Top Stories Of 1986

(Continued from Page A27)

acres of Lancaster county tobacco, Clarence Metzler, Manheim, reported a robust crop. Metzler has been farming tobacco for nearly 60 years.

AUGUST 23

Ag Progress Days brought 65,000 people to State College to see the latest in ag equipment and technology. The theme for this year's extravaganza was "Water Quality In Your Life". **AUGUST 30**

The Pennsylvania Dairy of Distinction Program got underway in State College under the direction of Steve Spencer, dairy science department at Penn State. By the end of the year, the program had state districts and state offices in place. Local committees were also being formed. SEPTEMBER 6

The Pennsylvania State Holstein Show in State College was won by Chery Brook LTD Balboa. The three year old had also topped the same show as a two year old last year.

SEPTEMBER 13

Beth Heald, Pennsylvania state dairy princess, and Donald Duncan, chairman of the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Committee, presented the trophy milk can and a \$1,000 scholarship check to Joe Paterno, Penn State head football coach. The milk promotion project received wide attention in the public media. **SEPTEMBER 20**

Women have the skills and leadership ability to make positive change in agriculture according to the theme of the Fifth Annual Women In Agriculture Seminar. The seminar held in Harrisburg offered agri-women an opportunity to meet and discuss problems.

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SEPTEMBER 27

Pamela Kendig from Lancaster county was crowned the new Pennsylvania state dairy princess. Washington/Greene county dairy princess, Jill Minor, was selected first alternate. And Bedford County Dairy Princess Heidi O'Neal was named second alternate. OCTOBER 4

The Pennsylvania Holstein Association opened new barn facilities at Middletown in time for a thousand head export project. The new facility is expected to give state holstein breeders a bigger chunk of the export market because of the close proximity of the Harrisburg International Airport. OCTOBER 11

Peter H. Kroll of Catasaugua was named Man Of The Year by the Pennsylvania Livestock Association. The association's annual meeting in Harrisburg featured an address by Ray Lehr who cautioned the livestock industry to prepare for major changes. OCTOBER 18

James Harteis was named the new chairman of the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Board. The Edensburg dairyman succeeded Donald Duncan of Robesonia.

OCTOBER 25

Twelve hundred 4-H Extension agents met in Hershey for their 40th Annual Conference. The theme of the conference was "4-H Keystone of the Future".

NOVEMBER 1

Interstate and Lehigh milk cooperatives approved a merger that was hailed as the most significant dairy farm news in some time. The proposal was unanimously endorsed by both boards and later approved by a substantial majority of the farm members. NOVEMBER 8

Charles E. Wismer, Jr., was reelected the Pennsylvania State Grange master at the annual meeting in Reading. The democratic (Turn to Page A39)



RCMA Meeting Slated

NEW HOLLAND - The Eastern Lancaster County Adult Farmer Program will sponsor a meeting to inform local dairymen about the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency and its efforts to help dairymen receive higher milk prices.

The meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Blue Ball School. Harold Ely, a former Susquehanna County dairymen, will explain the RCMA program and answer questions.

Many eastern Lancaster County dairymen ship milk to independent dairies at a minimum price fixed by Federal Orders. That dairy can turn and sell the milk to other processors for higher prices or "over-order prices" without passing along any of the profits to the dairymen.

Recent court decisions now allow dairymen to organize to demand to receive additional payment if this occurs. With a milk shortage in the northeast, this may be the case during much of the year.

If 95 percent of the dairymen in the state agree to organize under RCMA, the additional payments can be collected and returned to the dairymen. Over 90 percent of the dairymen have already agreed, mostly through the large milk marketing cooperatives.

All interested dairymen are invited. The Blue Ball School is located about a mile east of Blue Ball on Ewell Rd. between routes 23 and 322. For additional information call 354-4525.



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