

## OYF awards

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"You could say that we had some good freeze-dried hay."

As Engle admits, he doesn't make a practice of midwinter hay baling and in this instance, it turned out well due to favorable weather conditions.

But it illustrates that farming practices can involve rolling with the punches and making the best of a situation as it may exist.

Among Engle's more long-term and planned practices are such activities as his breeding program.

A good bit of his breeding program centers around one of two bulls he keeps on the farm, located just off Rt. 441 northwest of Marietta.

Total dairy stock includes a milking herd of 147, some 212 young stock, 20 Holstein steers and two bulls.

The younger of the bulls is kept as a sire for the heifers and the older bull is in the midst of being proven.

The older bull is Banner View Dale Jumbo 747, a maternal brother of Jemini. He's now a six-year-old out of Jem by Elevation.

Thus far, Engle has 42 heifers from Jumbo and he's been used in 13 other herds.

And the results are quite promising.

Jumbo was first used by Engle at



Looking over young stock is Irwin Engle, R1 Marietta, of the Elizabethtown Young Farmers.

a time when he had to rebuild his herd with quite a few cows he had to purchase.

While these first dams were milking only in about the 10,000-lb. range, Jumbo's heifers are now producing in the 14,000 to 18,000-lb range.

His first two daughters following their first lactation have shown a herdsmate comparison of plus 5,070 lbs. And with the projected production of the next four daughters included the comparison still shows a plus 3740 lbs.

Jumbo is also looking favorable as a sire with some of his better producing cows.

One of his daughters out of a fourth-calf dam producing some 18,000 lbs is already producing only 1600 lbs less in her first lactation.

Classified 86, Jumbo has an aAa analysis of 651423.

"One of the best characteristics of Jumbo is the ease of calving," Engle explained.

"His calves are smaller, usually about 85 to 90 pounds, and are very tippy. We've had very little trouble in calving."

Other characteristics from Jumbo are a good conception rate, good rear udders and legs.

Engle has utilized other bulls in his breeding program, but a good bit of his herd building is now based on the home-farm bull.

The Engle farm, which has been in the family for eight generations, covers 230 acres. In addition to primarily corn and alfalfa, about 28 acres of barley are grown. Another 120 acres of tillable land are rented, along with 90 acres of



Irwin Engle, who was named a regional Outstanding Young Farmer in the over-30 category, with his wife, Grace.

pasture.

Facilities include a large 90 X 184-foot free-stall barn, containing 164 stalls. Milking is done in 16 lever stalls.

The groundwork has already been started for future expansion. The milk house has a 3000-gallon tank and there's an area set aside for the possibility of a parlor in the future.

Engle attributes a good bit of his selection as a regional Outstanding Young Farmer to the Elizabethtown Chapter advisor, Bill Erickson.

This marks the first year since the chapter was organized six years ago that Elizabethtown has competed in regional and state competition. And in the first attempt, top regional placings were taken in both the under and over 30-year categories.

But, as in the case of Engle, this success was also due to good, basic farming practices — some of the more unusual variety and some of the planned, long-range type.

# Wivell named Outstanding Young Farmer

BY DEBBIE KOONTZ

COLUMBIA — When Joseph Wivell, Lancaster County Outstanding Young Farmer, was ten years old, his only birthday wish was to milk his father's herd of 28 Holstein cows by himself. The wish was granted and carried out.

Now it's almost 20 years later and Joe is milking about 90 cows on the same farm. But there is one difference now the R3 Columbia farm belongs to him and his wife Becky. Thus Joe's second wish is completed.

His third? Well it has been reached too. Joe has been named an Outstanding Young Farmer both locally and regionally for his exceptional involvement in farming and its various organizations.

Joe serves as chairman of the Insurance Committee for the Lancaster County Farmers' Association, director of the Lancaster County Holstein Club, and is a member of the Mt. Joy Farmer's Co-op and the Elizabethtown Young Farmers.

But farming at the Wivell homestead is a family affair. Becky is a member of the president's cabinet, newsletter editor and chairman of the Women's Committee for the Lancaster County Farmers' Association. Joe and Becky are both chairmen of the Advisory Council for the Association and members of the Mount Trinity Lutheran Church.

Joe, who was also a 4-H member for nine years began farming on his own at age 20. After three years of working for his mom, Joe and Becky decided to buy the two-farm operation. Today, seven years later, Joe farms 250 acres on these farms plus another farm he rents.

"I enjoyed milking cows more than feeding, so I started helping my dad when I was only nine years old. Now what I hope to do is become more diversified with my dairy cattle and possibly sell at consignment sales," Joe said. "I'd rather work right now at improving my herd average instead of making the herd larger. I'm shooting for a goal of 8000 pounds of fat. Last year we produced a million and a half pounds of milk, so we're pleased with that."

One attempt at improving herd average was to engage in super



Joe Wivell and hired hand Jay Brackbill finish working in the barn after milking the 90 registered Holstein cows.

ovulating last May. Joe says he hopes to produce homebred excellent cows and to market their off-spring.

"The first calf was just born recently and it was a heifer, so we're pleased with the results so far," he said.

The Wivells milk their cows with pipeline because "when you house them in tie stall barns, you can give them more personal attention," Becky explained.

Joe farms with the help of what he calls, the best hired hand we've ever had here. He is Jay Brackbill, 17, and he boards with the Wivells.

Joe and Becky, along with children, Niki, Janelle, and Jason,

live in a farmhouse built in 1810. According to Joe the original part of the barn was built near the same time. But since then they've added to the barn and just recently have finished adding a liquid manure system.

Besides his 90 milking cows, Joe has 70 head of young cattle. "We are strictly dairy here because that's how we enjoy working," he added.

Joe has a herd classification of 2 excellent, 42 very good, 41 good plus and 12 good.

As a regional winner, Joe is also a candidate for the title of State Outstanding Young Farmer to be announced February 10.



Joseph Wivell, Outstanding Young Farmer, poses with wife Becky and son Jason. Their other two children, Niki and Janelle were in school when the picture was taken.

## State officials meet to talk drought aid

HARRISBURG — Gov. Dick Thornburgh Monday said he has sent two state officials to meet with representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and four other states to discuss projected needs for assistance to the drought-stricken northeast and to explore options for federal assistance to cope with the current problem.

FEMA officials from three

federal regions encompassing drought-affected sections of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Connecticut will be present at the meeting.

The governor said he hoped voluntary and local conservation measures now in effect will be sufficient to avoid the need to request a federal disaster area declaration, but that state officials are working closely with

legislators from affected areas to keep abreast of the situation.

In a related action, Thornburgh said he has asked PEMA Executive Director Gen. Dewitt Smith and DER Secretary Clifford L. Jones to report to him personally as soon as possible on the effects of the drought in the most impacted communities in eastern and central Pennsylvania.

Thornburgh declared a drought

emergency Nov. 19, 1980, in part or all of 50 eastern and central Pennsylvania counties in the Delaware, Susquehanna and Potomac River Basins.

A total of 79 water suppliers in the Commonwealth are experiencing critical water shortages. More than 440,000 Pennsylvania residents are living in areas severely affected by the drought.