

# Wm. England family is Blair Co.'s Farm Family for 1981

BY PATTY GROSS  
Staff Correspondent

WILLIAMSBURG, Blair County — Dairyman William England remembers when he graduated from high school he "didn't want to ever see a farm again." Little did he know that about 25 years later his family would be the 1981 Blair County Farm Family of the year.

The Altoona Area Chamber of Commerce and county farm organizations recently honored the William England family of Williamsburg, during Farm-City Week in Blair County.

William England is a former geological physicist. He explains that he chose the study of math and science at Penn State because he wanted to travel. The farmer's first seven years out of college were spent doing just that. He lived in Texas, California, Arizona and Washington D.C., taking 2-3 month trips overseas.

"I found that in all the traveling I did, the things that interested me most wherever I went were agricultural," admits William. His wife, Bertha jokingly adds, "when he came home from the office all he did was read farm magazines."

A native of Arizona, Bertha explains she knew nothing about farming until they returned to Pennsylvania in 1967. After working several years on William's parent's farm, they purchased their own farm in 1970. Bertha is the errand person for the family and is also kept busy with three of the six children still at home. However, she finds time to play a major part in county dairy promotions, PFA Women's Committee and Women's Civic Association.

Corn and alfalfa are planted on the 350-acre farm. William says that haylage, corn silage and grain are fed at the feed bunk. He adds, "nothing is fed in the barn or the parlor." He proudly admits that his 160 Holsteins, one-

third registered, deliver a herd average of 17,600 pounds milk a year.

Many of the chores are handled by the children and the pair of hired men. Maureen, 13, the youngest girl in the England family is taking her turn in the family operation. The 8th grader helps with the morning and evening milkings. She puts in 30 hours a week and still finds time to play junior high basketball.

The farm family award isn't the first honor for the Englands. William has received the Outstanding Conservationist, and Outstanding Grassland Farmer of the Decade awards. Laura, 20, was the 1979-80 Blair County Dairy Princess. She is a student at Penn State, majoring in Agriculture and Journalism. Her sister, Teresa, is pursuing a degree in Agriculture Education at Penn State's Altoona Campus. The 18 year old was the State FFA Princess last year. Both girls have also received Keystone Degrees in FFA. Their father remembers them spending 40 hours a week in the barn while attending high school. Bertha quickly adds, "they both not good grades too."

Keith, 10, and Brent, 5, are just beginning to share in the farming. The family explains that Keith helps in the milking parlor, and Brent likes to pitch-in. Everyone who meets Brent would have to agree with his dad when he says, "Brent gets pretty enthusiastic about things." The oldest of the England children, Mark, wasn't around for the latest award. He is working on a grain and grass-seed farm in Oregon. The Englands are looking forward to his visit home soon.

The William England family was the eleventh in Blair County to receive an engraved silver dish and the distinction of being one of the county's top farm families.



The William England family was selected as Blair County's Farm Family of 1981. Pictured, from left, are Bertha who's holding Brent; Keith, Teresa, and Laura, standing; Maureen, and Bill, seated.



Bill England gets help with the milking from his son, 5-year-old Brent, and a hired hand. England is proud of his Holstein herd's production record.

## 1981 Forage-Seed Conference coming

### Nov. 23-24

UNIVERSITY PARK — "Last year's special Forage-Seed Conference held at Hershey is a hard act to follow," says John E. Baylor, Extension agronomist at Penn State and chairman of this year's Conference. "But we feel we've put together a program for this year's Conference that's equally as good."

Scheduled for November 23-24, 1981, at the J.O. Keller Conference Center on the Penn State Campus, this year's speakers will deal with a variety of subjects of immediate concern to Pennsylvania forage-livestock producers.

For example, following opening remarks by Dean Sam Smith Monday afternoon, three University specialists will cover crops, livestock and machinery costs in a special Economic Update. Then, five Penn State authorities will team up with our five 1981 Alfalfa Champs to take a hard look at 1981 as an alfalfa year.

"The Monday evening dinner and program will provide an opportunity for Conference goers to get acquainted, to meet our 1981 hay, silage and alfalfa grower champs and to get a quick rundown on the XIV International Grassland Congress," Baylor says.

No-till, corn fertilization, and Near Infrared Reflectance for feed quality analysis will highlight the Tuesday morning program. Three

central Pennsylvania farmers will join three Penn State scientists on the no-till panel, while University authorities will zero in on the other two key issues.

