

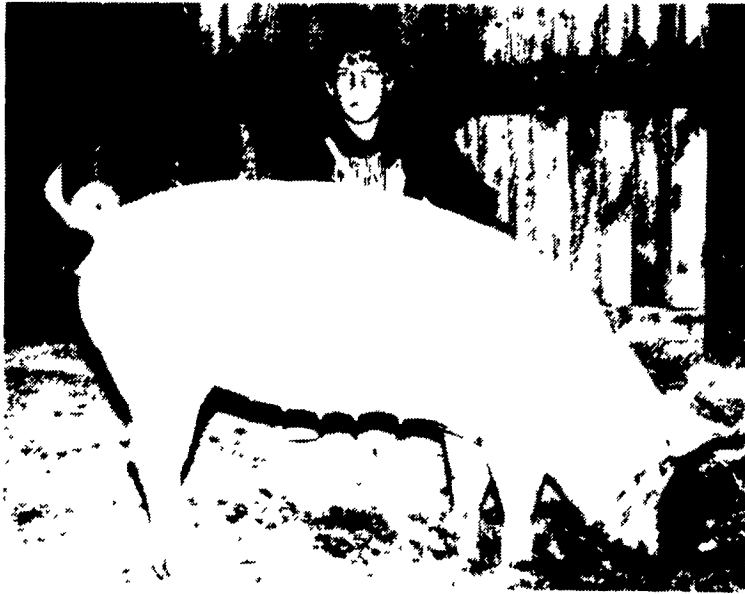
# Lycoming County Youth Prepare Entries As Fair Approaches

BY BARBARA MILLER  
Lycoming Co. Correspondent  
HUGHESVILLE — Members of Lycoming County 4-H Clubs are

grooming their animals in preparation for the 116th annual Lycoming County Fair to be held here July 10 through 19.



Doug Marquardt, a member of the 118 4-H Ag Club, is preparing his steer Shadow for the upcoming Lycoming County Fair.



Chris Snyder, a member of the 118 4-H Ag Club, poses with his gilt Lily.

Raising lambs as projects are two members of the Little Muncy Creek 4-H Club, Krissy Girven, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Girven, Muncy; and Mariah Peterman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Peterman, Hughesville.

Eleven-year-old Krissy, a veteran 4-H'er with a previous lamb project and several garden projects to her credit, said she chose a lamb "because a lamb's the cutest animal."

"I don't like to pull weeds," Krissy continued, weighing the pros and cons of her projects. "but I don't have to give my garden a bath or clean it." She concluded that she prefers raising a lamb to tending a garden.

Does Krissy, who won first prize with her lamb last year think she will win a prize at the fair this year? "Yes," she replied confidently.

For Mariah Peterman, 8, this is her second lamb project. Concerning the training of Ivory, her lamb, Mariah reports, "I am trying to train her so when she steps she puts her feet where they belong."

And is Ivory able to do this yet? "Every now and then she does," Mariah admits honestly.

Mariah won a prize last year at the fair and hopes to do the same this year.

This is the fourth year that Chris Snyder, the 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Snyder, Lairdsville, has entered a swine project. As a member of the 118 Ag Club, Chris won the reserve grand champion prize for showing his hog two years ago.

One might say Chris began his current project on a cold January day when for the first time he helped deliver a litter of pigs on his parents' farm. Out of a litter of eight he chose two gilts to raise as his 4-H project.

He chose Flo and Lily, the gilts,



Krissy Girven, left, and Mariah Peterman, right, pose with their lambs Ivory and Gabby. Members of the Little Muncy Creek 4-H Club, the girls are preparing their lambs for the Lycoming County Fair.

Chris says, "because they were bigger and had wider backs than the barrows." But now, according to Chris's mother, Chris is having second thoughts about his choice because the barrows are looking a little better than the gilts.

In addition to his pigs Chris is raising two steers this year and says he prefers raising steers in some ways.

"But pigs are easier to raise and to win money with because they don't require all the care of a steer," he observed.

Chris says he likes the rewards of showing pigs at the fair, "The money and fun," as he terms it, but he could do without other aspects of hog raising such as cleaning pens.

Doug Marquardt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marquardt, Hughesville, is raising Shadow, a Chianina-cross steer as his 4-H project. Doug, 12, is a member of

the 118 Ag Club and took reserve grand champion with his steer last year.

The hardest part of training a steer, according to Doug, is halter breaking him. Setting them up or getting them to stand properly, is about the easiest thing to teach, he added. Since Shadow arrived last mid-October, Doug has been working with him in a vacant barnyard.

Although Doug feeds Shadow "special ingredients" in addition to corn, oats, and hay, Doug says, shadow isn't as heavy as he'd like him to be. Doug notes he would be more optimistic about his chances to win a prize if Shadow puts on a little weight.

What is it Doug enjoys most about raising animals for 4-H? "Winning prizes," he states unequivocally. "And meeting new friends," his mother, who is sitting nearby, reminds him.

## Adams Dairymen Learn Manure Spreader Calibration

BY GINGER SECRIST MYERS  
Adams County Correspondent  
NEW OXFORD — A manure spreader calibration demonstration may seem like a different topic for a Holstein Twilight Meeting, but the Adams County Holstein Club featured just such a program for its summer meeting held Thursday evening, June 26, at Zeppdale Farm, Norman and Alan Zepp, New Oxford. This father and son operation includes a 100 cow Holstein milking herd and 475 acres of crops.

