

Farmland Preservation Details Need Time

WEST MIDDLESEX— It will be several months before the Commonwealth's model Farmland Preservation Act is put into effect, Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Boyd Wolff told a group of the measure's supporters. In a report to the 16th annual Pennsylvania Farmers Union convention, Wolff said the time will be needed to pass enabling legislation and sell \$100 million worth of bonds to fund the program. In the meantime, he urged interested farmers to develop agricultural districts now, so they will qualify for the program.

The Farmland Preservation Act allows farmers to sell development rights to their land to the state, in return for a promise the land will not be developed for non-agricultural uses. Farmers are paid the difference between market value on the land for agricultural purposes and for development purposes.

In other comments, Wolff said he found marketing opportunities for Pennsylvania's food producers and processors during a recent visit to Europe. After observing the world's largest food show in Ger-

many, one of London's largest fresh fruit, vegetable and flower markets, and after trade talks with importers and exporters, Wolff offered the PFU members specific advice. High quality and good packaging are the keys to international success, he said.

"We are not only competing with other states, but with other

nations as well," Wolff said. He pledged the agriculture department's growing expertise to help farmers and agribusinesses produce dependable supplies at competitive prices. Pennsylvanians also need assistance to be sure their products enter the international food distribution chain at the cor-

rect point, he said.

Wolff said the recent international trade trip yielded 150 "good leads worldwide" for Pennsylvania food growers and processors, and said he is in the process of following up on all of them. Pennsylvania's agriculture department personnel will complete 20 trips to inter-

national trade shows during the next year, he said.

More than 125 Pennsylvania Farmers Union members listened as Wolff explained his agricultural export efforts. The PFU convention will conclude here Nov. 11 after a thorough farm policy debate.

Indiana Farms Wins Holstein Honors At NAILE

LOUISVILLE, KY — Beer Farms, Inc., of Berne, Indiana exhibited the Grand Champion Female and Senior Champion Female, C Briju TT Tasha, in the Southeast Regional Holstein Open Show at the North American International Livestock Exposition.

Reserve Grand Champion Female, Cash-Mar CM Astronaut Socks, is owned by Walter, Dwayne and Eric Hickman of Danville, IN. She also captured Reserve Senior Champion Female today.

There were 302 entries in the Southeast Regional Holstein Open Show, up 50 head from last year, according to Larry Mutter, Holstein Show Superintendent. Premiums totaled \$8,935 and were divided among winners in each class.

Competition for premiums in Holstein competition was very tough. Judge Jerry King, of Butler, MO, said, "The excellent quality of these cows ran deep in each class." He also said many exhibi-

tors told him the 1987 Southeast Regional Holstein Open Show was the best quality show ever.

"This is an excellent show representing the southeastern states," commented Bob Cain, Area II Manager for the National Holstein Association. He explained that the Southeast Regional Holstein Open Show is not a national show, but many exhibitors would like to see a

national show held at Louisville. "It's a nice show, with good facilities, and people that are nice," he remarked.

Margaret Ann Nicholson, from Finchville, KY, would also like to see a national show moved to Louisville. "It would be tough getting one held here," she said, "but there are no better facilities anywhere."



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- DEC. 9 - New Danville Fire Hall, New Danville
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