

4-H'ers

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Outstanding Horsemen in the county were also named.

Charlene Walker of the Stablemates 4-H Horse Club and Kristen McCuen of the Gummtree 4-H Horse Club were the recipients of the award. Presented by the 4-H Horse Council. Other awards presented that night went to State Days participants, County Fashion Review Winners, County Round-Up Clover Winners, Poster Contest and Blue Form Winners.

The "I Dare You" Award went to Jena Wyatt from the Southern Chester County Community Club and Sarah Nothstine from the Northern Chester County 4-H Club.

Three 4-H Alumni spoke on how 4-H affected their life. Bill Fairbairn, Ginger Stokes, and Dr. Dan Weinstock all agreed that 4-H taught them many leadership qualities which helped them through college and through their jobs they are holding now. County Council then put on an entertainment for everyone's enjoyment.



Doug Lawrie was the County and State Tractor Driver winner and placed 14th at the Eastern National Tractor Driving Contest in Virginia.



Land Bank directors concerned about dump

YORK — The Boards of Directors of the Federal Land Bank and Production Credit Associations of York, at a recent meeting, went on record to express grave concern over the long-term effects that may result from the installation of the chemical waste dump in North Codorus Township in York County.

A spokesman indicated that the ability of these cooperative lenders to finance eligible applicants in the agricultural area of the proposed dump could be seriously impaired, owing to possible soil and water contamination and resultant devaluation of the properties in the area.



This is just part of the crowd of 400 that filled the banquet room at Historic Strasburg for the annual get-together of members of the Lancaster County Poultry Association.



Even the pumpkin is smiling at the annual Lancaster County Poultry Association banquet Thursday night. Flanking LeRoy Esbenshade, president, are Debbie Herr, alternate; and Heidi Sue Miller, County Poultry Queen.

TGE explosions destroy pork profit

DES MOINES, Ia. — Any hog producer who has suffered through a Transmissible Gastroenteritis outbreak in his herd will readily confirm the disease is "explosive." Not only does it move through a herd with the speed of an explosion, it virtually destroys the profit picture of an operation.

While TGE is no longer considered a disease to be reckoned with only during the colder months of the year, a raging outbreak of TGE in a hog operation during the winter months can be nearly 100 percent fatal to exposed baby pigs less than a week old.

"There simply is no practical treatment for TGE in pigs under a week to 10 days of age," says Hal Sinclair, Manager of Technical Services at Diamond Laboratories, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa.

"During the winter months, TGE outbreaks account, in major hog producing areas, for 2-4 percent of death losses in baby pigs," continues Sinclair. "At \$10 to \$20 per pig, that amounts to some \$4-5 million per year estimated losses to TGE - and that's only in baby pigs."

The TGE virus usually affects 100% of all susceptible swine exposed to it, he emphasizes.

Sows which are acutely infected and have recently farrowed will almost invariably pass along the effects of the disease to baby pigs.

"One of the signs of TGE often observed in these sows is the decrease or cessation of milk flow," says Sinclair. "The basis for survival of the baby pig is an adequate supply of sow's milk. Anything that decreases this milk supply will have an adverse effect on a baby pig. It may result in the baby pig developing the disease."

The economic loss due to TGE is not limited to mortality alone. The effects on

growing-finishing hogs, while less obvious, are very real.

"Feeder pigs may develop watery diarrhea resulting in loss of weight," says Sinclair, "though they generally recover within seven days with few death losses. Even though mortality losses are not as high in feeder pigs, the problem of performance efficiency exists."

"General feeder pigs which have had TGE will have to be held longer before marketing. They have a lower feed efficiency ratio and take longer to make market weight. An added hidden cost here is that these pigs may not grade as high due to an added amount of backfat," says Sinclair.

Although there is no treatment for the disease once the pig is afflicted, a prevention program can help avoid the problem, he points out. Many pork producers are making immunization programs a regular part of their management routine.

"The explosive nature with which TGE can devastate both a swine herd and a balance sheet," concludes Sinclair, "makes a well-planned and executed prevention program important for every hog operation. In an economy where margins are slim and room for unexpected disaster is nonexistent, such a program is a necessity."



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