

Lancaster Farming

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Four Sections

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Kline repeats Lancaster Holstein Show win



Russel Kline captured Grand Champion with homebred Vern-Lee Elevation Ella.

BY TRISH WILLIAMS

QUARRYVILLE — For the second consecutive year, Russel L. Kline, of RD 2 Denver, captured the Grand Champion honors with one of his homebred mature cows. Six-year-old Vern-Lee Elevation Ella took the Championship in competition with more than 200 entries at the annual Lancaster County Holstein Show, on Thursday.

Ella's daughter, Vern-Lee Miss Ellie, placed first in the Junior Calf class. Together Ella and Ellie also swept away first place in the Dam and Daughter class.

Ella has bestowed Kline with another daughter, a milking two-year-old sired by Kingpin.

Ella has excellent production records to back up her winnings. As a four-year-old Ella produced 27,000 pounds of 4.3 test milk and 1165 pounds of fat.

Kline, who sold Vern-Lee Tidy Win (last year's Grand Champion)

following her win, confided after the competition, that he plans to sell this year's champ, Ella.

And for the second consecutive year, the Reserve Champion honors went to Con-Noll Marvex Jo a four-year-old owned and exhibited by Cliff and Joyce Blank of Kinzer.

Con-Noll Marvex Jo was bred by Nathan Stoltzfus, Joyce's brother-in-law. The Blanks took first place in the three-year-old class, the four-year-old class, and the 100,000 lb. class, with Con-Noll bred cows. Their winnings help contribute to Stoltzfus claiming the title of Premier Breeder of the show.

Also contributing to Stoltzfus' win were Con-Noll entries exhibited by Gregory Bowman, Douglas Bowman, Clair and Fannie Bowman, and Leonard Stoltzfus.

The Premier Exhibitor award
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Learning more about forage and how best to use it

BY LAURA ENGLAND AND TRISH WILLIAMS

HERSHEY — Getting back to the basics of education was the setting as farmers gathered new information and watched on-the-spot testing of forage samples at the Pa. Forage-Dairy Field Day, Tuesday.

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council, the Pennsylvania Holstein Association and Penn State University, Forage-Dairy Field Day was designed to inform farmers of the role forage and animal management play in dairy production.

Featured was on-the-spot testing of forage samples by Penn State's near-infrared (NIR) feed analysis research system. Stationed in a university van, the NIR unit is equipped to test for the percentage of crude protein, acid detergent

fiber, dry matter, calcium, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, total digestible nutrients and the net energy of lactation in a forage sample, said Dick Adams.

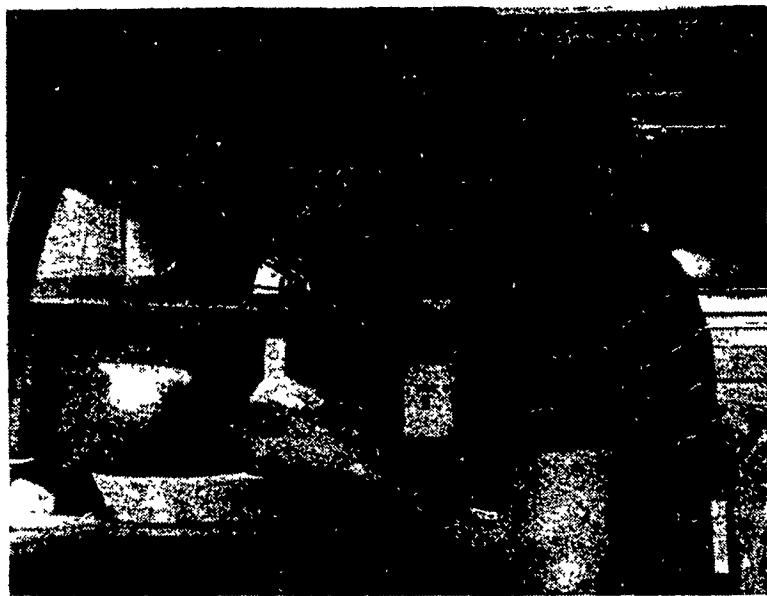
Adams, a Penn State professor of dairy science, said the NIR unit is an original model designed three years ago. Currently, the system is used for farm-to-farm testing and stationary testing in which farmers take their samples to the unit at an \$8.00 per sample charge. Research is also conducted to determine which method, farm-to-farm or stationary, is more cost effective, he said.

To demonstrate the NIR's use, forage samples were taken from 10 different alfalfa/grass mixtures. The plots had previously been cut and tested May 24.

Using a Pioneer Plot Sampler, a 4' by 50' strip was cut from each plot and weighed. A hand sample was then taken and tested on the NIR unit. From 10 to 15 minutes was needed to run each sample, according to Brad Eichler, an employee of Penn State.

The results of the NIR test were posted at each plot sample. A typical read-out for a sample, this one for an alfalfa and Climax timothy mixture, contained the following information: Yield, 1.79 tons/acre; Botanical Composition for alfalfa, 91.5 percent, grass 1.8 percent, and weeds, 6.7 percent; and Chemical Analysis for protein, 21.0 percent and acid detergent fiber, 34.0 percent.

In addition to the forage testing, maturity plots were prepared to
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Bob McCarthy, a Penn State research technician, operates the near-infrared (NIR) analysis unit at the Pa. Forage-Dairy Field Day.

It's been so hot and dry that...

D10

Swine report

Hog farmers will be particularly interested in Page D10 of today's issue.

The Special Swine Report on that page presents some of the latest research developments concerning feeding and breeding out of the University of Delaware and the USDA at Beltsville, Md.

That's Page D10 for the latest swine news.

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

FARM FIELDS — I can still hear my grandpappy saying:

"When the corn leaves curl, it's time for the rain clouds to unfurl;

"And, when each step in the field makes a dusty puff, for the crops and animals it's getting awful rough."

Well, I've seen some corn leaves so curled that they formed perfect tubes and some farm boys were using them as pea shooters to play target practice with the wild cherries.

And, it's been so hot and dry:

-That some trees got together and put a Mailbox Market in today's Lancaster Farming advertising for some dogs.

-That even the pigs are perspiring.

-That even the popcorn in

western Lancaster County is popping right in the fields. They were even aerial spraying and dusting with butter and salt and eating it right in the fields.

-And, there was a report from out around Leola that milk was curdling in the bulk tank.

Now, that may be exaggerating a bit and the hot and dry spell may not be something to joke about, but what else can you do.

But in all seriousness, the long string of hot and rainless days was taking its toll in farm country.

Early corn is tasseling and some rain is needed. In about a week, full-season corn will be at the tasseling stage and the need for rain will be even more critical.

Even the tobacco, which likes this kind of weather, was showing stress. But at least, it was slowing

the spread of Blue Mold, which has been reported in five or six fields, which were not treated with Ridomil. Reports came from the Monterey-New Holland-Intercourse area and also down around the Buck.

Irrigation systems were working around the clock and their sprays in the bright sunlight were forming small rainbows across quite a few farm fields.

Animals were showing the heat stress and production declines in poultry houses and elsewhere will more than likely show up.

The important thing in such weather is to keep the air flowing over the birds and other livestock. Air movement can reduce temperatures some 10 degrees in confinement houses.

A12

Photo editorial

Did you get mad this week when you went out to cut some alfalfa and found a new batch of discarded cans and bottles in the field along the road?

Or, how about the discards in the pasture or cornfields?

If so, you'll be interested in the editorial on Page A10 and the photos on A12.