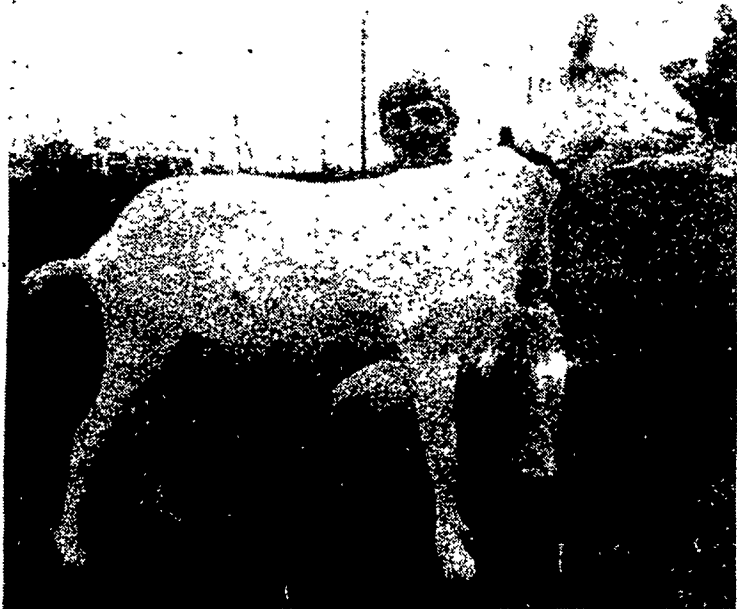




Kurt Brown's junior yearling Holstein claimed the Reserve Grand Championship rosette. Admiral Holloway Mindy is sired by Sleepy-Hollow Kennedy out of Admiral Vevations Marty, and is a half sister to the show's Junior Champion.



Mike Brubaker of R3 Halifax showed his dry yearling Saanen to the championship honors at Tuesday's Gratz Fair.

Gratz Fair

(Continued from Page B26)

number of commercial sheep on the family's 150-acre farm.

The Browns also raise breeding swine, Spotteds, Durocs, and Yorkshires which make up their 95 brook sow inventory. This year's Gratz Fair offered no swine competition due to health precautions.

Lynn and Dixie Laudenslager of R1 Dalmatia captured both ram and ewe top honors in the Suffolk show. Judge Trostle selected Lauden Acres' yearling ram for the purple rosette. This massive Suffolk ram is sired by a Reed Shepherd ram and is out of a Narrow Lanes ewe. This ewe was purchased by Laudenslager at the 1980 KILE sale.

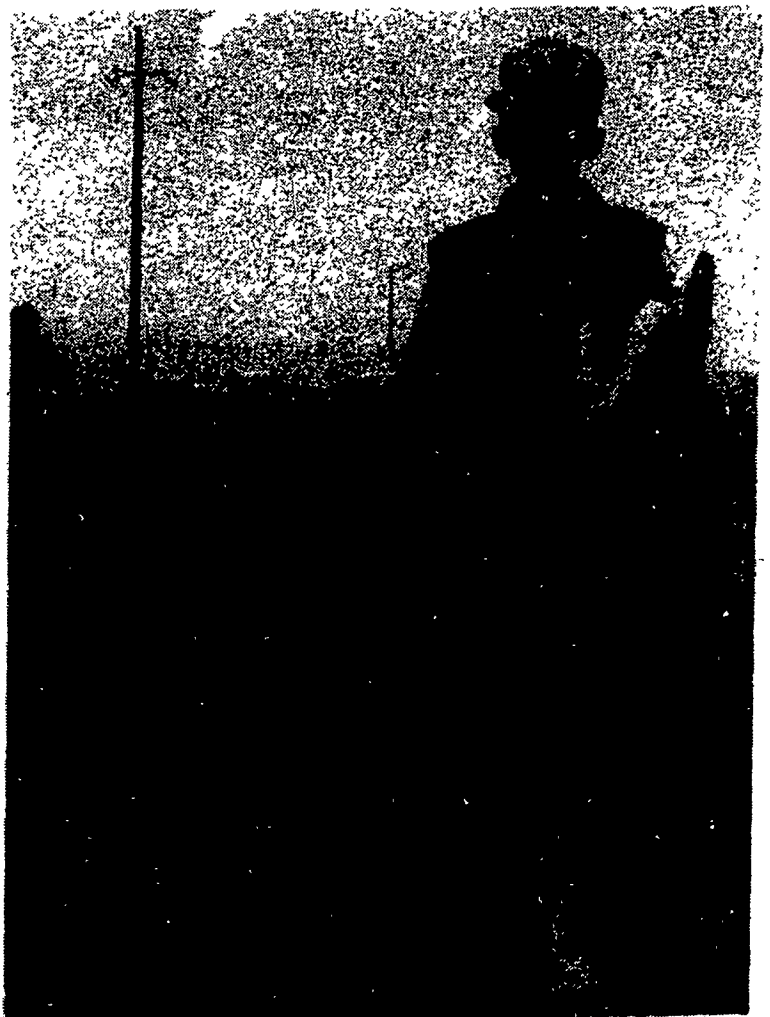
Lauden Acres' champion ewe is no stranger to the winner's circle, having been chosen Champion Suffolk Ewe and Reserve Supreme Champion Ewe at the recent York Fair. Bred by Laudenslager, this ewe lamb's roots stretch back to York County for her sire is a Leader ram and her dam is a Ness ewe, both well-known York County sheep producers.

