

Lancaster Farming

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Upper Conestoga cleanup meetings to begin

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

LANCASTER — A series of meetings to inform officials and farmers in northeastern Lancaster County of the federal funds available to clean up the headwaters of the Conestoga will be held beginning next week by the Lancaster Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

The first meeting, according to Ray Brubaker, of the ASCS Office, will be held Thursday evening for officials of the townships included in the cleanup area.

Supervisors and planning commission members from the affected townships will be invited to the session in the library meeting room of the Ephrata Junior High School at 7:30 p.m. on

Thursday, Sept. 17.

Townships involved include Brecknock, Caernarvon, Clay, Earl, East Cocalico, East Earl, Ephrata and West Cocalico. Part of Salisbury Township is in the area, but no farmland is included.

In addition to an explanation of the federally funded project, plans also will be made for a series of public meetings to be held in Oc-

tober and November throughout the project area.

"The public meetings will be held to inform farmers of the goals of the project and the benefits of participation," Brubaker said.

A film and slide program are planned to be shown.

The public meetings tentatively slated for October and November will be scattered throughout the

project area to minimize transportation problems for farmers desiring to attend.

To date, only five farmers have signed up at the ASCS Office and filed requests for assistance since the program was officially launched two months ago. None of the five requests have been reviewed for approval yet.

(Turn to Page A34)



A little tender loving care from mom helps triplets get off to a good start at Carl and John Myer's Walnut Run Farm in Lititz.

Trio triumphs over tremendous odds

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO

LITITZ — "Congratulations, it's a heifer...and a heifer....and another heifer?"

Although they weren't passing out cigars, Lititz brothers Carl and John Myer were two surprised but happy dairymen on Tuesday.

Their 4-year-old Holstein, Star-Rock Sunshine Betty presented them with triplets, a rare occurrence among dairy cattle. Even rarer is the fact the progeny were all female.

And the three new additions, sired by Oak Hill Ranch Kingsman, beat the odds a third time by surviving the nine month ordeal in the uterus.

According to Penn State dairy science professor George Hargrove, the rate of abortions and still births with multiple offspring are much higher than with single births.

Hargrove also pointed out that multiple births tend to appear in cycles. The Myers probably won't

disagree since twins were born last month at their Walnut Run Farm.

However, cows that freshen with twins or triplets run a higher risk of post-partum problems such as retained placentas, silent heats or longer interval until first heat.

Will the Betty cow repeat her performance? Nobody knows for sure, but Hargrove explained that certain individuals have a higher repeatability for the trait.

Early Tuesday afternoon the big black Holstein had the first calf and within two hours all three heifers arrived. Fortunately, the Myers were on hand since the third calf needed some assistance to start breathing. By the evening milking, mother and babies were doing fine. And then it was back to the business of dairying.

Carl and John are the second generation Myer to operate the 500-acre dairy which includes a milking herd of about 130 Holsteins.

Their goal, explained Carl, is to

(Turn to Page A34)

Indiana County Fair features dairy show

INDIANA — Dairy cattle breeders and 4-H'ers gathered last week at the Indiana County Fair to exhibit their animals while show judge Patty McMurray, Washington, eyed class after class of Guernseys, Brown Swiss, Jerseys, Ayrshires, Holsteins and Milking Shorthorns.

The top Holstein of the day was an aged cow exhibited by Jody Nesbit, Marchand. The Grand Champion, Bra-Mar-ABC is sired

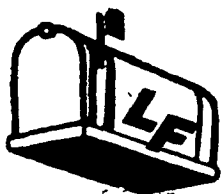
by King of the ABC and out of a Penstate Invanhoe Star.

Gregory Edwards, Indiana, exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion Black and White, Ray-Anthony Apollo Annie. The intermediate calf is sired by Ray-Anthony Apollo Flash and out of Case-Ridge Joe Ann.

Clarksburg Guernsey breeder Ethel Coleman captured the Grand

(Turn to Page A15)

Inside This Week's...



The Maryland State Fair wound up its activities on Labor Day with the Maryland State Holstein Show. Find it and more on pages...C18 and D6.

Bob Weaver has an inventory of equipment that would turn any dealer green — but with a small twist...D2.

A victory once is great, but a victory twice is twice as nice for the Holstein at the Southeast 4-H District Dairy Show...D10.



Jody Nesbit, 16, at the halter of Bra-Mar-ABC Lori, the Grand Champion Holstein of the Indiana County Fair Open Dairy Show is flanked by show judge Patty McMurray, left, and Indiana County Dairy Princess Lori Kirkland.

COLUMNS

Editorials, A10; Now is the time, A10; Joyce Bupp's column, C7; Ida's Notebook, C8; Ladies, have you heard?, C10; Farm Talk, D6.

HOME AND YOUTH

Homestead notes, C2; Home on the Range, C6; Kid's Korner, C14; 4-H news, C13; FFA, C17; Solanco Fair previews, C29; Farm Women news, C38.

DAIRY

Milk Market News, A18; Allentown Dairy, B6; Cows are what they eat, B3; Allentown Goat Show, C26; Mifflin Dairy Princess, C9; Juniata DHIA, D15; Huntingdon DHIA, D15; Mifflin DHIA, D19; Perry DHIA, D22.