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# Lancaster Farming

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Tobacco cutting started in some parts of Lancaster County this week where enough rain came to grow the crop. Eugene Rohrer and his son Mike, along with Gary Kreider opened up the field Thursday afternoon along Route 896 east of Strasburg. Rohrer reported good growth on his 23 acres, but believes the county tobacco crop may have been reduced by 40 percent this year both from reduced acreage and from poor growing conditions. Early cutting of tobacco was also reported in southern Lancaster County and in the Groffdale area. But a report from Manheim had the fields only in the topping stage.



Alissa Hooper, right, the 1988 Lancaster County Poultry Queen, and alternate Rebecca Barley are eager to promote poultry products in malls, schools and at many functions.

## Penn State's Ag Progress To Highlight "An Industry Called Agriculture"



UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. — "An Industry Called Agriculture" is the theme of the 20th annual Ag Progress Days sponsored by Penn State's College of Agriculture on August 16, 17 and 18 at the Rock Springs Agricultural Research Center near State College.

"Agriculture is the state's largest industry," says Dr. Lamartine Hood, dean of the College of Agriculture. "Over a million people, or 21.5 percent of Pennsylvania's workforce, are in ag-related jobs. Pennsylvania leads the nation in chocolate manufacturing, mushroom production and the processing of potatoes into potato chips."

Ag Progress Days activities will focus on the importance of the production and processing of food and fiber. The College of Agriculture will showcase current agricultural research and educational programs that support this diverse industry. Commercial exhibitors will display and demonstrate more than \$20 million worth of agricultural equipment and machinery.

A number of new activities are planned for this year's event. Two research tours each day will focus on specialized topics to give visitors an in-depth look at Penn State research in specific areas. Tuesday's 90-minute tours will look at small fruit and tree fruit research. Water quality research will be featured on Wednesday. Thursday, visitors can take two-hour tours to the College's dairy and forage research center on campus.

The popular tours of other research areas at Rock Springs — which give an overview of research in agronomy, horticulture, plant pathology and entomology — will continue this year. Also back are the dairy and livestock tent, the forage tent, the conservation tours, the forestry and wildlife tours and last year's popular red meats tent.

Visitors to the College Theme Building will learn about the state's dairy industry. Visitors will get a chance to see the breadth and complexity of the industry from the first piece of forage a cow eats to the final product in the consumer's home.

"Sci-Q" — the agricultural science quiz show — will return to the theme building this year, complete with prizes for the contestants and fun for the audience. In keeping with the theme, this year's show will focus on science and research related to Pennsylvania's agricultural industries. (Turn to Page A26)

## Alissa Hooper Wears Poultry Queen Crown

BY LOU ANN GOOD  
 LANCASTER — While Alissa Hooper vied for the poultry queen crown on Saturday night, clubs whizzed through the air within inches of her head. The clubs were not thrown by mobs but by a team called the Shenanigans who

steered her on stage, at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center, as part of their juggling act.

Alissa, who admits to being a little bit scared nonetheless remained calm and at the pageant's end, won the county crown and

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These triplet calves arrived last Saturday morning at the Running Springs farm of Henry and Nancy and Robert and Sheila Balmer near Lampeter. Six-year-old Austin Thomas the Balmer's nephew at first wasn't sure he wanted to have three frisky calves near him, but later warmed up to the picture taking process. The new born calves weighed in at 193 combined pounds and were sired by a bull from Canada. Their dam is Windswept Kandy Glenda ET with records over 20,800 lbs. of milk and 800 lbs. of fat. Austin is the son of John and Sandy Thomas.

### Ag Progress Days features:

- Commercial companies displaying their products
- Millions of dollars of field machinery in operation
- Pennsylvania-grown food
- A quiz show, with prizes, to test your knowledge of Pennsylvania's #1 industry
- Demonstrations and advice by Penn State experts
- Antique home and farm implements in the Pasto Museum
- Bus tours of research areas
- Alumni activities
- Youth programs