Conservation awards

(Continued from Page A1)

Illinois, where he is partner in Sheaffer and Roland, Inc engineering firm

He told farmers they could start producing their own farm electricity using a system which would show positive cash flow the first year and which would have a payback period of less than five years

County transplanted to Chicago, to go whole hog with an energy system. They can get started with an anerobic digester and a large engine generator

A farmer with 150 cows could get into business "turning pollutants into a resource" for \$90,000, he said.

Sheaffer said if American farms were used as energy sources, using just 60 percent of the animals in confinement housing, we could



Huth Engineers, Inc. designed the outstanding storm water management system in Lancaster County for Greenfield Industrial Park. Accepting the award from Raymond G. Herr, left, are Garth Ecker and David Miller.

produce 155 million barrels of oil per year, or 7.2 percent of our imports to the tune of \$6 billion in savings per year.

He said a 1400 pound dairy cow can make 43 cubic feet of gas per day, or \$33.63 per cow in electricity value per year.

A 900 pound steer will produce 28 feet, or \$22 worth of electricity per year, a hog, five feet; and a laying hen 0 36 feet, or 28 cents per bird per year.

Although most systems currently in use are on dairy farms, Sheaffer said this is because dairies are set up to collect manure Actually, dairy manure is one of the less efficient biomass products to use to generate gas

Cheese whey is the most efficient generator of methane gas, he said, followed by duck or other poultry manure

He encouraged farmers with 150 or more dairy cows, or the equivalent, to look into the possiblity of on-farm generation of methane to make electricity, concluding that any excess production could be sold to the utilities at a profit to the farmer





Honored by the Lancaster County Conservation District for outstanding service were Nancy Burkhart, left, and Sonia Shaner.

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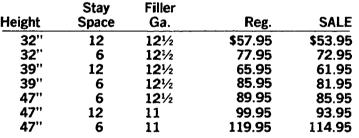
Reg. \$38.95 \$3095

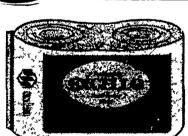
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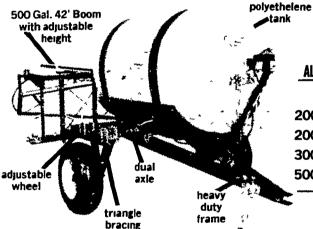


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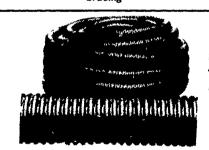
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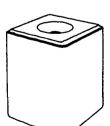
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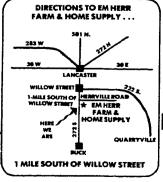
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