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Lancaster Farming

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Calves Attract Kids



Did you ever think what you would have missed if you had never had a calf lick you in the face or suck your finger. These kids are certainly better equipped for life after their experience on Penn Square in Reading

Tuesday. You'll want to see what else happened by reading and looking at our report on D10 & 11.

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH



**We Salute
The Dairy
Industry**



State Dairy Farmers Reduce Debt

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor
CAMP HILL — Pennsylvania dairy farmers on Pennsylvania Farmers' Association's Farm Management Service reduced their debt by an average of \$3,400 in 1986 over 1985. That is one of the

most significant figures to come out of the newly-completed state summary for this service. The new records are based on 4,200 clients in Pennsylvania, according to John Moulton, director of program development on this record-keeping service. In addition, ac-

counts payable are down \$600 over the same period of time. "We have a lot of bills that were cleaned up in 1986," Moulton said. "This compilation of farm records for a sizable number of dairy farms becomes the first factual indication of just how dairy farmers fared in 1986. Interest payments were down by an average of \$600 based on a reduction of overall indebtedness from \$117,000 per farm in 1985 to \$112,000 in 1986. When you take depreciation and add back capital gains items such as raised livestock; gain on purchased livestock and other capital assets sold, net farm income for 1986 was \$16,000, up \$3,800 from 1985."

Commission Hears Proposals

BY MARTHA J. GEHRINGER
HARRISBURG — What will the next Farm Bill hold for dairy farmers? That is what Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng would like to know also. To this end he has charged an 18-member commission comprised of dairymen from across the country with gathering public opinion on which direction the policy should be aimed.

Dairy farmers, industry leaders, university staffs and representatives of farm organizations expressed their feelings on the federal price support program, supply management, somatotropin, the family farm, export markets, promotions and government regulations.

Along with the reduction in interest costs, a major decrease in

The Commission stopped in Harrisburg Wednesday as part of this nationwide, 10-stop trip.

The federal price support

Beef Business Big With DTP Farms

BY JACK HUBLEY
Shannon Pepple set up shop in the dairy business four decades ago, coming to Chester County from Bedford with an old car and enough money to buy bread. "He had an eye for good cows," reminisces his son Jim, who took over the West Chester-area dairy operation in 1973. Good eyes seem to run in the family. By the winter of 1985 the Pepples were milking 740 cows and cropping 2,000 acres. Then along came a thing called the Dairy



Pennsylvania State Dairy Princess Pamela Kindig pauses from her dairy promotion activities long enough to feed the cows on her family's dairy farm in Conestoga, Lancaster County. For a feature story about Pam, turn to page B14.

Editor's Note: Dairymen make the news on the pages of Lancaster Farming every week, but we still enjoy taking this first issue of every June Dairy Month to do something even more special.

The response to our recipe offer this year was overwhelming. By the June 1 cutoff date 313 persons had sent us at least double that number of different recipes. In addition, our staff was out on the farms all over a five-state area, as usual, recording what you are doing and what you have to say.

So we have our special dairy tribute issue chucked full of special dairy features. And we have a lot left over for next week. And the next. And the next. And the... But here is what you'll find in this issue:

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