

Lancaster Farming

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Signs first deed restriction

Lancaster farmer is pioneer in farmland preservation

BY SHEILA MILLER

EPHRATA — Lancaster County reached a milestone in its efforts to preserve prime agricultural land this week as 80-year-old Ivan Martin became the first countian to voluntarily restrict his land to agriculture uses.

Martin, who retired from farming in 1966, earned the title of farmland preservation "pioneer" when he signed a deed restriction which will assure his 123-acre, Clay Township farm will continue to grow corn, alfalfa, and small grains "in perpetuity," or forever and a day.

The Lancaster County farmer learned the value of rich, fertile soils as a small boy growing up in Iowa and then moving north to Michigan before coming to Pennsylvania in 1923. "I know better than most what good land is," he said, adding the soils on his Lancaster County farm were the best he experienced in more than 30 years of farming.

Martin explained that he has been "trying to get all the farmland I can in one block" to be part of the deed restriction

program. He said several neighboring farmers have expressed interest in keeping their farms in agriculture, too. "Three of the land joiners could have sold lots and didn't," he stressed.

"Farmland preservation is like going for a swim in the old water hole," Martin said. "Once one jumps in and doesn't freeze or drown, the others all jump in too. Maybe this will be like that."

According to Aaron Stauffer, one of the county's leading advocates for farmland preservation, there are about 10 farmers within the county's 278,000-acre agriculture preserve areas that have expressed interest in voluntary deed restriction. Most of the efforts of the county's Agriculture Preserve Board have been concentrated in Clay and Ephrata townships.

Since none of Martin's sons were interested in following their father's footsteps on the farm, Martin has been leasing the farm to tenants since his retirement. He noted that the number of dairy cows his present tenant, nephew Alvin Martin, keeps on the farm

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Lancaster County farmer, Ivan Martin, second from right, and wife Fannie became the first in the county to restrict their farm's future to agriculture. They signed their farm's deed restriction on Tuesday with County Com-

missioner Jim Huber, right, and Lancaster County Agriculture Preserve Board members Aaron Stauffer, left, and Amos Funk witnessing the historic event.

Color Breeds shine at Md. fair

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO

TIMONIUM, Md. — Lancaster County boasted two Maryland State Fair dairy champs, during the Labor Day weekend as the Color Breeds had their day at Timonium.

Ephrata dairy farmers Kerry and Deborah Boyd crossed the Mason-Dixon line with six head of

Brown Swiss cattle and returned several ribbons and one Junior Champion heavier.

