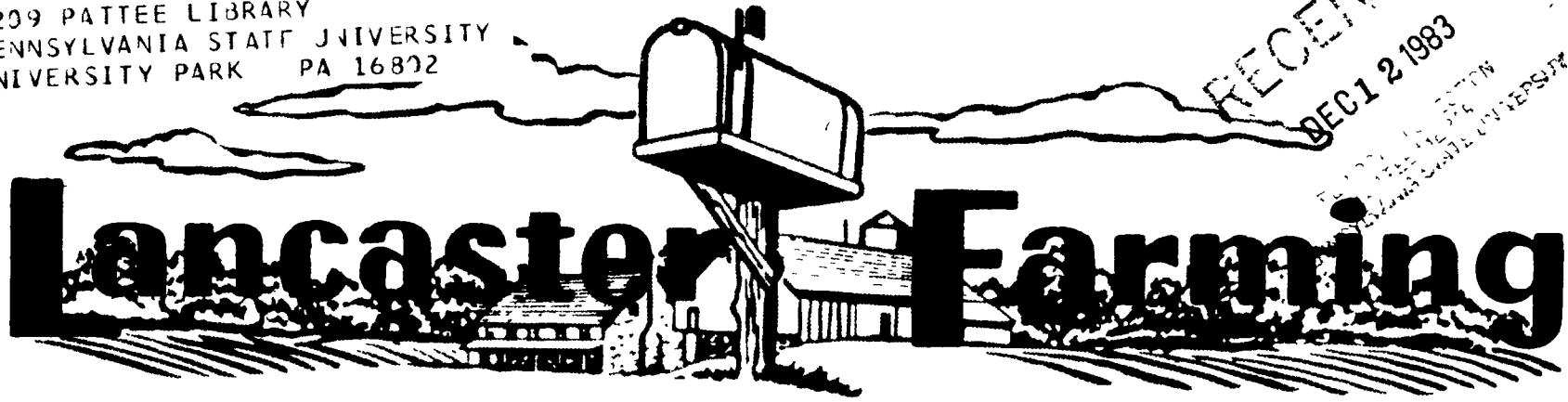


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VOL. 29 No. 6 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, December 10, 1983 \$7.50 per Year

Farmers dramatically outline Avian plight

BY LAURA ENGLAND

LANCASTER — With over five million chickens destroyed in measures to wipe out avian flu, poultrymen trying to survive the epidemic met here Monday with top state officials to find out what financial aid is available.

Meeting with state Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell, poultrymen said they can't stay in the business without financial assistance. With flocks depopulated by the USDA task force sent to eradicate the disease, farmers have no immediate income, and yet monthly bills must be paid.

"I don't have anything now," said Wilmer Yost, a Leola farmer who lost 30,000 layers, "and I have a monthly (loan) payment. I don't know how I'm going to make it."

Like Yost, other county poultrymen have no means of income during "down time" when

their houses must remain empty. Farmers will receive federal indemnity payments for birds depopulated by the task force, but this money isn't available until after the task force approves the

(Turn to Page A21)

York Co. 'targets' conservation

BY JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent

YORK — Some of York County's most productive farmland has been deemed a "sub-target" conservation area within a "target" area, and representatives of the farm and ag business community are being asked to help "sell" the concept of saving these soils.

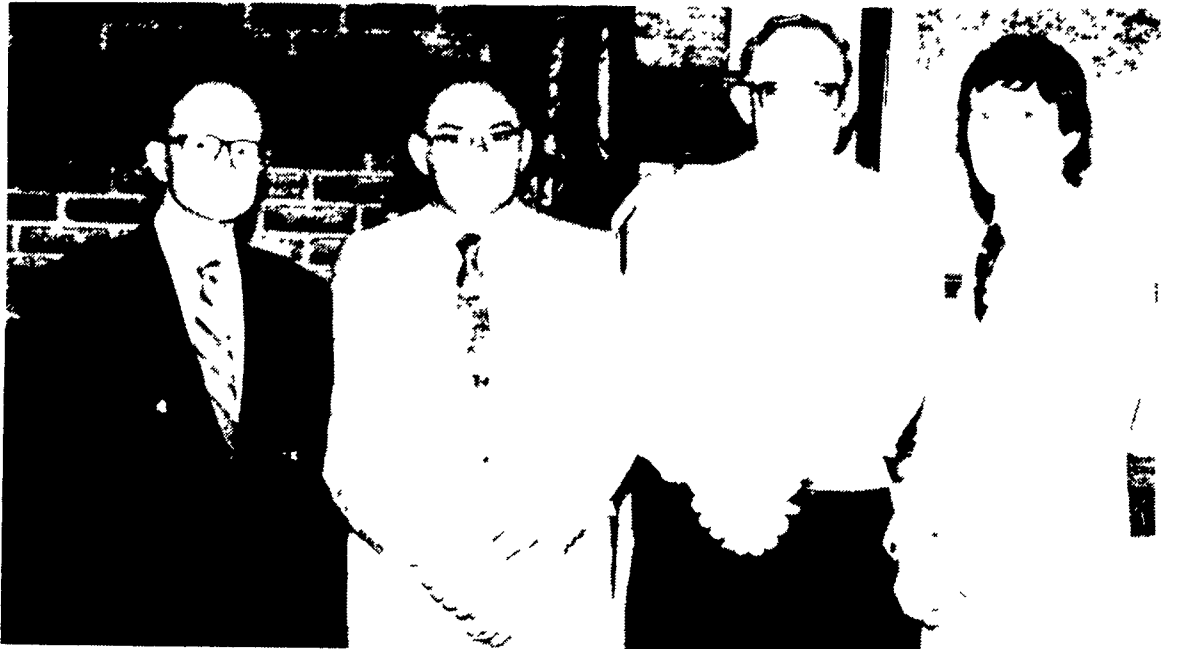
York County's Conservation District is organizing an Agricultural Advisory committee of farmers, agri-business leaders and related community groups to examine the conservation needs of the South and East Branches of the Codorus Creek watershed.

