

## Solanco Young Farmers Honored At Banquet

QUARRYVILLE — The ninth annual Solanco Young Farmers banquet was held Thursday, March 24, at the Memorial United Methodist Church.

Axel Linde, Oxford, was recog-

nized as the Outstanding Young Farmer under 30, and Karl Herr, Christiana, was selected as the winner in the over 30 category.

A. Dale Herr, Kirkwood, received the active member award

for his enthusiasm and involvements in local chapter activities.

This year's appreciation award was presented to James Huber, Triple H Equipment, Peach Bottom, for his contributions and support of the young farmer program. Mr. Huber received an engraved plaque in appreciation for his support.

The following corn awards were presented to winners in the annual corn production contest. Dwayne Peifer, Kirkwood, produced 179 bushels of shelled corn per acre to win the grain division. H. Grant Troop, Quarryville, was second with 171 bushels, and C. Martin Greenleaf, Jr., was third with 164 bushels per acre. Dwayne Peifer, Kirkwood, received the award for the highest grain average for the past three years with 161 bushels.

In the corn silage division Edward Zug, Peach Bottom, placed first with 25.2 tons per acre of 65% moisture corn silage. Dwayne Peifer, Kirkwood, was second with 24.9 tons per acre and Larry Aaron, Quarryville, placed third with 24.7 tons. Larry Aaron also received the trophy for the highest silage average for the past three years with 24.5 tons per acre.

The following dairy production awards were presented. Robert Kauffman, Jr., Peach Bottom, received all the Holstein awards. His herd average was 21,121 pounds of milk and 796 pounds of fat. He also had the high cow for milk with 30,434 pounds and the high cow for butterfat with 1,080 pounds.

J. Marvin Herr's Holtwood herd of Jerseys took top honors with 13,767 pounds of milk and 659



The Active Member Award was given to Dale Herr, left, and the Appreciation Award was presented to James Huber.

pounds of fat. His cow, with 908 pounds of fat, also took the top award for butterfat production. The cow owned by George and Doris Hough, Peach Bottom topped the milk production of the Jersey's with 18,894 pounds.

Lindenhof Farm, Oxford, received the award for the high Guernsey herd with 15,807 pounds

of milk and 729 pounds of fat. Lindenhof also had the high cow for milk with 17,920 pounds and the high cow for fat with 887 pound.

The most improved herd for milk and fat was the Holstein herd of Willis and Jim Krantz, Quarryville. Their milk production was up 2219 pounds and butterfat up 110 pounds over last year's production.

## NY Horse Club To Hold Annual Old-Fashioned Days

CALEDONIA, NY — On Sunday, April 24, the public is cordially invited to the hillsides south of Scottsville, as the Western New York Draft Horse and Pony Club presents its 12th Annual Old Fashioned Days at Honey Locust Farms. More than 100 draft animals in teams of two, three, four and five, will pull plows and plant the fields with oats and potatoes, in a fashion reminiscent of a by-gone era. Demonstrations begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue throughout the day.

Free horse-drawn wagon rides will take visitors into the fields to watch at close range the work being done. There is no charge for admission and there will be plenty of free parking.

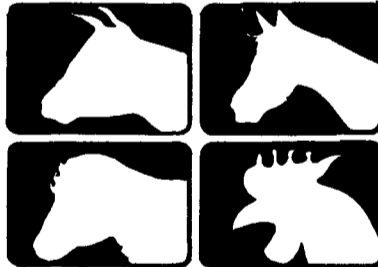
Refreshments and a chicken barbeque will be available. Also on Sunday, there will be sheep shearing demonstrations and a craft sale.

Members of the Draft Horse and Pony Club travel from all parts of Western New York to participate in this event. Honey Locust Farm is located off of Maxwell Station Road south of Scottsville. Take West River Road north off of Route 5 west of Avon. Turn left on

Cameron Road and then right onto Maxwell Station. Or, take West River Road South out of Scottsville; turn right onto South Road and

then left onto Maxwell Station Road. For more information call either (716) 538-6288 or (716) 889-3164.

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### Lower Returns For Hog Producers

The profitability of U.S. hog operations diminished in fourth-quarter 1987 and will probably continue lower through most of this year. Net returns in 1988 will be down substantially and may average only slightly above breakeven, unlike the relatively good years of 1986 and 1987. Lower hog prices will account for the bulk of the decline, although higher feed costs will contribute.

Increased pork supplies will limit seasonal price retails. Of all hog operators, feeder pig produc-

ers are likely to experience the largest year-to-year declines in profitability, with higher feed costs and lower pig prices squeezing margins. Finishing operations should fare somewhat better, as reduced feeder pig prices help offset a decline in hog prices.