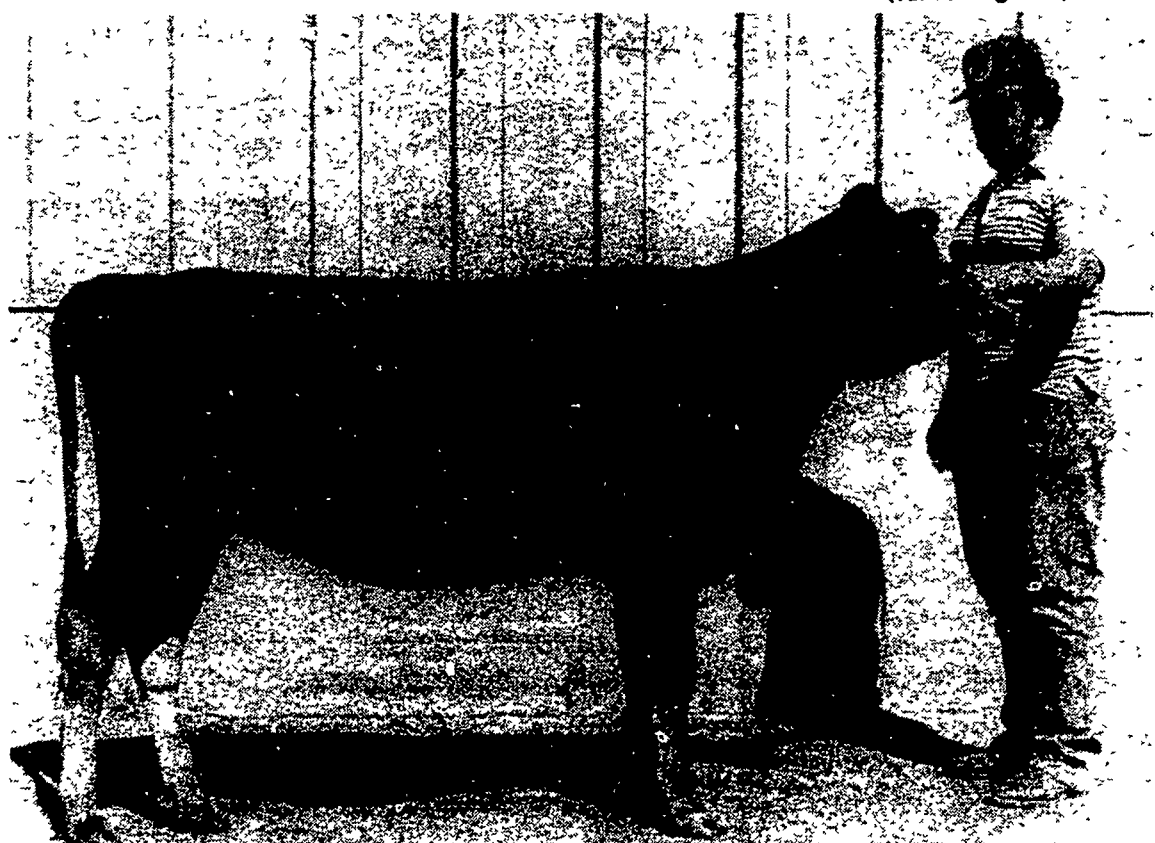
The Boyd's champion, senior yearling Keb Clay View Titan Patty is sired by Lav Le Stretch Titan and due in November to Maple Grove Performer.

When the Golden Guernseys paraded in front of judge Steve

Lovelace of Orangeburg, South Carolina, Quarryville entry Hollow View D Delight moved into the Reserve Junior Champion slot. Owned and bred by Scott and Elsie Wolf, the junior yearling is sired by Housleys AFC Diamond.

Lovelace went with Crown Stone Goliath Heidi for his Grand

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Westminster, Md. breeder Wayne Stiles exhibits the winning form of DPS Golden Daily Double, the Junior Champion of the 1982 Maryland State Fair. The senior yearling

claimed her title last weekend as six major dairy breeds paraded through the Timonium Fairgrounds Cows Palace.

OMB cans cherry set aside

BY GINGER SECRIST MYERS
Staff Correspondent

YORK SPRINGS — On July 2, during the height of this year's cherry harvest, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget took the unprecedented action of vetoing a USDA-approved federal marketing cherry set aside reserve pool program. This is the first time such a veto has been imposed on the order in its twelve-year history.

Explained Everett Weiser, Weiser Orchards, York Springs, a processor director to the Cherry Administrative Board, "The cherry industry has always had a real positive feeling about this

marketing order since it helps to stabilize the supply of cherries on the market from year to year."

According to Weiser, the Cherry Administrative Board, a national representation of growers and processors which meets annually, met June 24 with a representative from USDA who provided guidelines to estimate the cherry crop and how much should be "set aside" for later marketing. The USDA representative is responsible for monitoring whether the Board's recommendations comply with USDA marketing regulations.

In light of the expectations for

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Preliminary vote shows sheep producers favoring promotion

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Wool producers by a 23,800 to 8,975 margin voted to continue deductions from Commodity Credit Corporation wool incentive payments to finance promotion of wool, according to CCC executive vice president Everett Rank.

Preliminary returns show 72.6 percent of the producers favored the advertising and other market development activities which

would be continued under a proposed new agreement between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc. Producers voted in a referendum held Aug. 16-27.

The proposed agreement authorizes continued deductions from payments made under the National Wool Act on wool and

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| Vote By Producers | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|-----|
| For (Number of Producers) | Against | Total% | Yes |
| 810 | 348 | 1,158 | 70% |
| Production Represented In Referendum | | | |
| For (Number of Sheep Owned) | Against | Total | % |
| 37,622 | 15,473 | 53,095 | 71% |