The Laudenslagers began raising purebred Suffolks three years ago, and each year they have taken their sheep to the Gratz Fair and have gone home with champion ribbons. Altogether, Lauden Acres' purebred flock numbers about 50 head, but another 100 head of commercial ewes graze the farm's pastures, too.

Laudenslager, who also owns Mahantongo Game Farms in partnership with Dixie's father, says he hopes to increase his flock size to about 300 head — 100 purebred and 200 commercial. As he strengthens his sheep numbers, he says the steer numbers on the farm willing to be going toward zero.

...Cattle haven't been

(Turn to Page B30)



Eleven-year-old Duane Peifer, led his dry yearling Toggenberg for the top win at Gratz.

Cover crop cut erosion losses

LEESPORT — Serious erosion which occurs during late winter and early spring can be greatly reduced by fall plantings of cover crops, reports Duane E. Pysher, district conservationist with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in Berks County.

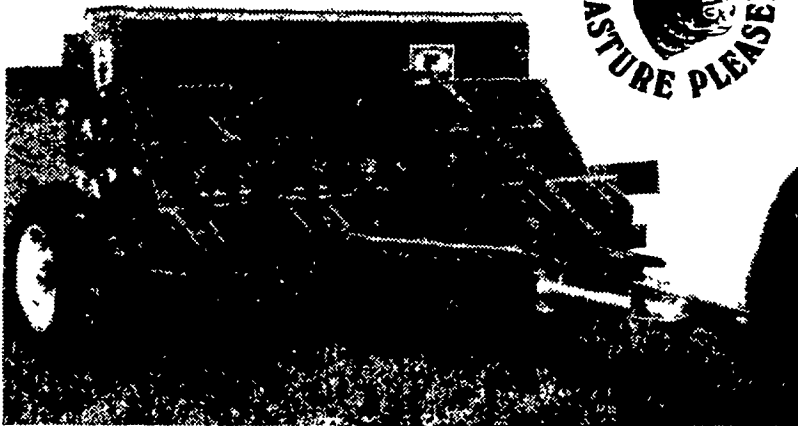
"Unless crop residues are left on the field, cropland is susceptible to erosion. Cover cropping can prevent much of this damage," says Pysher. Following the fall harvest of row crops, a variety of cover crops can be sowed. Winter rye or winter wheat is recommended at the rate of 140 and 150 pounds per acre respectively.

Cover crops differ from conventional small grain crops seeded in the fall in that cover crops are grown primarily for seasonal protection and soil improvement. They are not raised to maturity but are plowed down to add organic material to the soil to improve infiltration, aeration and tilth. Cover crops can provide limited winter and early spring grazing if adequate cover is maintained on the field.

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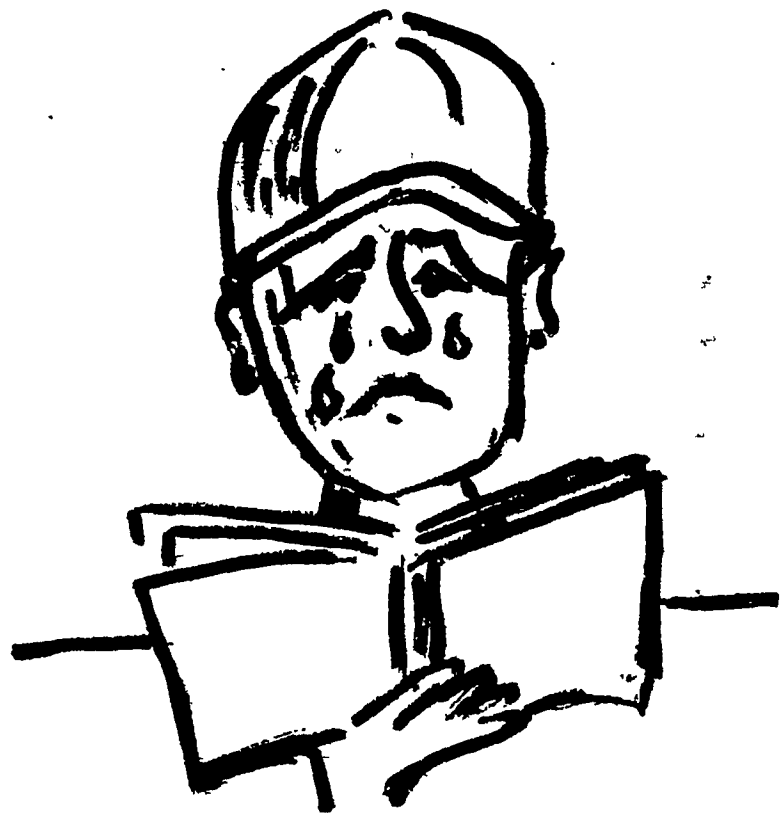
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