

# Lancaster Farming

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## Pricing Co-op Initiates Massive Membership Drive

**WILLIAMSPORT** — The Pennsylvania Steering Committee of the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency, Inc., met here Monday to lay plans for a massive campaign to sign up all Pennsylvania dairymen into this milk

pricing cooperative. RCMA seeks to establish over-order prices on Class I milk. And also seeks at least 95% of the milk producers in the RCMA area as members so they have enough support to negotiate this over-order price.

Already almost all of the dairy coops have aligned with RCMA and Pennsylvania Farmers Association, the National Farmers Union and The Grange are joining hands to reach independent producers for the program.

Arthur D. Little, executive director said, "In early 1973, dairy farmers in the northeast were

facing difficult times. It was the beginning of the energy crunch, (Turn to Page A17)

## Blue Mold Invades Montour Co. Tobacco

**LANDISVILLE** — Penn State agronomist John Yocum urges Pennsylvania tobacco farmers to be on the lookout for a fungal disease known as blue mold in this year's crop.

Tuesday. "The original infection was probably there at least two weeks earlier," he said. "If they have it, it's likely that the spores could be anywhere in Pennsylvania."

yellow spot on the upper surface of the leaf, according to Yocum. "If you look, either in the early morning or late evening, you can actually see the mold growing on the underside of the leaf," he said. On a bright, sunny day, however, the mold is not visible.

Yocum, who serves as senior research associate at Penn State's Southeast Research Farm in Landisville, reports that he found the disease on a Montour County tobacco farm near Turbotville on

The agronomist points out that the recent rainfall and humidity, combined with cool evening temperatures, provide ideal conditions for the mold.

Although the mold can degrade or kill an infected leaf, Yocum does not anticipate a major outbreak. "The main focus is for those farmers who tried to save some money and didn't apply Ridomil at planting time," he said. A systemic fungicide, Ridomil has been responsible for controlling blue mold since its introduction about six years ago.

The fungus begins as a small

The last serious outbreak occurred in 1979, when Pennsylvania lost 30 percent of its tobacco crop, valued at \$4.5 million.

Farmers who find blue mold on their plants can combat the disease by applying a maneb-type compound, such as Manzate 200 or Dithane M-45, at five- to seven-day intervals. For further information, growers should contact their extension office or Yocum at 653-4728.

agreement had been made to purchase at least some of this hay for the fund.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the fund should make their check payable to the 1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund and send the check to the Lancaster Farming newspaper office, 22 East Main Street, P.O. Box 366, Lititz, PA 17543.

## 1986 Summer Drought

### Hay Fund At \$5,035

**BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER**  
Managing Editor

More checks for the 1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund have arrived this week at the Lancaster Farming office. A total of \$5,035 by press time yesterday morning. This fund was set up to give those who wanted to help drought-stricken farmers but didn't have hay to donate. The funds were placed under the Elizabethtown Brethren in Christ Church charitable organization account number and are being administered by the Pennsylvania Farmers Association through their PACMA division. Moneys from the fund will be used to buy hay for donation or to pay for hauling if needed.

On Monday a representative from the Pittsburgh office of the Christian Broadcasting Network called Editor Newswanger for information about the framework and administration of the fund. CBN has a national television ministry and a national benevolent fund called Operation Blessing. Later in the week Paul McMurdy of CBN offered the organization's support and committed Operation Blessing funds to the 1986 Summer Drought Hay Fund.

In addition, WIOV radio station will make public service announcements about the fund. And Editor Newswanger has agreed to provide a weekly update by phone to be aired several times Tuesday morning.

To date PACMA has authorized a payment of \$160 from the fund to a volunteer trucker who had some personal misfortunes while delivering a load of donated hay. This trucker continues to volunteer his truck and time and is a worthy recipient from this fund.

In addition, PACMA has located 4,000 bales of second cutting mixed hay good for dairy cows for the fund at about \$50 per ton. PACMA believes this offer is an excellent and appropriate use of the donated funds. At press time a verbal



Lot number one, Ladys-Manor Corporation, sold for \$30,000 to the Galinat Syndicate of Ardmore. Pictured from left: Norman Hill, representing the contending bidders; Ross Smith, consignor; and Arthur Rhoderick, representing the buyer. At the halter is Ross Smith's son of the consignor. In the box is Denny Remsburg, Horace Backus and Dwayne Kutz.

### Sire Power Sale

### \$30,000 Tops Sale

**BY ROBIN PHILLIPS**  
Berks County Correspondent  
**KUTZTOWN** — The first cow into the ring commanded the premium bid of \$30,000 to top the

Sire Power Sale held on Wednesday at the Kutztown Fairgrounds. Ross Smith, Monkton, Md., of (Turn to Page A38)



A huge crowd of Lebanon County Holstein enthusiasts gathered at the freshly-painted family farm of Jay Hershey north of Jonestown Thursday evening to look at some nice cows and to fellowship. While a severe thunderstorm watch had been announced, only a few intermittent sprinkles actually showed up at the early evening judging contest shown in the photo above. Steve Neeley, sire analyst for Sire Power, was contestant

judge and evening speaker. Neeley's theme centered around the use of information available to help breeders make intelligent mating decisions. "There never has been a time when so much information has been available on both the sires and the dams," Neeley said. "I want to encourage breeders to use this information."

In addition, Sue Elliott, Lebanon County dairy princess, was also present to greet the local farm families.