"We want to get people 'riled up' about conservation," says Linda Houseal, district manager for the York County Conservation District.

That committee, as envisioned by the District's board, will advise them on programs needed in the Codorus Creek watershed to increase soil, water and nutrient conservation, as well as support and promote new and existing programs.

An initial advisory committee meeting is set for Thursday at the county's Extension offices.

(Turn to Page A34)



Lancaster County DHIA supervisors receiving a \$300 Red Rose Superior Service Award are, from left, Wilbur Houser, Harold Probst, Harold Lidcamp and Tom Garrett. Not pictured is Jay Risser.

Lancaster DHIA presents awards

BY TRISH WILLIAMS
AND LAURA ENGLAND

SMOKETOWN — Improvements and efficiency in the Lancaster County Dairy Herd Improvement Association for 1983 were two to three times the normal county growth rate, members were told at the association's annual meeting Dec. 6 and 7.

Addressing the members, county extension dairy agent Glenn Shirk cited improvements in somatic cell count numbers and increases in county milk production. Shirk said that 16 herds in Pennsylvania were honored for having counts of 100,000 or less, and four of those herds were in Lancaster County.

The county also noted a 300 pound increase in milk production per cow. This increase, Shirk said, shows that dairymen are getting more efficient in their cattle management.

Also addressing the group was Donald Ace, Penn State Extension dairy specialist. In presenting his

final scheduled speech as an extension specialist, Ace, who attended the National Milk Producers Federation meeting last week, spoke on the recently-signed dairy bill and its implications.

Ace reported on the reaction the passage of the dairy bill brought last week at the convention of the National Milk Producers Federation, in San Francisco. NMPF is an association of milk cooperatives, that represents 80 percent of all milk marketed in the

United States.

"The objective of the new dairy bill is to decrease CCC purchases to a level of \$5 to 6 billion dollars," Ace noted. "But the 15-month period it is effective is really a pretty short time by which we may live."

According to Ace, congressman who worked to pass the dairy compromise bill expressed the feeling that they have done their work. President Reagan has done

(Turn to Page A21)

Larvadex gets crisis exemption

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania has received a "crisis exemption" permitting poultry farmers in the Avian Influenza quarantine area to resume the use of Larvadex for the control of flies.

The special crisis exemption for the use of Larvadex, the feed-through larvacide manufactured by Ciba-Geigy, applies only to farmers in those counties in the Avian quarantine zone, plus contiguous counties.

The crisis exemption was received by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture from the Environmental Protection Agency, which had previously banned its use.

Farm Show Issue

LANCASTER — The 1984 Farm Show issue of LANCASTER FARMING is only about a month off. It will be published on Jan. 7.

Farm Show opens the following day and closes on Friday, Jan. 13.

Advertising deadline for the Farm Show issue is Wednesday, Dec. 28, and the news deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 3.

Contact LANCASTER FARMING, P.O. Box 366, Lititz, Pa. 17543 or call (717) 626-1164 or (717) 394-3047.

PFA seminar cites '84 market outlook

BY TRISH WILLIAMS

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania farmers desiring a look into the future of agriculture turned out Wednesday to listen to predictions and forecasts made by agricultural marketing specialist at the 1984 Market Outlook seminar.

The seminar sponsored by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, a division of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, included individual morning seminars and a combined afternoon market outlook for five commodity groups. Highlighting the day was the evening banquet featuring special guest speaker

John R. Block, U.S. secretary of agriculture.

Keith Eckel, PFA president, introduced Block as a strong advocate of free trade. In his speech Block brought out some of his personal philosophy on agricultural policies that earned him that introduction.

Foreshadowing decisions that must be made in drafting the 1985 farm bill, Block commented, "I feel we are approaching a crossroads in agriculture. We need to be looking at this crossroads carefully and be preparing to address the problems that we face in agriculture."

Referring to decisions that must

(Turn to Page A30)



Spring-Belle Straight Arrow topped the Golden Harvest sale at \$21,000. She was purchased by Hurl Cattle Co. represented by Tom Murray, second from left. Also pictured are the sale staff, from left, Charles Backus, Horace Backus, Mike Weimer, and Doty Remsburg.

See story on A39