

Vo-ag feels both cuts and expansion

EPHRATA — While at least two school districts in Lancaster County are expanding their vocational agriculture programs, one is facing severe cutbacks for the coming year.

Expansion is underway at Elizabethtown and Warwick High Schools; while Ephrata faces the loss of one of its four vo-ag instructors due to budgetary problems.

At Elizabethtown, a second vo-ag teacher will be added as a new elective program goes into effect for the coming year.

At Warwick, where a second teacher was added during the past year, the elective program will be continued to be developed.

Both school districts have shown marked increases in vocational agriculture enrollment in response to the elective programs.

At Ephrata, the expected loss of a teacher will mean the elimination of the sixth grade agricultural science program in the elementary schools and a

cutback in the Young Farmer program.

A school board meeting to consider final adoption of the Ephrata District budget, which includes the elimination of the vo-ag slot, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 29, in the Ephrata Junior High School.

The budgetary problems at Ephrata are due to the municipalities in the school district taking their one-half of the one percent wage tax, which previously had gone entirely to the school district.

"During the coming school year, it will mean a loss of \$565,000 in revenue," C. Daniel Biemesderfer, superintendent, said.

"Next year, when the full impact is felt, it means the loss of \$750,000."

The district's budget, which has already been the subject of board meetings in May and June, calls for the furloughing of some 10 teachers, including the vo-ag post, which has been held during the

past year by Christine Adam:

Adam devoted 60 percent of her time to the elementary program and 40 percent to the ninth grade portion of the senior high program.

In addition to the elimination of the elementary program, the Ephrata Young Farmer program will require cutbacks since Charles Ackley Jr., of the vo-ag department, will be required to pickup Adam's portion of the ninth grade program.

A total of 142 members are now in the Ephrata Young Farmer program.

"We will try to continue the monthly meetings," Ackley said.

"Farm visits and daytime supervision will be reduced and evening classes will be cut back. The summer schedule will also be reduced in the vo-ag area, including shows, fairs and farm visits."

"We could hardly keep our heads above water before," Ackley said.

"We could have used another person and now we've been cut.

The program just won't be nearly as effective.

"It's upsetting to lose people, but it's even more disgusting to see the effect on the vo-ag program.

"We worked hard for so many years to build it up and now to lose it all in one year.

"It's very discouraging. It's like a kick in the teeth."

Al Martin, a 13-year veteran Elizabethtown teacher, will be moving from the Industrial Arts Department to the Vocational Agriculture Department.

He joins William Erikson, who is in his third year at E-Town, and has succeeded in turning around the vo-ag program. Enrollment is more than doubling for next year, increasing from 65 to 135 students.

"Courses will now be offered on a half-year basis," Erikson explains.

"The new elective program will permit students to specialize more and receive detailed instruction in courses of their choice."

New courses to be offered in the program include welding and structures, genetics, wildlife management, swine production, small gas engines, surveying, dairy cattle management, meat production and poultry production.

At Warwick, the elective program will be going into its second year. Enrollment in vo-ag has grown by 50 to 75 percent.

Sonia Shaner moved from Eastern Lancaster County to Warwick during the past year to join Dale Gerber. The elective course expansion will continue with the addition of instruction in greenhouse training, power tractors and animal science. Course begun during three past year included wildlife management, forestry, ag electric, mechanics, small gas engines, structures, carpentry and small animals.—DA

York County youths top field day

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO
UNIVERSITY PARK — York County was well represented last Saturday as area youths walked away with most of the top honors at Junior Livestock Field Day at Penn State.

Bob Livingston, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Livingston of Dover, York Co., captured the judging contest, which included 2 classes of beef, sheep, swine and meat, finishing in front of more than 180 participants. Livingston also applied his talents in the show ring and was named Grand Champion Beef Showman.

Grand Champion Sheep Showman honors went to Susan Janney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Baldwin Janney of Broadbecks, York Co.

The annual event, sponsored by Penn State's Department of Dairy and Animal Science offered various workshops in beef, sheep, swine and carcass evaluations.

"The purpose is to give the youngsters a chance to visit Penn State. They'll have the benefit of the knowledge here," explained Field Day coordinator, James Gallagher.

Vernon Hazlett, swine superintendent demonstrated fitting and showing hogs. At the Meats Laboratory, professors Jim Watkins and John Zeigler spoke on hog carcass evaluation and cutting.

University veterinarian, Dr.

Lester Griel presented a movie, "The Birth of a Lamb," at the Beef-Sheep Center. Animal Science professor Thomas Merritt and University shepherd, Dick Kuzemchak urged sheep fanciers to spend ample time when selecting a project lamb. Animal Extension specialist Clair Engle spoke on crossbreeding sheep for increased productivity and profit.

Beef herdsman Don Nichols, conducted a fitting demonstration while livestock Extension specialist Lester Burdette discussed the future of beef projects with Extension agents, Vo-Ag teachers, leaders and parents.

