

House Ag Committee gives nod to Right to Farm Bill

BY SHEILA MILLER
HARRISBURG — The House Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee gave their blessing to another bill that will work towards preserving farming as a way of life for many Pennsylvanians by voting HB 1823 favorable out of committee on Wednesday. Introduced by Lancaster

County's Rep. Noah Wenger on September 22, 1981, HB 1823 is designed to protect "agricultural operations from nuisance suits and ordinances."

The relatively short three-page bill states that "when nonagricultural land uses extend into agricultural areas,

agricultural operations often become the subject of nuisance suits and ordinances. As a result, agricultural operations are sometimes forced to cease operations. Many others are discouraged from making investments in farm improvements. "It is the purpose of this act to reduce the loss to the Com-

monwealth of it agricultural resources by limiting the circumstances under which agricultural operation may be subject matter of nuisance suits and ordinances."

The bill spells out that no nuisance action can be brought against a farm which has been operating for at least one year and where the conditions or circumstances complained of have existed for the most part unchanged since the operation was established, and that the farm is operating normally.

It further notes that if an operation is expanded and the expanded facility has been in operation for one year or more prior to the complaint, the farmer is protected, as long as the farmer is abiding by the rest of the state's regulations, such as the Clean Streams Law.

After four technical amendments to the bill, the 22 House committee members voted 20-2 in

favor of the bill. The two representatives casting "no" votes were Rep. Walter F. DeVerter (R-Mifflin and part of Centre) and Ted Stuban (D-Parts of Columbia and Montour).

According to Wenger, the bill could be voted on within the next few weeks. He noted a similar bill easily passed the House last year before it died in the Senate Committee.

The House Ag Committee also voted Senate Bills 919 and 920 favorably out of committee with a unanimous vote of 22-0. These bills, which would exempt farm facilities such as manure storage tanks from real estate taxes, was recently passed by the Senate and now awaits full consideration of the House. Before leaving the committee, however, the bills were amended to also include composting facilities for tax exclusion. The Association of Township Supervisors is opposing passage of these bills.

Strawbridge & McCleary hogs win in Raleigh

RALEIGH, N.C. — York County's Strawbridge and McCleary traveled to the North Carolina State Fair last week to exhibit some of Pennsylvania's finest Hampshire and Yorkshire swine.

The swine producers returned to the Keystone State with several championship ribbons from the Tar Heel competition.

In the Hampshire sow, their entries captured senior and grand champion boar honors, reserve junior champion boar, junior and grand champion sow, and reserve junior and reserve grand champion sow. The champion boar was sired by Zelos and the champion sow was sired by Ark 40-6.

Strawbridge and McCleary's Hampshire x Yorkshire crossbred barrow was tagged reserve grand champion overall on foot.

In individual class, the York swine breeders took first place with their Hampshire December boar, first and third with their January boars, second and third with their February boars, first and second with their March

boars, and first and second with their April boars.

Their Hampshire gilts placed first and second in the January class; second in the February class; first and second in the March class; and first and second in the April class.

In the Yorkshire boar February

class, their entries placed first and second.

On the rail competition found Strawbridge and McCleary carcasses hanging second and fifth. The second place barrow measured .9 backfat, 7.70 loin, .6 loinfat for an estimated 63.63 percent muscle.

CUT YOUR FIREWOOD EASILY WITH - THE LUMBERJACK WOOD SAW



--- modern design, built with strength,
 driven by your tractor p.t.o. - 540 r.p.m.
 attaches to 3-point hitch,
 best shielding of any saw of it's type.

See your local dealer or contact:

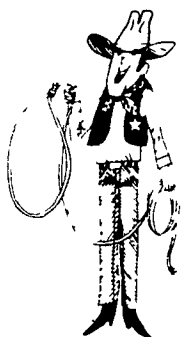
HAMILTON EQUIPMENT INC.

P.O. Box 478 Ephrata, PA 17522
 (717) 733-7951

ROPE IN SOME EXTRA CASH!

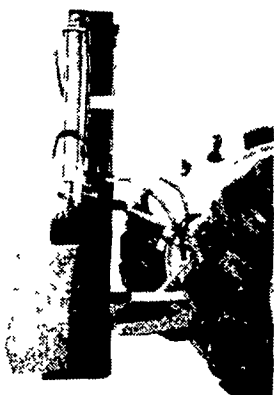
Advertise With A Lancaster Farming CLASSIFIED AD...

Phone: 717-394-3047 or 717-626-1164



AMERICAN WOOD SPLITTERS

- 3 pt. hitch
- 30" stroke
- Use tractor hydraulics
- Vertical design



Let the Splitter do the work

In Stock - Immediate Delivery



LANCASTER FORD TRACTOR, INC.

(The Friendly Store Where You Get More)
 1655 Rohrerstown Road, Lancaster, PA
 Flory Mill Exit off Route 283
 Phone: 717-569-7063