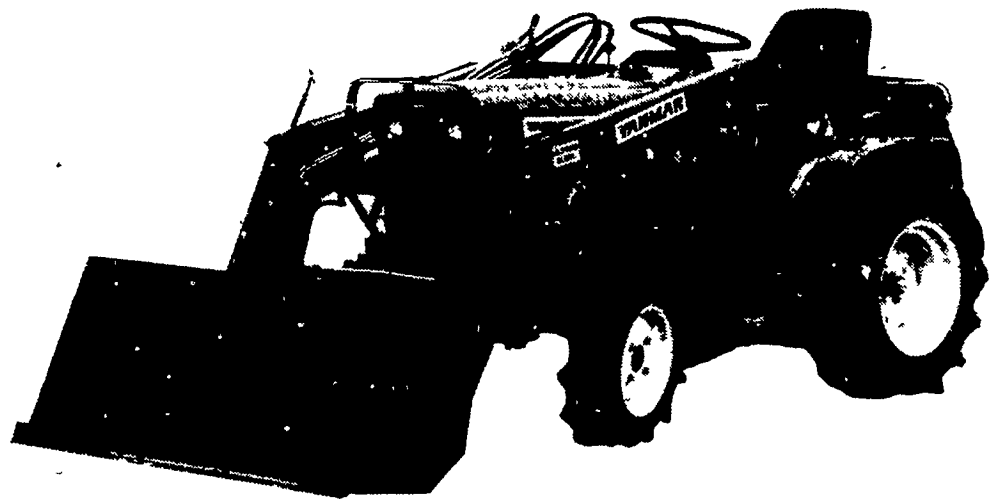
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