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Dairy Promotion Program Elects New Officers

HARRISBURG — Paul Corbin, a lifelong dairy farmer from Jefferson County, has been elected the new chairman of the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program.

Corbin, who milks 60 cows on his 230-acre, 91-year-old family farm in Reynoldsville, is beginning his fourth year on the PDPP Commodity Marketing Board. He says his goal for the organization in the coming year is to work cooperatively with MAMMA, Mid-East UDIA and ADADC in advertising and promotional efforts that will increase the sale of milk and other real dairy products.

(Turn to Page A19)

Wolff To Address RCMA Annual Meeting

BATAVIA, N.Y.— Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Boyd E. Wolff will address the annual Meeting of the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency on Dec. 9, 1988. He will address over 250 RCMA delegates and directors who will gather to conduct the annual business of the organization and to elect officers for the coming year.

"We are very pleased to have Secretary Wolff address our group," said RCMA President Bill Zuber. "Wolff has been supportive of RCMA efforts both in Pennsylvania and throughout the Northeast," said Zuber.

Wolff has been the Secretary of

Dairy Farmers Need To Stretch Feed Supplies

BY PAT PURCELL

EPHRATA (Lancaster) — Farmers don't need to read the market prices for soybeans and distiller's grains to know these prices have jumped drastically from just a year ago. They've been seeing it in their feed bill.

"My total feed bill has increased by \$2,000 per month over this time last year," said Rodney Smyser of York County.

And for the first time in many, many years, a high number of farmers will be buying corn. Average prices for ear corn are nearly double what they were last year at this time. According to the PA grain market, old ear corn averaged \$56.46 per ton in southeastern Pennsylvania during the last week of October, 1987. In the last week of October, 1988, old ear corn averaged 97.67 per ton in the same location. Corn can be bought at lower prices. These are averaged prices.



Governor Casey accepts an award from William Sturges, executive director of the Pennsylvania Farmers Union. The award was presented in recognition of Casey's environmental efforts.

Casey Urges Farmers To Support Tax Reform Program

BY LISA RISSER

GRANTVILLE (Dauphin) — "We have an opportunity to make tax reform a reality," Governor Robert P. Casey told diners at the Pennsylvania Farmers Union's annual banquet this week. "Help me make it happen. Contact individual legislators and let them know how you feel."

The tax reform program will be among the top items on the legislature's agenda when they return from recess. The program proposes to allow local governments the freedom to determine the tax structure within their own community. The reform program was initiated in order to ease the tax burden on farmers.

"The current tax structure

encourages an over-reliance on real estate," stated Casey. "Thus the tax burden is higher for farmers." The value at which their land is taxed is higher than the income that it produces, Casey added. "The program will give agricultural and rural communities an opportunity to change the way agricultural acreage is accessed."

If the program passes, the state will make the transition easier for local governments through \$140 million in state funding.

The tax reform program is one of the campaign promises made by Casey.

During the banquet Casey was honored by the union for his environmental and agricultural preservation efforts.



Dr. Gabriella Varga, assistant professor of animal science, works with the equipment that simulates the rumen in lactating dairy cows to test fiber composition influence on dairy cattle nutrition.

PSU Researchers On Cutting Edge Of New Technology

BY

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

Note: As a member of the Pennsylvania State University Agricultural Advisory Council,

this editor visited several research projects in the animal science departments as part of the council's day on campus and business meeting headquartered at the Nitany Lion Inn.

In the following report, Dr. Herbert Siegel outlines poultry science research projects, Dr. Guy Barbato studies relationships between bio-chemistry and genetics, Dr. Robert Wideman studies urolithiasis in poultry and Dr. Gabriella Varga has a working model of a cow's rumen in her classroom laboratory.

Agway Reports Revenues Of 2.9 Billion, Sells Oil Refinery

SYRACUSE, NY — William A. Hiller, Agway president and chief executive officer, reported to members at the farm cooperative's annual meeting here last week that Agway had sales and revenues of \$2.9 billion, up \$211 million over the previous year. He reported strong sales performances from the Agri-Services and Energy Groups and solid growth is leasing food businesses.

Hiller explained that during the past year, Agway Petroleum Cor-

poration and Southern States Cooperative successfully completed the sale of an oil refinery and two product terminals they had jointly owned and operated since the 1940s. As a result of the sale, Agway reported a consolidated, after-tax one-time loss of \$91.6 million for the year.

Hiller pointed out that despite the one-time loss, Agway's remaining consolidated operations are strong and during the year showed after-tax operating profits

of 19.7 million.

"Our continuing operations are projecting profitable growth in the coming years," Hiller stated, "and we are pleased to be out of the refining business."

Hiller announced that, based on the success of Agway's continuing operations during the year, the cooperative declared a cash refund to members of \$2.5 million. In addition, over \$22 million in interest and dividends was paid to hol-

(Turn to Page A31)

UNIVERSITY PARK—"When you consider nutrition, you must ask how a given breed or genetic group responds to nutrition," Dr. Siegel said. "Not every genetic group, in this case breed of chicken, responds to the same feed. So we talk in terms of interface-interface between physiology, nutrition, genetics and management.

For example, researchers at PSU have found that two very popular strains of laying hens have

(Turn to Page A24)