

# Lancaster Farming

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## 1,000 RCMA Contract Signed



Secretary of Agriculture Boyd E. Wolff (right) hands the 1,000 RCMA contract to Creedin Cornman. On hand for the presentation were Steve Cornman, who operates Justa Beauty Holsteins with his father, Creedin, and Edward Anna, RCMA executive director. The Cornmans farm is located near Boiling Springs.

## Milk Prices Stabilize, Supplies Tightening

BY MARTHA J. GEHRINGER

UNIVERSITY PARK — In May, the Minnesota-Wisconsin milk price halted its downward slide of the past six months. This fact coupled with stabilizing milk prices and decreasing Commodity Credit Corporation purchases indicate a tightening fall milk supply in the Northeast.

After peaking in November 1986 at \$11.91, the M-W price dropped steadily to its May level of \$11. This level is 7 cents under the federal milk support price. However, the M-W price for May was 2 cents higher than a year ago, indicating the improving health of the dairy industry, noted Dr. Jack Kirkland, Penn State dairy market-

ing specialist.

In past years at this time, the M-W price was well below the support price, he explained. "We've seen the largest amount of milk on the market we will see. Usually it declines through June and July." Therefore, he noted, the time for the adverse effect on the M-W price would have been in May. He expects the M-W price to improve through the fall.

Kirkland explained that despite the tightening milk supply, Congress may elect to drop the support price for milk on Jan. 1, 1988. It depends on what they expect to purchase, the marketing specialist commented, not what they are pur-

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## Manure Study Results Presented At Penn Ag Meeting

BY JACK HUBLEY  
LANCASTER — Lancaster County accounts for 21 percent of

the state's total agriculture, Extension Director Jay Irwin told a group of agribusinessmen during a PennAg Industries symposium on the Chesapeake Bay held at the Shawnee Lancaster Resort on Monday.

Livestock enterprises account for a sizeable chunk of this percentage, and, in terms of sheer numbers of animals, the poultry industry goes unchallenged, with 42 million broilers and about 10 million layers. "We produce enough eggs in Lancaster County in a year's time to go around the equator two and a half times," Irwin said, quoting some of the more imaginative statistics he has

compiled.

Just how far the manure from more than 50 million birds will stretch is another matter. Based

on 1985 statistics from the Crop and Livestock Summary, Irwin calculates that the county needs about 75,000 more cropland acres if

all the livestock manure is to be spread at recommended rates.

The obvious solution, then, is to

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### Fair Season Schedule

Since the late 17th century Pennsylvanians have enjoyed agricultural fairs, and the tradition continues this year with numerous community and county fairs showcasing agriculture all across the Keystone State. To help you make plans for the fair season we've included a list of this year's events on page A28.

### Governor Signs

### Horsedrawn Vehicle Law

Governor Casey has signed into law legislation sponsored by Sen. Noah W. Wenger, R-36, which exempts horsedrawn vehicles from using flashing signal lights during daylight hours.

Drivers of vehicles equipped with flashing signal lights are currently required to use these flashing lights when their vehicle is unable to maintain a speed of 25 miles per hour or a speed consistent with the normal flow of traffic.

"The Mennonites and Amish in our communities have been stopped and fined by police for not using their flashing lights on their buggies during daylight hours," explained Wenger. "Because of the non-mechanical nature of these buggies, these lights are sometimes difficult to power. The limited use of buggies on public roadways also makes the use of these lights unnecessary during daylight hours."

The Senator said, however, that the new law does not remove requirements that flashing lights

on buggies be used during non-daylight hours. "For the safety of buggy passengers and motorists, buggies must have flashing lights in operation at night," said Wenger.

The act also requires that police notify the owner of a stolen automobile within 48 hours of recovering or receiving notice of recovery of the vehicle.

If the vehicle is recovered by a police department other than the department to which the theft was originally reported, the recovering department must notify the department that handled the original theft report. The latter department is then responsible for notifying the vehicle's owner.

The provision will eliminate delays in returning recovered stolen vehicles caused when outside police departments recover the car and then must scout around the state to find the owner of the vehicle.

The bill, formerly Senate Bill 157, is now Act 13 of 1987.



Ken and Nelson Stoner's dairy farm, Lititz, suffered damage to each of the 16 buildings on their farm. These buildings were among the estimated 100 farm buildings damaged in the wake of the Tuesday's storm. The silo in the foreground was ripped from its foundation.

### Storm Devastates Lancaster Area

LITITZ — A savage thunderstorm with 100 mph winds and hail ripped across the northern portion of Lancaster County Tuesday afternoon leaving in its path destruction estimated at \$6 million to farms alone. An estimate of total property damage in the county has not yet been determined.

The storm originated in the Mount Joy area and cut a 20-mile swath to Reinholds. One meteorologist labeled the storm a line-squall, a storm caused by a slow moving cold front that collided with a hot, humid air mass. Prior to the storm

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Three corn cribs on the Gerald Keller farm, Lititz, were damaged in a storm that cut a straight line between Mount Joy and Reinholds. The severe thunderstorm pelted the northern Lancaster County area with heavy rains, high winds and hail.