

6 firms nominated for agribusiness award

HARRISBURG — Six Pennsylvania firms have been nominated for the Fourth Annual Pennsylvania Agribusiness Award, according to State Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell. The firms are Gibbles of Chambersburg, Jaindl's Turkey Farm of Orefield, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers, Inc.

of Harrisburg, Phillips Lancaster Swiss Cheese of Gordonville, Riverside Markets of DuBois, and Spring Glen Farm of Ephrata. All six firms have shown outstanding efforts in promotion of Pennsylvania agriculture, according to Hallowell.

The winter of the annual award, given to an agribusiness exhibiting excellence in support of Penn-

sylvania, will be announced on Monday, January 9, 1984 at 6:30 p.m. during the 68th Annual Pennsylvania Farm Show.

"The Agribusiness Award gives recognition to a very important segment of the state's agricultural industry," Hallowell said. "It is fitting to recognize these firms during Farm Show for their overall

contribution to agriculture. Agribusiness is as essential to the state's economy as the farmer, with more than 16,000 food retailers and processors employing 200,000 workers and generating \$20 billion in sales each year."

The award is based on five criteria, including production of a high quality product adhering to state and federal inspection requirements, and participation in either the "Pennsylvania Agriculture — We're Growing Better" or the "Keystone Pride" logo program. The logo must be incorporated directly on the firm's label, package, shipping carton, or be used extensively in advertising.

Processing firms must use a percentage of raw Pennsylvania products in the final food product, and judges consider additional utilization of Pennsylvania products. Additional consideration is given for the amount of time the agribusiness has used the program, is overall effort to promote Pennsylvania products, the marketing area and the number of consumers reached by the firm.

The judges for this year's

Agribusiness Award are John Kimbark, managing editor of the Pennsylvania Farm magazine; Sheila Miller, research analyst, Pennsylvania State Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee; and Rocco Pugliese, executive director of the Pennsylvania Food Processors Association.

Gibbles is a processor of potato chips and snack foods, located in Chambersburg, Franklin County. Jaindl's Turkey Farm in Orefield, Lehigh County, is a poultry breeding, growing and processing operation. The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers, headquartered in Harrisburg, is a marketing cooperative for tablestock and chipping stock potatoes.

Phillips Lancaster Swiss Cheese Company in Gordonville, Lancaster County, manufactures and distributes a variety of cheeses. Riverside Markets headquartered in DuBois, Clearfield County, is a distribution center with 71 retail food stores. Spring Glenn Farm Kitchen in Ephrata, Lancaster County, processes jam, jellies, relishes, honey and Pennsylvania Dutch specialties.

Lively evening programs planned at Farm Show

HARRISBURG — The Farm Show is a yearling happening that brings fun and excitement to its visitors. The six-day show opening tomorrow is packed with contests, exhibits and fun for all, while giving visitors a lesson in Pennsylvania agriculture. Evenings at the Farm Show bring a different kind of fun as visitors are treated to special entertainment from concerts to pony pulls.

This year's evening program begins tomorrow with Farm Youth Benefit Night and a variety of musical talent including The Original Ink Spots, Al Raymond's Big Band, Miss Pennsylvania Jennifer Lynn Eshelman, and Sassafras. This is the only event at Farm Show requiring tickets, with proceeds benefitting farm youth activities and program improvements at the Farm Show Complex. General admission tickets will be available Sunday for \$4.50. The show starts at 6:30 p.m. after the close of the exhibit halls.

Monday night is Secretary of Agriculture's Night, with Secretary Penrose Hallowell recognizing three award winners: the Farm Show Family of the Year, the Agribusiness of the Year, and the Senior Farm Couple. Monday night also brings the Cumberland County 4-H Horse and Pony Club to the Farm Show arena. The 25 4-H members will demonstrate their expert riding ability, beginning at 7:15 p.m. Also on the Monday night agenda is the hitched-horse competition, with competitors having one to five horses hitched to their wagon.

Tuesday, Master Farmers Night, is highlighted by two events. Beginning at 6 p.m. the Future Farmers of America Band will perform their annual concert under the direction of Dr. Ned Diehl from Penn State University. The 80-member band is composed of FFA members from all over the commonwealth, ranging in age from 14-19. The FFA Band has performed at the State Farm Show for the past 35 years.

Following the FFA Band will be the nation's largest Folk Dance Festival and Contest beginning at 7 p.m. The festival consists of sixty 8-member teams, with three age groups competing for blue, red and white ribbons.

Wednesday night is the Horse Pulling Contest, with both lightweight and heavyweight classes competing. Lightweight teams under 3200 pounds begin at 4:30 p.m. The six-horse hitch com-

petition follows the lightweight division, with the heavyweight horse pulling division following. Twenty-eight teams are entered in the horse pulling.

The Pennsylvania State Sheep or Shawl Contest will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the small arena on Wednesday evening. Teams will shear a sheep, spin the wool into yarn, and weave a shawl before surprised spectators. An auction of

the shawls will follow the contest, about 8:45 p.m.

Pony pull lovers won't want to miss Thursday night at the Farm Show. Contests begin at 6 p.m. with twenty-seven teams competing in three weight classes in the large arena. The Bid Calling Contest, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association, will begin at 6 p.m. in the small arena.



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