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Lancaster Farming

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Galen W. Crouse, R1 Stevens, right, has been named Master Farmer for 1980. Crouse, along with wife Carolyn and sons Philip, left, and Neal operate a successful dairy enterprise in Lancaster County on 310 acres of leased land. His program boasts a 16,000 pound herd average for milk production. He is actively involved in the embryo transfer program.

Galen Crouse wins Master Farmer award

STEVENS — Galen W. Crouse, of R1 Stevens, has been named a Master Farmer for 1980.

His business expertise and management efficiency has proven you can be a highly successful dairyman without owning an acre of land or a building.

The 310 acres of cropland he farms is owned by operators of a limestone quarry. The land was sold years ago by his father. Unable to buy the farm, Crouse leases the land.

On this farm Crouse raises 360 dairy animals, 125 of which are milk cows. Heavily involved in an embryo transplant program, he sells offspring for a profit in addition to maintaining a milk herd average of 16,000 pounds of milk.

"When my dad sold the farm, I negotiated an agreement with the new owner. The original buildings were too small, outdated, and inefficient for an expanding dairy operation," Crouse says.

The owner, however, preferred not to invest additional money in the farm. The Master Farmer financed and constructed a 40 by 200-foot free stall barn, a 60 by 90-foot maternity barn, and two large silos.

Crouse worked out a 20-

year lease whereby he has the right to farm the land for this period or longer.

"I formed a partnership with my father in 1954, but disbanded it in 1966, when the farm was sold. I pur-

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PMMB to face several 1981 challenges

BY CURT HARLER
HARRISBURG — Look for the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board to be the target of consumer-oriented activity as 1981 wears on.

PMMB is likely to face opposition both from within the Board and from outside interests.

While two of the Board's three members and the state Milk Dealers Association face legal action on a charge they conspired to force a consumer representative out of her job, the battle will go to broader interests than that.

Main target will be

PMMB's authority to establish minimum prices for milk.

In Pittsburgh, for instance, it has become almost a regular occurrence for the Mayor of the city to challenge price increase orders issued by PMMB. The latest legal action against a PMMB-ordered price hike came earlier this month.

PMMB's consumer representative on the Board, Marianne Olson, says she takes a different position than the Mayor. The Mayor

said he wanted no price increase, she points out. "I want a decrease."

At least one researcher has found that consumer representation at PMMB hearings makes a difference in milk pricing.

Amy Leader, a student interne with Common Cause, the citizens' lobby, concluded in her study that in areas like Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, where consumers are well represented, the consumer factions do better in milk pricing battles.

Leader is the niece of

Brecknock farmers seek ag zoning clarification

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
FIVEPOINTVILLE — Farmers in Brecknock Township, Lancaster County, will seek clarification of several agricultural restrictions in the new zoning ordinance which will be up for adoption by township supervisors at a public hearing on January 15.

Farmers' concerns are centered on certain agricultural restrictions, such as those governing height limitations for accessory buildings to the principal dwelling permitted in the ag district and a 25-acre minimum requirement for intensified livestock uses.

Donald M. Robinson, vo-ag teacher in the Eastern Lancaster County School District, said that farmers have been in touch with him concerning such restrictions, which are included in the ordinance to be considered by supervisors at the

public hearing in the Brecknock Elementary School, Bowmansville, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 15.

"Primarily, the farmers want more clarification of such restrictions and how they might affect their operations," Robinson said.

Concerning the 15-foot height restriction for accessory buildings, Robinson explained that this could be a concern of agricultural families who utilize horses for transportation. Family members, he said, may want to construct another dwelling on a farm and the 15-foot restriction might apply to a horse barn which would be needed as an accessory building.

The section of the proposed ordinance, which updates the existing zoning regulations adopted in 1973, containing the 25-acre minimum for intensified livestock operations states: "Poultry houses for

housing more than five thousand (5000) birds and structures for housing more than twenty-five (25) sows or fifty (50) head of other livestock shall not be located on lots of less than twenty-five (25) acres, of which a minimum of twenty (20) acres shall be arable land available for the disposing of liquid manure generated by the poultry or livestock."

In view of today's farming economics, seemingly all future livestock operations in the township would meet this 25-acre minimum requirement.

"We can see that proper disposal of manure is a legitimate concern," Robinson explained.

"But what if a farmer with slightly less than 25 acres wants to establish a poultry operation in which all of the manure will be sold to another farmer or to a mushroom grower?"

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Gets scoop on legislation, ACP \$ cuts

Lanc. Dist. re-elects officers

LANCASTER — Aaron Stauffer and Amos Funk were unanimously re-elected chairman and vice-chairman of the Lancaster

County Conservation District during the monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday.

During their last meeting

of the year, the directors also took the opportunity to discuss the latest conservation programs with local legislators.

Attending the session were the three Lancaster County Commissioners, James Huber, Jean Mowery and Robert Boyer. From the state legislators, personal appearances were put in by Senators Clarence Manbeck and Richard Snyder, with Steven Nickol representing Senator Ralph Hess. Other

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Last call for Farm Show issue

LITITZ — Farm Show 1981 will begin Sunday January 11 and run through Friday the 16th. The annual LANCASTER FARMING Farm Show issue will be in farmers' mailboxes the Saturday before the Show opens.

The issue will be packed with up-to-date information on the Show, including the most recent list of exhibitors, a two-page map showing where everyone is located on the new exhibit floor plan, and the day-by-day schedule of events, including all last minute changes.

In addition, the Farm Show issue will include

biographies on the FFA Keystone Farmer award winners, features on livestock and machinery, and pages of information you'd like to know before you head for Harrisburg and the big show.

This is our final notice to remind readers and advertisers alike to gather up Farm Show related material for publication.

Be sure your group, firm or club is represented in the bible of Pennsylvania agriculture: Lancaster Farming.

Contact us at Box 366, Lititz, PA, 17543, or phone 717/626-5662, if you have something to contribute.

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