

Lancaster Century Farms to be honored Nov. 18

LANCASTER — Appearances by Gov. Dick Thornburgh and Ag Secretary Penrose Hallowell and the continued honoring of Lancaster County's Century Farms will be highlighted at the Fifth Annual Ag-Industry Banquet of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Wednesday, Nov. 18.

More than 400 persons are expected at the banquet to be held at the Good 'n Plenty Restaurant.

Theme for remarks by Thornburgh and Hallowell is "The Reliable American Farmer."

Thus far, three Lancaster County farm families will be honored for their Century Farms — ag operations which have remained in the same family for at least the past 100 years.

The three Century Farms, to date:

—Frey Dairy Farms, R2, Conestoga, Jay V. Frey, president; dating back to 1815.

—J. Robert and R. Naomi Spahr, 2848 Litz Pike, dating back to 1875.



Dick Thornburgh



Penrose Hallowell

—Mark and Hazel Nestleroth, R5, Manheim, dating back to 1852.

These three farms will bring the number of Lancaster County Century Farms to 63 since the program was instituted by the state in the Bicentennial year of 1976.

The Chamber also will unveil its

new agricultural brochure, which is distributed widely to promote the county's ag industry; and will present a 10-minute program tracing the history of the Chamber, which began as a unit primarily oriented toward agriculture and which recently has returned in this direction with a revitalized ag promotion and support program.

Crop survey reports harvest percentages down

HARRISBURG — Heavy rain at the beginning of the week ending November 2 limited farm fieldwork in Pennsylvania to three days, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Topsoil moisture across the state was rated 65 percent adequate and 35 percent surplus. In the northern region of the state 57 percent service workers rated soil moisture surplus, and 43 percent rated it adequate. In the central region 50 percent rated it adequate and 50 percent surplus, while in the southern region the Service rated soil moisture adequate.

The potato harvest in Pennsylvania is virtually complete, about a week later than when it was completed last year. Wheat planting in the state is also virtually complete, about the same time as last year.

The soybean crop in the commonwealth is 50 percent harvested compared with 70 percent last year. In the north, 56 percent is

harvested, in the central region, 60 percent in harvested, and in the southern region, 40 percent is harvested.

Corn for grain in the state is 58 percent harvested compared with 68 percent harvested last year. In the north 50 percent of the corn crop is harvested, in the central region 58 percent is harvested, and in the southern region 70 percent of the crop is harvested. Ensilage corn harvest is virtually complete, about two weeks later than last year.

Fall plowing in the commonwealth is 94 percent complete, while last year at this time plowing was virtually complete.

Statewide, the quality of hay made during the week was mostly poor and the amount of feed obtained from pastures was rated mostly average.

The fourth cutting of alfalfa was rated as 89 percent complete statewide compared with 88 percent last year.

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