Somerset County 4-H leader, Sandra Baer has been taking her group to the Field Day for the last six years and welcomed the learning experience.

"It breaks the ice for the little ones," she said. "I can advise them but it isn't the same as someone judging them."

The contest and shows results follows:

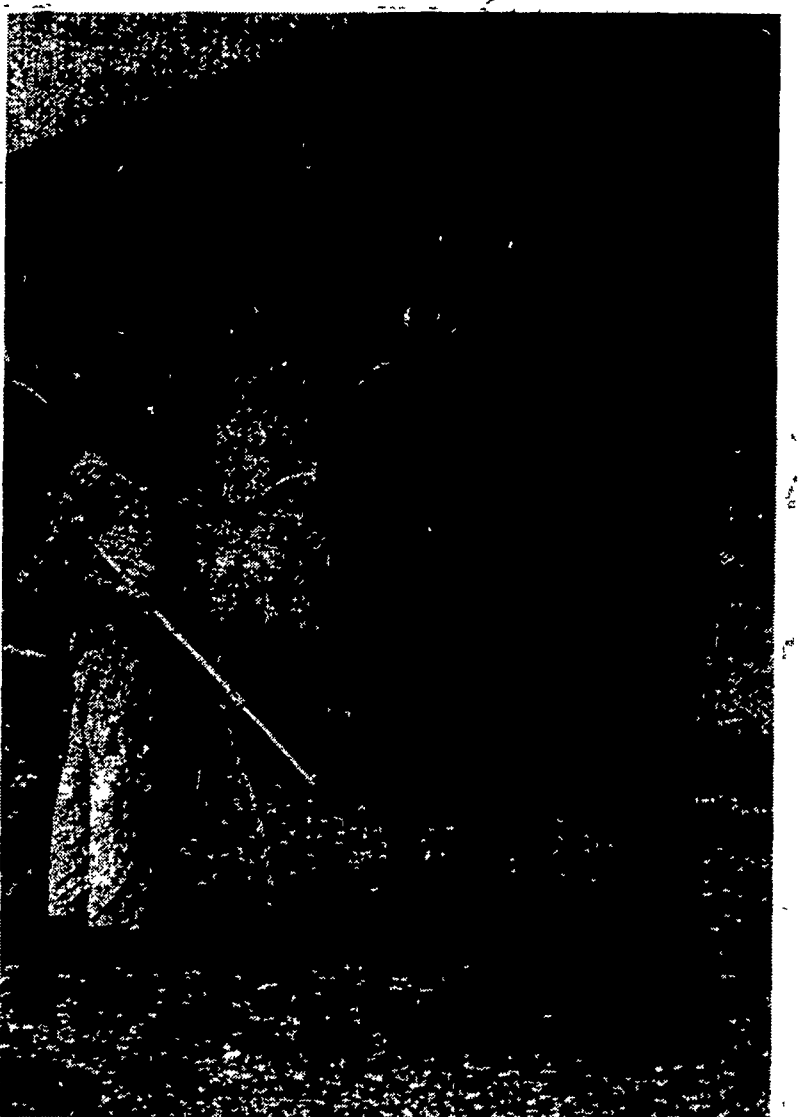
Judging Contest
1 Bob Livingston, Dover, York Co. 2 Chris Shive, Seven Valleys, York Co. 3 Michele Bankert, Hanover, York Co. 4 Bill Wise, Spring Grove, York Co. and 5 Tim Kinsley, York, York Co.

Junior Sheep Showmanship
1 Lynn Brubaker, McAlisterville, Juniata Co. 2 Pete Brunner, Port Royal, Juniata Co. and 3 Janice Lightcap, Marion Center, Indiana Co.

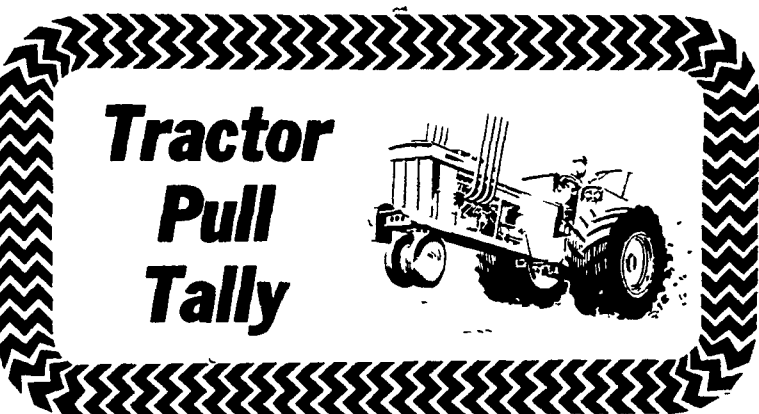
Senior Sheep Showmanship
1 Susan Jannet, Broadbecks, York Co. 2 Lori Lightcap, Marion Center, Indiana Co. and 3 James Heffner, Fleetwood, Berks Co.

