

Growers renew potato research program

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell Wednesday announced that state potato growers have approved a referendum to continue the state's potato research program for another five years.

Hallowell said that during the referendum period, March 6 to 19, 86 percent of the growers voted in favor of continuing the program and 14 percent opposed it. A two-thirds majority vote was required for the referendum to succeed, he noted.

As a result of the vote, the rate of assessment, which applies to producers with 25 or more acres of potatoes for sale, will remain at one percent per hundredweight of potatoes sold.

Hallowell said the income from the assessments will be used for varietal research to develop im-

proved varieties of potatoes adapted to Pennsylvania growing conditions.

With transportation costs for potatoes rapidly increasing, development of new and improved varieties for Pennsylvania could provide major dividends both for growers and consumers, Hallowell said. I am pleased that our Pennsylvania growers have recognized the importance of research to both production and marketing.

The teller committee for the referendum consisted of three potato producers appointed by Hallowell. They were John Epler of Northumberland, Northumberland County, Noah Kfeider, Jr. of Manheim, Lancaster County, and George Wolf of Stewartstown, York County.

4-H Holstein club organizes

LANCASTER — Steve Kauffman, of Elizabethtown, was elected president of the Lancaster County 4-H Holstein Dairy Club at an organizational meeting Friday, March 27, at the Farm and Home Center.

Other officers include Jeff Hess, Strasburg, vice president, Marilyn Landis, Manheim, secretary, Doug Hershberger, Quarryville, treasurer, Dave Stoner, Landisville, reporter, Deb Hershberger, Quarryville, and

Leonard Stollatus, Gap, social activities leaders.

A total of 54 persons attended the meeting.

Speaker for the evening was Connie Balmer, Lancaster County Dairy Princess, who instructed the club members on the proper method of filling out their 4-H project books.

The next meeting will be held April 24 at the Farm and Home Center and youths interested in joining the club are urged to attend.

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