

Lancaster Farming

Life on
Dr.



Bill Elliott stands by a grand fir that grows in one of his fields.

Christmas Trees: Sign Of The Season

BY BONNIE BRECHBILL
Franklin Co. Correspondent
WILLOW HILL — When retail customers come to Elliott's Nursery and Christmas Tree Farms, they seldom ask for a specific kind of tree. Usually they say, "We really liked the one we had last year. We want one just like it."
Bill Elliott, a tall, soft-spoken man, finds them one. "I have to do some guessing, but usually I can figure out what kind of tree they had. If they say it was jaggy, it was probably a blue spruce. If it was soft, held its needles well, and had a good aroma, it was a Douglas fir.

The Douglas fir is the Cadillac of Christmas trees."
While most of his trees are sold wholesale, he sells some retail at the Willow Hill Motel and Restaurant, which he and his wife, Patricia, own. The trees sell for \$8 to \$25 off the lot.
Mid-December is the busiest time of year for Christmas tree sellers. The busy season used to be the last few days before the holiday, but that has changed over the years. "Now, you can't sell a tree the night before Christmas. If you have a tree on your lot Dec. 24,
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Pesticide Regs Tighten Under New Act

BY JACK HUBLEY
LANCASTER — It's official. On Dec. 12, Gov. Dick Thornburgh signed the new Pennsylvania Pesticide Control Act as amended by Senate Bill 1445.
Farmers and agribusinesses have 90 days from the date of that signing to learn to live with legislation that basically reflects the public's growing concern about the potential effects of pesticides on human and environmental health.
John Longenecker of the state Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Plant Industry, was in

Lancaster on Tuesday to introduce farmers to some of the changes on the way. Longenecker was one of the featured speakers at the Organic Plant Food Company's Customer Appreciation Day held at the Holiday Inn, east of Lancaster.
Longenecker outlined the trend toward more restrictive pesticide regulations by listing some of the pesticides that were changed to restricted-use status this year. Joining the list as of Sept. 1 were eight granular insecticides, including Counter, Thimet, Mocap, Disyston, Dyfonate, Dasanit,

Temik and Furadan. Use of the corn herbicide Bladex also became restricted in September, and Lasso is currently under review for possible inclusion in the restricted-use category for 1987, according to Longenecker.
In November, materials used as wood preservatives were placed on the restricted-use list.
"I suspect if this trend continues,
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RCMA Meeting Set For Harrisburg

WILKES-BARRE — The Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency will hold an informational-structural meeting on Monday, Dec. 22 at the Farm Show Building in Harrisburg.
Scheduled for Room B at 1 p.m., the meeting will put together an organization that can move the program along, according to Harold Ely, Pennsylvania's chairman. Richard Grubb, Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture, Arthur Little, acting , representatives of the major cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New York State officials will be on hand to answer questions and aid in the organization.

WORLD WIDE AND NATIONAL FARM WATCH
This national news summary is provided by ACRES, a copyrighted information service developed by the American Farm Bureau and available to Pennsylvania farmers on a daily basis through the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association Farm Management Services. For more information call (717) 761-2740

New Column This Week

Editor's Note: To continue the intense effort to find new and innovative ways to serve the farm and agri business community in a seven state area, Lancaster Farming has made arrangements to go on line with the American Farm Bureau's ACRES Program through the marketing division of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association. This series of new features will include new markets, market analysis reports, farm management reports, national weather trends and a sped-up international farm news service.

This weeks starts the Worldwide and National Farm News Watch. Other world countries have their own interests. And their interests don't always compliment our own desires. But we need to know the worldwide thinking so we can plan our own involvement in our farming and related businesses.
So watch this farm watch column each week and look for additional new columns as they come on line in the coming weeks
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Seasons Greetings



**Peace On Earth
Goodwill...
From Our Staff
To Your Farm And Home!**

Rabies Law Signed; Effective In 60 Days

HARRISBURG — Observing that the "alarming spread of rabies among wildlife also may pose a potential threat to humans," Gov. Dick Thornburgh today signed legislation requiring the vaccination of dogs and house cats against the disease.
"Rabies, a dreadful disease that always is fatal once symptoms appear, is transmitted by wild animals, particularly raccoons," Thornburgh noted. "Often these infected wild animals infect domestic animals with which they come in contact, such as dogs and cats, thus providing a potential deadly link to the human population.
"Many Pennsylvanians already

have their pets vaccinated against rabies for the animals' protection and to protect family members and neighbors. Senate Bill 562 mandates vaccinations once every three years for all dogs and those cats that spend a part of any day inside a residence."
Sponsored by Sen. Edward W. Helfrick (R-Northumberland), the new law takes effect in 60 days.
The owner of an unvaccinated animal covered by the law is subject to a \$300 fine for each day the animal is not vaccinated. Currently, 46 other states require the vaccination of dogs, while 20 require the vaccination of cats.
All rabies vaccinations are
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Holiday Deadlines

The office of Lancaster Farming will close for the Christmas holiday at noon Wednesday, Dec. 24 and will reopen at 7 a.m. Friday, Dec. 26. Deadlines for the Dec. 27 issue are as follows:
Mailbox Market Ads - noon Monday.
Public Sale Ads - 5 p.m. Monday.
General News - 9 a.m. Wednesday
Classified Section B Ads - 4 p.m. Tuesday
All Other Classified Ads - 9 a.m. Wednesday.
Late-breaking News - 8 a.m. Friday.