Junior Beef Showmanship
1 Julie Myers, Wellsville, York Co. 2 Kenanne Rarick, Reading, Berks Co. and 3 Allison Shaeffer, Carlisle, Cumberland Co.

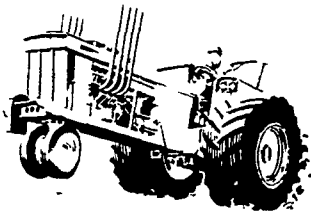
Senior Beef Showmanship
1 Bob Livingston, Dover, York Co. 2 Brady Gilmore, Bellefonte Center Co. and 3 Bill Wise, Spring Grove, York Co.



Jennifer Welch, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. David Welch of Somerset County, sets her Angus heifer in the Junior Beef Showmanship Class at Penn State on Saturday.



Tractor Pull Tally



Buck Winners - June 20

5000 Super Stock

1. Dale Smoker, Cochranville, Pa., AC 180, 256.4; 2. Bert Stauffer, Ephrata, Pa., Deutz 8006, 240.10; 3. Jim Brubaker, Quarryville, Pa., AC 180, 234.2.

5000 Modified

1. Stanley Graver, Pequea, Pa., 2-468 Chevy, 258.5; 2. Carl Kreider, New Providence, Pa., 454 Chevy, 258.1; 3. William Almone, Wrightsville, Pa., 429 Ford, 254.2.

7000 Super Stock

1. Coleman Wheatley, Bethel, De., JD 4240, 300; 2. Bert Stauffer, Ephrata, Pa., Deutz 8006, 294.4; 3. Dan Greenleaf, Martinsburg, Pa., JD 4010, 291.9.

5800 FWD

1. Diehl Wilson, Winchester, Va., 1971 Ford, 291.6; 2. Dan Fellenbaum Jr., Lititz, Pa., 1969 Chevy, 285.11; 3. Ron Kauffman, Holtwood, Pa., 1975 Ford, 276.11.

7000 Modified

1. Glen Darnell, McDowell, Va., Allison, 267.9; 2. Stanley Grover, Pequea, Pa., 2-468 Chevy, 262.10; 3. Gary Mills, Fallston, Md., Turbine, 251.6.

9000 Super Stock

1. Tom Middleton, Ridgely, Md., IH 966, 249.7; 2. Tom Bedgar, White Hall, Md., IH 856, 238.9; 3. Coleman Wheatley, Bethel, Del., JD 4240, 229.0.

9000 Open

1. Glen Darnell, McDowell, Va., Allison, 300; 2. L&Z Pulling Team, Mt. Joy, Pa., 3-440 Dodges, 295.0; 3. C&E Pulling Team, Lebanon, Pa., 2-468 Chevy, 288.3.

6200 FWD

1. Robert Smith, Winchester, Va., 1970 Chevy, 300-274.11; 2. Diehl Wilson, Winchester, Va., 1971 Ford, 300-269.11; 3. Dan Fellenbaum, Lititz, Pa., 1969 Chevy, 300-266.6.

Synovex-S implants increase weight gain, protein deposits

BELTSVILLE, Md. — Steers implanted with the estrogen Synovex-S gained 25 percent more weight and 25 percent more protein than steers without this implant, says Science and Education Administration animal scientist Theron S. Rumsey, Ruminant Nutrition Laboratory, Beltsville, Md. Rumsey also tested the effect of adding cement kiln dust — a byproduct of cement — to the steers' diet.

All steers were fed a 50 percent concentrate (primarily corn and soybean) diet. Although Synovex-implanted steers fed 2.5 percent kiln dust gained the most weight, the kiln dust did not play a prominent role. Synovex-

implanted steers fed kiln dust gained a daily average of 3.02 pounds while those with only the hormone implants gained 2.91 pounds a day. Nonimplanted steers fed the kiln dust and control steers (no implant, no kiln dust) gained similarly, 2.42 pounds a day.

These findings are in contrast to recent work by William Wheeler, a SEA animal scientist at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebr. Wheeler found that steers fed a diet with 3.5 percent kiln dust gained 28 percent more weight, and pound for pound required 21 percent less feed, than steers on a 53 percent hay diet without kiln dust. Further study with kiln dust is needed to deter-

mine its role in weight gain and to evaluate the different results.

"In our research, the kiln dust seemed to have little effect on weight gain. The Synovex-implanted steers gained weight faster and ate less feed per pound of gain. Perhaps even more important than the weight gain, steers with implants deposited 20 to 25 percent more protein than those without implants," says Rumsey.

Synovex-S has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in cattle, but must be implanted at least 60 days before animals are slaughtered. Steers with these implants convert feed to beef 15 percent more efficiently

than those without the Synovex treatment and have higher carcass retention of protein, fat, and minerals.