Fixed costs per head may be slightly lower as a greater share of slaughter animals comes from large production facilities. If so, the breakeven point may be lower than last year.

Reprinted from the March issue of "Agricultural Outlook."

### Broiler Production

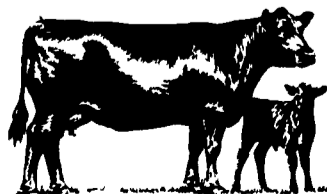
#### May Be 7% Higher

Broiler production during 1987 was estimated more than 9 percent above 1986. The quarterly broiler hatchery supply flock estimates, which correlate with first-, second-, and third-quarter 1988 slaughter, were 15, 13, and 8 percent greater than in 1986, respectively.

Monthly hatch and weekly

chick placements suggest that first-quarter 1988 production may be 7 percent larger than a year ago. Production during all of 1988 is projected only 5 percent above last year, mainly because of narrowing profit margins.

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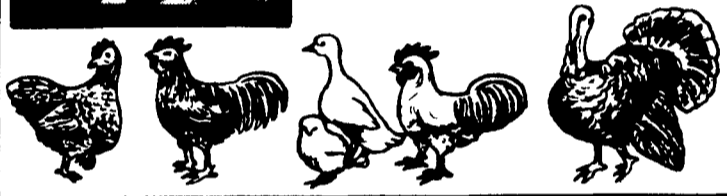
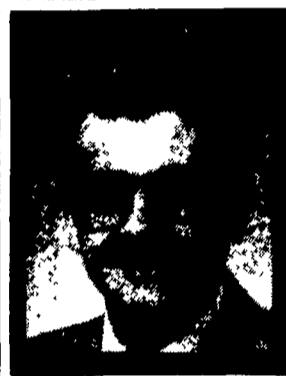


Named Corn Award winners at the Solanco Young Farmers annual banquet are, left to right, Marty Greenleaf, Dwayne Peifer, Larry Aaron, Grant Troop, and Ed Zug.

## Lowdown on Layers

by  
Owen Keene

Associate Professor of Poultry Science  
Penn State University



BY OWEN D. KEENE  
Associate Professor of  
Poultry Science  
Penn State University  
Biosecurity

Emergency and common poultry diseases are caused by microorganisms (microbes). They are invisible except when viewed under a microscope. In less than a day a single microbe can reproduce to a number greater than the number of people on earth. When these microbes cause disease they threaten the health of your flock and the success of your business. Keeping the disease-producing microbes away from your flock by using a defense plan is called biosecurity.

Biosecurity or effective disease prevention is the only way to deal with emergency diseases such as avian influenza, exotic Newcastle disease and duck plague enteritis. These are emergency diseases because they must be reported to state and federal authorities when diagnosed. There are no known effective cures for these diseases. They cause epidemics, long expensive quarantines and flock depopulation resulting in severe personal and financial loss.

Biosecurity also helps to prevent the spread of other common poultry diseases such as fowl cholera, laryngotracheitis, mycoplasma and paratyphoid infections. These diseases are very contagious and result in poor growth rate and egg production, reduced product quality and chronic economic loss in poultry flocks.

Microbes travel from place to place by chicken crates, egg filler flats, trucks, other equipment and people. They can be found on your hands, hair, shoes and clothing. They are found on the skin and in

the digestive and respiratory organs of dogs, cats, rats, mice, and wild, free-flying birds. Flies, beetles and other insects are also notorious spreaders of disease-causing organisms.

To avoid bringing disease to poultry, change to fresh, clean coveralls, hats and boots when visiting a farm. Equipment such as chicken hauling crates, egg filler flats, delivery trucks, toolboxes, vaccine sprayers and debeakers need careful attention when you are using them on different farms. Be alert to all ways that disease can spread to your farm.

These are just a few of the ways that disease can be prevented. Biosecurity, in simple terms, is informed common sense. Information on biosecurity has been recently published in a brochure on Biosecurity for Poultry by MACE (Mid-Atlantic Cooperative Extension) Poultry Health and Management Unit. The publication covers, in greater detail, many of the points I have discussed. It outlines biosecurity insurance programs for home poultry flocks, commercial flocks, live markets, auctions, farm visitors, catching crews and truckers.

MACE is a cooperative effort between extension specialists in poultry science and veterinarians of the land grant universities in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Penn State is part of this effort of MACE to promote biosecurity management practices. If you would like to have a copy of the brochure on Biosecurity for Poultry, contact your county agent or write to Owen D. Keene, 224 Henning, University Park, PA 16802. We should have ample quantities by April 15.