

Lancaster Farming

Corn Conference Addresses Future

BY
EVERETT NEWSWANGER
 Managing Editor
CARLISLE — The past president of the National Corn Growers Association told the very large crowd at the third annual Corn Conference here Tuesday that agriculture will produce as much food for humanity in the world in the next 25 years as has been produced from the beginning of recorded history to date. Varel Bailey, Anita, Iowa, keynoted the

Bedford Constitution Farms

BY **BETH GRAY**
Bedford Co. Correspondent
BEDFORD — Not too many areas in the country can do this," observed Bedford County Interim Extension Director James Weiler as he presented two Constitution Awards to farm owners at the Bed-



At the third annual Pennsylvania Corn Conference are (L to R): Varel Bailey, John Shearer, and Walter Johnson.

conference with a discussion of the major areas of problems farmers will face around the world to accomplish this exciting feat. Bailey listed food safety, environment, and international trade laws as the three major areas of concern.

FOOD SAFETY

"I think it's time to take the high

road as far as food safety is concerned," Bailey said. "We need to decide what the problems will be two years from now and do the research so we can either clear the agricultural product in question or change our product to make it acceptable to the consumer."

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Bailey thinks environmental concerns will be the number one issue that affects the way we farm in the future. The 1985 Farm Bill with its coalition with environmentalists is a good example. "I was in the meeting where the

trade-off -- where the deal was cut between the conservation reserve program and the lowering of the target prices in the out years of the 1985 Farm Bill," Bailey said. "All the numbers you see in this Farm Bill were calculated with the votes needed from such environmental-

ists as the Audubon Society and the Sierra Club. It was necessary to form a coalition with these environmentalists to maximize the opportunities we have as producers. We need to continue to find ways to work with them," Bailey

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Vegetable Growers Urged To Support New Marketing, Research Program

BY **LISA RISSER**
LANCASTER — Vegetable growers around the state are being called on by the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association (PVGA) to support a program that would fund marketing and research.

The proposed program, which association officials hope will be voted on in April, will collect \$25 per producer plus \$1.50 per acre for every acre over 10 acres or each 1,000 square feet of greenhouse space over 10,000 square feet, payable by October 1 of each year. These monies will be administered by the Commodity Marketing Board, which is comprised of

Boyd Wolff, Secretary of Agriculture, and four growers representing each of the three regions of the state (west, central, and east).

"The program is designed so that every year the Board will determine how to spend the money based on input from the vegetable producers," explained Ernest Bergman, spokesman for the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing Program. "Members will define the problems in an area, and the money will be disbursed to benefit fresh market, processing, and greenhouse producers on a proportional basis."

The new program will affect all (Turn to Page A32)

PA Angus Queen



For this busy Oxford High School senior, promoting Angus beef comes naturally. Tiffany Rohrer, the newly crowned Pennsylvania Angus Queen, has lots of experience in raising Angus and in cooking it. To learn more about Tiffany, turn to B11.

Adams Forage And Soils Day

GINGER SECRIST MYERS
Adams County Correspondent

GETTYSBURG — Adams County farmers were served a varied menu of leafhopper control methods, potassium and phosphorus soil level recommendations, and an update on forage grasses, at the Adams County Forage and Soils Day hosted by the Adams County Extension.

Highlighting the meeting was a panel presentation on "New Innovations in Forage Production and Marketing." Panel participants included Larry Mummert, East Berlin, who spoke on alfalfa production and his use of alfalfa-grass

mixtures; John Hess, Gettysburg, who related his experiences with grasses and mixes where alfalfa does not persist; Larry Wilkinson, Gettysburg, who discussed opportunities in hay marketing with a special note on the market for poorer quality hay; and John Myers, Littlestown, who emphasized the premium markets for hay and straw.

Mummert operates a 350 head dairy operation and harvests 200 acres of hay annually. He harvests a majority of his hay as haylage to avoid weather problems an excess

labor needs.

A perennial top forage producer in the county, Mummert stated, "The key to growing good alfalfa is to plan ahead. Get your seedbed ready a year ahead. When I do a spring seeding, I put the manure to that field in the fall."

Mummert related that he does not apply any purchased fertilizer to his stands, but that he spreads as much as 60 tons of manure to the acre to the soil in the year of establishment. When harvesting the

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Lancaster County Dairy Days Is Time Well Spent

BY **PAT PURCELL**

LANCASTER — It was a beautiful day on Tuesday, and while that usually means most farmers chose to stay home and work instead of attending a dairy seminar, that was not the case.

To farmers time is money, but attending Lancaster County Dairy Days is always time well spent. Those in attendance had dozens of options to take home with them to increase profit by decreasing costs.

"I don't understand how farmers can worry so much about getting another one-tenth of a pound of

milk, but yet they won't devote one afternoon a month on their future herd," said Jud Heinrichs of Penn State speaking on the 'hows' and 'whys' of raising growthy heifers.

According to current figures raising heifers into production costs Pennsylvania farmers \$800-1,200, assuming they freshen at 24 months. It costs farmers \$50-\$80 each non-productive animal depending on feed costs for each month after two years.

With this information well publicized it is surprising the large

percentage of Pennsylvania dairy-men calving heifers at 27, 28, 29 and 30 months. Any milk increase they may feel they gain is lost several times because of the costs of feeding these non-productive units.

It is critical to get growth in heifers so they can be bred at 13-15 months; freshened at 24 months and to do both of these the heifer must have the proper size.

Heifers must be measured in height at the withers and heart girth twice a year and have the measure-

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Dr. Sid Bosworth, Penn State Agronomist, congratulates John Myers, center, and Larry Mummert, right for their participation in the states Five-Acre Alfalfa Club. The presentation took place at the Adams County Forage and Soils Day.