

# Lancaster Farming

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This family trio topped the livestock judging contest at the Pennsylvania Angus Breeders Show last weekend. Jodi Weaver, left, won the girls' class, which was open to girls 18 and under; her mother, Barb, won the ladies' class; and her father, Larry, won the men's class and was overall high individual.

## Lebanon-Area Residents Question Necessity Of Bypass

BY LISA RISSER

LEBANON — Concerned homeowners from the greater Lebanon area have united to oppose the construction of a Route 72 bypass around the city. "We can't see it (the bypass) as being necessary," said Dean Patches, who farms 150 acres with his father near Jonestown. "We live nearby and it's (Route 72) never congested. It's nothing like Route 30 in Lancaster or 11 and 15 in Harrisburg."

"I don't see a problem for them to be hunting a solution," added Margaret Meily, a farm owner in Ebenezer. "There's not that much traffic going through Route 72, and a survey they did shows that most people are going to Lebanon anyway."

Meily and Patches as well as about 40 other residents recently formed RE-SOLVE, Reach Everyone—Save Our Lebanon

Valley Environment. The group is collecting signatures to send to Governor Robert Casey, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation officials, Lebanon County commissioners, and Senator Brightbill. In addition, they are distributing informational leaflets door-to-door and setting up a booth at the Lebanon Area Fair to publicize the bypass corridor and its effects if completed.

The two-lane bypass, which would begin north of the city in Bunker Hill and end south of the city above Route 419, is the second part of a three-phase project to upgrade Route 72 in Lebanon County. Step one involved general improvements along the highway, while the third stage calls for an interchange with Interstate 78 in Union Township.

During a public workshop at Cedar Crest High School on May 17, PennDOT suggested the two

bypass corridors, as a result of a traffic study for Route 72. The bypass would be a controlled-access road with at-grade intersections with major arterial roads. The eastern plan would be 10.4 to 12.2 miles long and cost between \$24.6 and \$28.7 million. The western route would be approximately 2½ miles shorter and cost between

\$16.7 and \$20 million. Neither plan takes into account the cost of purchasing right of ways.

According to the PennDOT publication, the eastern corridor alignments are longer, it will take more right of way, have more intersections, and railroad crossings and therefore be more expensive.

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## Huntingdon County Farmers Discuss Drought Conditions

BY LISA RISSER

LITITZ (Lancaster) — Huntingdon area farmers and agricultural officials want drought aid. And they want it now.

Led by Herman Espy, beef farmer, regional DHIA manager, and county Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service committee chairman, the group met last week with extension personnel and

government officials to discuss the effects of the continuing drought.

"We've only had ¼ inch of rain in 40 days," said Espy in a recent interview. "Being that agriculture is the state's number one industry, I think they (state officials) should be taking a look (at the farmers' plight). I think Pennsylvania ought to be setting the pace for other

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## Emergency Drought Legislation Prohibits 1989 Dairy Price Cut

SPECIAL TO LANCASTER FARMING

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Reagan administration could be directed to forego the scheduled January 1, 1989, dairy price support cut, according to Representative Charles Stenholm, (D) Texas.

Speaking at the Second US Agriculture Communicators Congress here, Stenholm said Tuesday that emergency drought legislation under consideration by the House Agriculture Committee contains a provision to disregard the scheduled 50 cent dairy price support cut.

"Projections show that a 15 percent increase in feed costs is the equivalent of a 50 cent cut in

price," he said. "Feed costs have already increased more than 45 percent."

Stenholm cautioned that no action should be expected before the democratic national convention and added that the committee would like to wait until the August crop report is released before making final recommendations.

Both President Ronald Reagan and USDA Secretary Richard Lyng support the bipartisan drought relief bill, according to USDA's Ag am, a new summary for USDA executives.

Earlier in the week, Senate Agriculture committee chairman Patrick Leahy (R) Vermont said the drought is the most serious in

30 years and "must address affected farmers in every region in the country. It must give the same hope to the potato farmer as it gives to the wheat farmer."

Leahy noted the irony of drought-induced higher commodi-

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### Western PA Field Day Adds Drought Information

NEW ALEXANDRIA

— Because of the drought, the Western Pennsylvania Farm Tillage Field Day sponsors have added Pennsylvania State University specialists to the program to discuss ways to cope with the current drought situation. Bob Rugaber, Butler Co. agent, said an additional meeting tent will be erected and the specialists will present ideas for culling and selling livestock, feeding first cutting hay now, and the tax implications.

This Western Field Day starts at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 20 at the Robert Smith Farm, New Alexandria. In addition to the drought-related subjects, the events scheduled include tours, machinery demonstrations, hay-in-a-day demonstration, and exhibits of agribusiness products. PSU Extension, USDA Soil Conservation Service, The Pennsylvania Forage Grassland Council, and agribusinesses have sponsored the Field Day.

## Heat Relief For Dairy Cows — Keep It Simple

BY PAT PURCELL

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster) — The beauty of the Lapp Valley Farm offered a refreshing break in spite of the 90-degree heat, for those farmers attending Wednesday evening's meeting on heat stress and dairy cows.

Penn State Dairy Specialists, Robert Graves, Richard Adams and Steve Spencer proved good things do come in small packages and in the short amount of time allotted to them, gave farmers simple and workable tips to cool-off their dairy herds.

Ben Lapp uses dual-speed fans and the natural air flow to cool his dairy barn. Fans were placed at one end of the barn to pull fresh air in and fans were placed every four stanchions. Windows on three sides permitted good cross ventila-

tion and air was moving nearly 5 miles per hour.

The real value of the fans as Graves pointed out was not so much in lowering the temperature, but to move the hot, moist air which the cow exhales away from the cow.

Sprinklers in the barnyard area were placed so cows could stand in the mist and feed at the bunk where fans were placed to evaporate the water and accelerate cooling. Sprinklers were on timers as was the gate and during the night the sprinklers were turned off, the gate opened and cows were put out in the pasture.

Glenn Shirk, County Dairy Agent, noted that Lapp changed nozzles on the system several

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The senior division 4-H livestock judging team from Lancaster County nabbed the top spot at the York County Livestock Judging competition. In addition, individual 4-H'ers won eight of the top 10 positions. The winning 4-H'ers are, from left: Greg Harnish, high overall winner; Fred Weaver, second highest overall; Dwain Livengood, fourth highest overall; and Emily Weaver, assistant livestock coach. See page A36 for the competition results.