

## Lairds to host Cattlemen's field day

DOVER — Judging competition, a farm tour, and management discussions will highlight the Southcentral Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Field Day, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Walter and Nellie Laird farm, 1470 Rohlers Church Road.

A tour of the Laird's 75-head registered Angus cow-calf operation is planned just prior to lunch during the all-day beef producer's field day. High points of that tour include a look at the 200 acres in hay and pasture, round-bale feeding, plastic bag haylage and forage testing.

Registration begins at 9 a.m., followed by a judging contest of several classes, for ladies, mens and juniors' divisions. Type discussions are planned, led by Bill Holloway, York beef judge and Glatfelter Insurance farm advisor, and Lancaster County extension agent Chet Hughes.

Following a beef luncheon, a management panel will include Holloway and Hughes, Wilham Rankin, Hanover, manager of Tri-County feedlot, Paul Heffner, cow-calf operator, and Sam Hunter of Huckelberry Hall Farm purebreds.

Throughout the day, displays by agri-businesses on equipment, feeds minerals and related beef-



Walter and Nellie Laird will host Southcentral Pa. Cattlemen's Field Day on Aug. 11 on their York County Angus farm.

production products will be open for visiting.

Directions to the Laird farm are as follows: take Route 74 north through Dover, toward Wellsville. Turn right on Rohlers Church Road, and continue for about two

and one-half to three miles. The Laird farm is on the left.

For additional information, contact the York County Extension Office, 112 Pleasant Acres Road, York, or phone 717-757-9657.



### Brockett's Ag Advice

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#### FARM USE VALUATION

Some estate planners neglect this potentially valuable tool. There is a lot of confusion on what it is, when it works, and how to use it.

**What** - In effect it says that your estate can value your farm at its "use" value rather than its market value. There are some stipulations that must be met. The decedent or close relative must have operated the farm in five out of the previous eight years. A close relative who will continue to operate the farm must acquire it by will or purchase from the estate. It can reduce the estate by as much as \$750,000. Savings are substantial so it should be considered.

**When** - If the farm estate size becomes large enough to trigger federal estate taxes, farm use valuation should probably be used if it qualifies. Use valuation should not be used (a) if there is a sur-

living spouse who gets the farm, (b) if the farm will be sold in the near future to anyone other than qualified heir, (c) if the total net asset value of the estate is too small to cause a federal estate consequence anyway.

**How** - There are a number of ways to calculate use value. The two most commonly used ones are (a) capitalizing potential production values, and (b) capitalizing cash or share crop rents for similar properties.

If a state has a regular uniform method for applying use valuation for real estate tax purpose, it will be acceptable.

**Suggestion:** Farm use should be part of any estate plan as an alternative. It should not be mandated in a will because there may be an advantage in not using it. The executor and attorney for the estate should have the flexibility to decide for or against it. However, you may want to alert them to its availability through your will.

#### SOME OF THE FACTS

Here are some of the basic facts on the "use" valuation.

**A. Qualification** - must go to a qualified heir, must have been operated by decedent or related party in five out of prior eight years (property traded for like property or acquired due to land condemnation would carry operation time of previous property), qualified heir must operate for 10 years after receipt (actively managing as through a share cropping program evidently counts).

**B. Qualified heirs** - spouse, parents, brothers, sisters, children, and step-children plus spouses and lineal descendants (and spouses) of those individuals. Thus nieces and nephews would qualify but not cousins.

**C. What about a trust** - a trust can be a qualified heir if the trustee has the discretionary power to fix the amounts receivable by an individual beneficiary so long as all potential beneficiaries are qualified heirs. Thus, a non-marital (by-pass) trust could be devised to qualify.

**D. Taxes** - Pennsylvania will usually accept the "use" valuation set for federal purposes. The income tax "new cost basis" will be based on the use value (so be careful that you don't lose more income tax benefits than you gain in estate tax earnings).

## Parvo virus in Md.

ANNAPOLIS, Md — Two cases of parvo virus were diagnosed in Maryland swine herds earlier this year, according to Dr. Stauffer Miller of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Office of Animal Health and Consumer Services. This is an important viral disease of swine which can result in serious economic losses to Maryland producers who fail to take necessary precautions. Concerned producers should contact their veterinarians regarding the inoculation of susceptible animals with one of the several protective vaccines which are available.

Parvo virus can be devastating to a farrowing program. Don't take chances. Consult your veterinarian about remedial action.

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