The final half-day will see an excellent discussion on large round bales featuring A.R. Rider, senior research engineer for Sperry New Holland and another Pennsylvania dairyman. The conference will conclude with seven brief discussions by as many authorities on various new products for the forage-livestock producer.

"All in all we think it's a super Conference," Baylor concludes. "Registration for the Conference itself begins at 11 a.m. on Monday in the Conference Center and is \$12.50 for the full Conference and \$7.50 for one day only. Pre-registration is necessary for the Monday evening dinner."

Further details are available from your local county agent or from Richard Hann, Secretary-Treasurer, Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council, Milton Hershey School Farms, Hershey, PA 17033. The conference is sponsored by the Council in cooperation with Penn State and the Pennsylvania Seedsmen's Association.

November 23, Monday  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. - REGISTRATION, Lobby - J.O. Keller Conference Center Registration Fee. Full

Conference - \$12.50; one day - \$7.50.

12 Noon - LUNCH (on your own)

#### PROGRAM

November 23, Monday

1:15 p.m. - What's Ahead For Penn State's Agricultural Programs? - Dean S.H. Smith

1:30 - Economic Up-Date:

- Outlook for Crops & Livestock

- H.L. Moore

- Economics of Crop Production

- S.A. Dum

- Keeping Machinery Costs in Line - W.R. Waters

3 - Milk Break (Courtesy of a Pennsylvania Grassland Farmer)

3:15 - Panel - 1981 Alfalfa Count-Down

Varieties and Mixtures - R.R. Hill, Jr.

Fertilization - L.E. Lanyon

Diseases - K.T. Leath

Insects - S.G. Gesell

Management - W.C. Stringer

plus our

Five Top 1981 Alfalfa Growers

4:45 - Short Annual PFGC Business Meeting

6:30 - Dinner at Nittany Lion Inn - (By reservation only.)

Monday evening program

Meet Our Special Guests and Champions

Grassland Congress Review - J.E. Baylor

Let's Get Acquainted

November 24, Tuesday

8 - 10 a.m. Registration

9 a.m. - Panel - Another Look at No-Till - W.C. McClellan,

Moderator Energy Relation-

ships

Advantages and Problems

Double Cropping Potentials

Panel Members: L.D. Hott-

man; D.C. Beppler; M.C. Mc-

Junkin, Centre County

Dairyman; P. Dotterer, Clinton

County Dairyman; W. Harp-

ster, Huntingdon County

Dairyman

10:15 - Break (Courtesy Penn-

sylvanians Seedsmen's Associa-

tion)

10:30 - The Latest in Corn Fertiliza-

tion Ideas - D.B. Beegle

11 - NIR - Where To From Here -

J.S. Shenk

11:45 - LUNCH

1:15 - Research Outlook and On the

Farm Use of Large Round

Bales - A.R. Rider, Senior

Research Engineer, Sperry

New Holland; J.L. Hostetter,

Mifflin County Dairyman

2 - New Products for the Forage

Livestock Producer

Lime Coated Seed - W.C.

Thompson, North American

Plant Breeders Fertilizer Im-

pregnation - D.E. Nelson, Stauter

Chemical Company Silage

Preservation - J. B. Kistler and

L.D. Hoffman Nozzle Type for

Better Weed Control - T. Reed

Brassicas for Summer and Fall

Forage - G.A. Jung Fencing

Ideas - W.L. Kyeigaard

4 - One For The Road (Courtesy

Pennsylvania Forage and

Grassland Council)

Program Support - This program

is made possible by the

registration fee and The Penn-

sylvanians Legislature's annual

appropriation to the University.

## Nat'l Grange meeting focuses on farm bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In all likelihood the National Grange will be the first national farm group to meet following the passage of a new farm bill. The Grange is already opposed to many of the Administration's latest changes and proposals.

Edward Andersen, Master of the National Grange, said that Grange delegates representing 450,000 rural Americans will convene in Spokane, Wash., Nov. 9-16. "We will study both the short and long

range economic effects the Administration's farm bill will have on our farmers and respond accordingly," said Andersen.

While the Grange is on record as in support of a balanced budget, it believes the recent personal income tax cut, scheduled for July 1982, should be delayed 60 to 120 days in order to balance the budget. Andersen said, "The budget has been cut to the bone and postponing the tax cut is an absolute necessity."