

Ephrata Young Farmers

(Continued from Page A24)

Earl Martin, Ephrata, received the Soil Conservation Award. Earl and his wife, Grace, farm 750 acres and feed steers. Last year Earl installed terraces and waterways in his fields to conserve the soil.

The Outstanding Swine Producer Award went to Terry Sheetz, Stevens. Terry and his wife, Sandy, farm 105 acres of corn, have 90 sows and finish 2,000 hogs a year.

Paul C. Bucher, Lititz, received the Outstanding Beef Producer Award. Paul and his wife, Ruth, farm 81 acres of corn, alfalfa and rye and feed 140 steers.

John R. Zimmerman, Ephrata, received the Best No-til and Conventional Plot Tillage Award. On his no-til plot, John yielded 167.2 bushels per acre with a net return of \$164. On his conventional plot, he had 177.2 bushels per acre

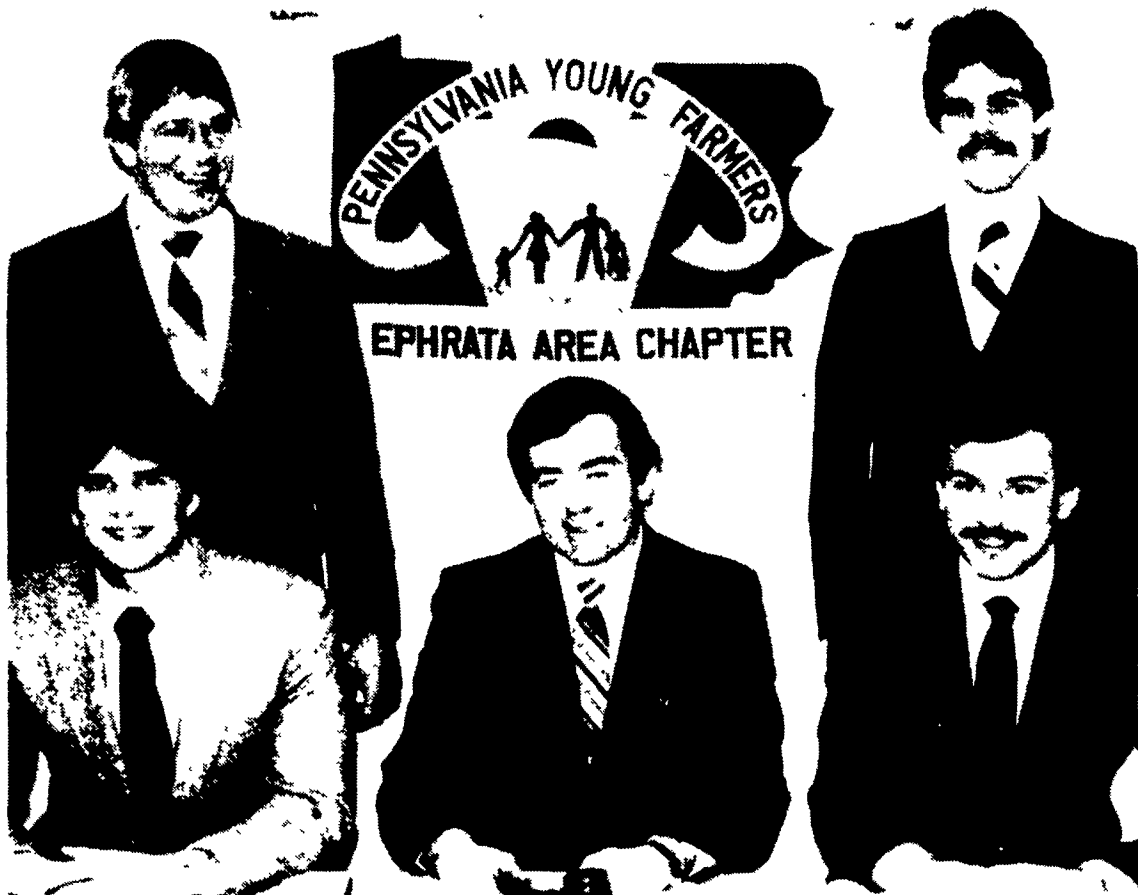
with a net return of \$151.

The Conservation Tillage Award for High Yield went to Warren Bollinger, Lititz. Warren got 179.1 bushels per acre with conventional tillage.

Appreciation Awards went to Paul B. Zimmerman of Zimmerman's Hardware, M.M. Weaver and Sons, Leola, and Tom Bollinger, 1984 EAYFA president. They also presented a quilt made by the members' wives to retired FFA advisor Lew Ayers.

The Young Farmers also installed their new officers — David Zimmerman, president; Tony Eberly, vice president; Mike Pfautz, secretary; Andy Augsburger, treasurer; and J. Calvin Zimmerman, public relations director.

The group ended their evening with a presentation on Pennsylvania Dutch humor by Jakey Budderschrip.



1985 EAYFA officers were installed by Charles Ackley, Ephrata High School vo-ag teacher and EAYFA advisor. They are, seated from left, Tony Eberly, vice president; David Zimmerman, president; and Mike Pfautz, secretary. Standing from left are J. Calvin Zimmerman, public relations director; and Andy Augsburger, treasurer.

USDA increases egg, poultry, rabbit grading charges

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture will increase charges effective Feb. 1 for federal voluntary egg products inspection; egg, poultry and rabbit grading; laboratory services; and federal mandatory egg products inspection overtime and appeal services.

H. Connor Kennett, an official with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said the rates are being changed to reflect the increased costs of providing these services. Present rates have been in effect since Feb. 1, 1984.

To cover the cost of the grader in the plant, the hourly rate will be increased from \$14.32 to \$15.44. The hourly rate for nonresident voluntary service will increase from \$20.76 to \$21.88. The premium rate will increase from \$21.64 to \$23.68. The per hour costs for laboratory services will increase from \$24.24 to \$25.48.

The administrative volume charge of \$0.025 per case of eggs and \$0.00025 per pound for poultry remains unchanged. This fee covers program supervision and overhead.

The hourly rate for mandatory overtime egg products inspection services will be increased from \$17.20 to \$17.32, and the hourly rate for certain mandatory appeal egg product inspections will be in-

creased from \$17.32 to \$19.92.

Grading services, administered by AMS, are made available upon request of financially interested parties. The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 requires user fees to be reasonable and as nearly as possible to equal the cost of the services. Under the Egg Products Inspection Act, the cost of overtime and appeal services must be borne by the user, but appropriated funds pay the basic costs.

Kennett said the charges are being increased under an interim final rule on which public comments will be accepted until Feb. 15. The comments should be sent to D.M. Holbrook, room 3944-S, AMS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

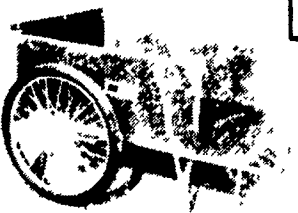
The interim final rule was published in the Jan. 28 Federal Register.



Warren Bollinger, Lititz, was recognized for his corn production; Terry Sheetz, Stevens, was recognized as the Outstanding Swine Producer, and Paul Bucher, Lititz, was named Outstanding Beef Producer.

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