

Delaware 4-H horse show names winners



Scott Torgerson of Felton emerged with top honors in the western pleasure horse division at the state horse show.



Jane Niblett of Bear received the Beatrice Campbell perpetual trophy this year as the youth who has accumulated the most points in fitting and showing and horsemanship classes.

NEWARK, Del. — The 17th annual State of Delaware 4-H Horse Show was held on Sunday, Sept. 19, at Dr. W.L. Mroz's Red Gate Farm near Dover. The show was open to 4-H members between the ages of 9 and 19.

Champion in the western pleasure horse division was Scott Torgerson, Felton. Nikki White, also of Felton, was reserve champion.

Dale Jarman, Hartly, was champion in the western pony division. Reserve champion was Steve Sterling, Smyrna.

In the English pleasure horse division, the championship went to Leslie Tyler of Newark. Reserve champion was Dana Banks, Frankford.

Melanie Wilson, Dover, was champion in the English pleasure pony division. Heather Nennstiehl, Bridgeville, was reserve champion.

Dana Banks took the championship in the hunter horse division. No reserve champion was named.

Karen Horeis, Felton, took the (Turn to Page B33)



Montgomery County soil conservationist Steve Hill, left, and farmer Wilson Hoffman spend a few minutes in conversation waiting for the aerial crew.

Hoffman's show

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ched to a grade dairy heifer enterprise.

Approximately 275 Holstein heifers enter the Hoffman operation at 16-months of age. Hoffman sells the animals about eight months later as springers.

His grain business reflects Hoffman's concern for preservation of resources. Currently working with a Reading fertilizer company, Hoffman has a few fields of wheat involved in a growth

inhibitor trial.

The wheat, planted under normal conditions, is treated with a growth retardant to keep the stalk shorter but stronger. Hence, at combining time, the wheat will stand more erect and be picked up by the combine rather than being missed because the heavy heads have caused a droop.

Hoffman explained his first experimental crop will be harvested in the spring of 1983 and is expecting yields up to 80 bushels per acre.

And while Montgomery County's SC Steve Hill applauded the efforts Hoffman has made to conservation through his "innovative practices," Hoffman wasted little time in returning the complement.

"I have to give credit to the SCS. They're doing a tremendous job for the farmer as a whole," replied Hoffman.

There's no telling how long the remaining 40 percent of Montgomery County farmland can survive urban pressures.

It's bad enough, Steve Hill pointed out, that most of the soil is of a highly erodible nature. That's two strikes against the southeastern Pa. county.

"Farming is not always rewarding," states Wilson Hoffman. "You just have to like it."

"I'd surely like to see it continue because that's my livelihood."

Montgomery County, in some ag circles, may have the unenviable distinction of containing erodible land bordered by Philadelphia to the south and Allentown to the north. But, just ask any soil conservationist who'll tell you that farmers like Wilson Hoffman would be a blessing anywhere.



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