

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
100 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
LANCASTER, PA 17602

AUG 12 1986
University Libraries

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 31 No. 40 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, August 2, 1986 \$8.50 per Year

1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund Is Opened

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

The first checks arrived this week for the 1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund. So on Thursday morning Editor Newswanger met Don Risser, fund treasurer and Elizabethtown farmer, in the Farmers First bank in Elizabethtown. At that time an account was opened to receive the drought hay funds.

Risser and Frank Stoltzfus who will cosign the checks arranged for the funds to be placed under the Elizabethtown Brethren In Christ church charitable organization account number so an immediate clarification of the tax-deductible status of the fund could be established.

As announced last week Lancaster Farming, the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture are working to bring farmers with serious drought losses together with other farmers who can help supply those needs. This week the United States Department of Agriculture started referring national hotline callers to the fund. The Pennsylvania Farmers Association will administer the funds through their PACMA division. PACMA has already shipped Pennsylvania-nated hay to hurting farms in drought areas.

Emotional stories of how this sort of farmers helping each other could already be told. But Editor Newswanger has deter-

mined that emotionalism and sensationalism shall not be used to induce people to give. The 1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund was established to give those who wanted to help but didn't have hay to donate. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, here's what you can do.

1. Make your checks payable to 1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund.
2. Send your check to Lancaster Farming newspaper, P.O. Box 366, 22 East Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543, Attention Hay Fund or Attention Editor.

Lancaster Farming will forward your check to the fund treasurer. The deposit will be made. When PACMA finds a need to pay for transportation of donated hay or when they find a need to buy hay to donate, moneys from this fund will be forwarded to PACMA to fill the need.

Anyone who would like more information about this drought hay fund may call Lancaster Farming any time during office hours. The phone numbers are 717-394-3047 or 717-626-1164.

In addition, if you have hay to donate or need hay, you may call the PFA office at 717-761-2740.

For information from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture about the drought hay situation you may call 717-787-2387.

Or to reach the USDA hotline in Washington you may call 1-800-433-0703.

(For an editorial opinion about the acts of benevolence see page 10.)



A press conference at the York County farm of Geary Hunsberger with National Ag Secretary Richard Lyng. Secretary Lyng visited Lancaster, York County and the Scranton area on a tour of Pennsylvania agricultural sites on Tuesday.

Sec. Lyng Sees Both Drought and Abundance Across America

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER/YORK COUNTY - National Agricultural Secretary Richard Lyng made a whirlwind tour to Lancaster, York County and the Scranton area on Tuesday to support the re-election of Senator Arlen Specter from the farm community and to hear the opinions of farmers on political matters related to agriculture.

Arriving half-a-day late due to a last minute meeting with President Reagan, Lyng spoke to a \$50 a plate fund raising luncheon for Senator Specter. Lyng told the farm leaders of the great phenomena he is seeing as he travels the national farm community. "It seems half my day is spent reviewing the crops west of here to Nebraska where we have a corn crop that will undoubtedly give us the best yield per acre we have ever had. That causes us concern about the corn export sales and where to store the grain. But when we are not worrying about the big corn crop, the other half of the day is spent worrying about the drought."

"Last Friday, I was in Georgia to speak to the peanut growers," Lyng said. "There the corn doesn't look good. It's awful. It makes you ill to see it. President Reagan is deeply concerned about the drought" Lyng said. "He was in South Carolina last week and feels the USDA should do all we can to help."

"One of the things he did by bringing the air force planes in to fly hay down from the western states called attention to how bad the drought actually is. He was able to get volunteers all over the country to offer to help. Some by giving hay. Some by giving money. Some by giving transportation. There has been an outpouring of

volunteerism that I think is very unusual and tremendously valuable. People in the south are very grateful," Lyng said. "We can't supply the need for every hungry animal by flying hay into the area. But it was a gesture that showed how much the President cared and it got the thing started."

We set up a special telephone number for people who want information about the drought. The first day of operation last Friday, we had 900 calls. And on Saturday

we had 700 calls. Of those calls, most of the people who wanted to send money were calling from Pennsylvania. The secretary gave the hotline number for the USDA drought information as 1-800-433-0703. The hotline is available 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

After a short speech at the fund raising luncheon, Secretary Lyng moved on to the York County farm of Geary Hunsberger where a large group of media represent-

(Turn to Page A39)

Conservation Reserve Signup Begins Monday

Signup for the 1987 Conservation Reserve Program gets underway Monday and continues through Aug. 15 at county offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Enacted as part of the Food Security Act of 1985, the goal of CRP is to remove the nation's highly erodible land from cultivation by paying farmers an annual rental fee to maintain permanent vegetative cover on CRP acreage. Producers entering land in the program are eligible for cost-share payments of up to 50 percent of the cost of establishing cover.

The CRP contract duration is 10 years, and total rental payments for any one fiscal year may not exceed \$50,000, or its equivalent in in-kind payments.

"We are pleased with the response from farmers during the 1986 signup," said Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng, upon announcing the 1987 signup. "Now that producers are aware of the other provisions of the Act, such as sodbuster and conservation

compliance, we expect even more interest...in the Conservation Reserve Program this year."

USDA recently announced interim rules that could affect farmers participating in CRP, commodity programs and other government farm programs. The so-called Sodbuster and Swampbuster provisions prohibit farmers from producing crops on highly erodible land without following a locally approved conservation plan, and from producing crops on converted wetlands. These provisions apply to highly erodible land and wetlands in production since Dec. 23, 1985, the date when the Food Security Act was enacted.

A conservation compliance provision, related to the Sodbuster provision, requires farmers who request certain farm program benefits, and who have farmed highly erodible land at least one year during 1981 to 1985, to plan and apply locally approved conservation plans.

According to the Soil Conservation Service, Pennsylvania

(Turn to Page A39)



Chester Co. Holstein Field Day

Richard Grubb, Pennsylvania agricultural secretary (left), at Elisã Wilkinson, alternate Chester County dairy princess led the Purple cow in front of the 50 foot long banana split the county holstein field day Thursday evening. The event is held at the family farm of Arthur Hershey. Grubb spoke in the evening outlining the changes that farmers have had and are experiencing from milking cows by hand to technology.

The cow judging contest winners were: men (first place tie) Earl Yoder and Harold Bare; (second place tie) Nelson Stoltzfus and Glenn Freese; women (first) Doris Hostetter, (second) Betsy Wilkinson; youth (first) Clint Stees, (second) Eric Freese.

Clarence Stauffer from the National Holstein Association advised breeders that the no sale family transfer registration cost increase from \$2.00 to \$5.00 on November 1. Any transfer should be made before that time to save the added cost.