Featured speaker for the evening was Mitch Woodward, manure management project associate with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service. Based in Lancaster County, Woodward's responsibilities extend to a six-county area in which he is involved in animal waste management programs and research under the direction of the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Project. This project is a cooperative effort funded by the Department of Environmental Resources and related State and Federal agencies and organizations.

Woodward told the dairymen that proper manure management has dual benefits for both their wallet and their farms. Since manure is the cheapest fertilizer on the farm, proper application can save the farmer cash on his commercial fertilizer purchases. Determining the manure's worth depends on the individual needs of your land. The average dairy manure contains 10 pounds of available nitrogen per ton, three pounds of phosphorus, and five pounds of potassium. If these inputs are valued at 23, 24, and 12 cents, respectively, then that

manure is worth \$3.62 per ton. If all the nutrients are not needed by a particular plot of ground, then the value of the manure will be less. Woodward notes that poultry manure has three to five times the nutrients available in cow manure. Moisture levels should also be taken into account since the more moisture, the lower the nutrient content of the manure.

A second goal of a manure management program should be to help maintain a farm's water quality. Woodward cited Lancaster County as a prime example of a location where they have more nutrients than they know what to do with. He notes that it is a unique situation due to the lack of existing research in this field. The water quality project hopes to attain some feasible control measures on rate of application and run-off. Woodward noted that 30 percent of the farm wells in Lancaster County are now polluted with nitrates and coliform bacteria to the extent that they are unfit for consumption.

Before actually calibrating your spreader Woodward recommends first determining the rate of application needed. This should be determined by testing your soil for nutrients already present, testing your manure for its nutrient content, and then projecting your crops' needs based on yield goals. You also need a plastic sheet, a set of scales, and a bucket. Detailed information sheets on the procedure and rate of calibration for calibrating either solid or semi-solid manure spreaders or liquid spreaders are available from your county extension office or your county soil conservation office.

**Solid Manure Calibration**  
Woodward proceeded with a

field demonstration for calibrating a spreader for solid or semi-solid manure. The following is an outline of the recommended procedure:

1. Weigh the sheet with the bucket.
2. Spread the sheet in the field and drive directly over it with the spreader in gear and the tractor up to speed.
3. Fold the sheet so as not to spill any of the manure and weigh the sheet in the bucket on your scales.
4. Subtract the weight of the sheet and the bucket as predetermined and this number is the weight of the manure caught on the sheet.
5. Repeat this procedure two or three times to determine an average weight.
6. Check the spreader calibration chart (Table I) under the size of sheet you used and the pounds of manure collected to determine your tons of manure applied per acre.
7. If the size of sheet you used is not on Table I, use the following formula to get the tons per acre.

$$\frac{\text{lbs. of manure} \times 21.8}{\text{size of sheet, sq. ft.}} = \text{tons of manure per acre}$$

### Liquid Manure Calibrating

A different method is used when calibrating a liquid manure spreader. Items needed for this include a tape measurer or yardstick and a string or rope.

1. Determine your spreader capacity by using Table II.
2. Tie a string around your tractor tire at the top of the tire. Mark the ground directly below the string and pull the tractor forward until the string is again at the top of

the tire. Measure the distance from the first mark to where the string now hangs to determine the distance travelled by one revolution of your tractor tire.

3. Spread the load and count the number of times the rope comes to the top of the tire. Multiply the number of revolutions the tire made to spread the load by the number of feet the tractor moved in one revolution. This gives you the distance traveled to spread the load.

4. Measure the spreader's application width in feet.

5. Multiply the distance to spread the load times the width the spreader covers. Divide that number by 43,560 (sq. ft. in an acre) to obtain the area in acres you covered.

6. To determine the rate of application per acre, divide the gallons or tons of manure applied in the load by the number of acres covered.

Following Woodward's presentation, Adams County Holstein Club President Dave Kehr concluded the meeting with several announcements. The Club Tour this year will be to six dairy operations in Franklin County. The tour will be held Tuesday, July 15, with the bus leaving the North Gettysburg Shopping Center at 8 a.m. The cost is \$17 per person which covers the cost of transportation and the noon meal. Junior members may attend for half price. Reservations should be made immediately with any of the Adams County Holstein Club Directors.

## State Ag Secretary Appoints Export Marketing Specialist

HARRISBURG — State Agriculture Secretary Richard E. Grubb today announced the appointment of Raymond D. Plumb as chief of the Bureau of Marketing Development's Export Division.

"Ray's knowledge and expertise will help us build upon Pennsylvania's international reputation for quality agriculture products," said Secretary Grubb.

Prior to his involvement with the Department, Plumb served as an agricultural export marketing specialist with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for three years. He helped plan, develop and implement international agricultural marketing activities for the Commonwealth of Virginia,

specializing in raw agricultural products and processed foods.

From 1981 to 1983, he served as domestic agricultural marketing agent for the Commonwealth of Virginia, coordinating activities in its \$15 million direct marketing industry. He has also worked as a facilities manager for Southern States Cooperatives Inc. in Richmond, VA.

A native of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, Plumb received a bachelor of science degree in animal science from The Pennsylvania State University in 1975, and has continuing education credits in business management and export development from Virginia Commonwealth University and Northern Virginia Community College.