

# Lancaster Farming

VOL. 34 No. 19      Lancaster Farming, Saturday, March 18, 1989      Six Sections      50¢ Per Copy      \$10.00 Per Year

## Good Cutting Management Can Yield High-Quality Alfalfa

**BY LISA RISSER**  
HERSHEY (Dauphin) — The most important factor in producing high-quality alfalfa is its harvesting, and harvesting is also the area where the farmer has the most control. This was the message Dr. Gary D. Lacefield delivered to the hundreds of people that attended the 19th National Alfalfa Symposium this week. Lacefield is an agronomy professor at the University of Kentucky.

Among the areas for farmers to consider are when to harvest the

first cutting, will there be a freeze-down or dormant harvest, when should the harvest before freeze-down occur, how many cuttings between the first and last, and should the alfalfa be grazed.

"Harvesting alfalfa hay requires a compromise between quality, yield, and stand persistence," Lacefield said. "Early-cut hay makes a more desirable feed because it contains more of the nutrient components associated with high quality. Hay cut in an early stage is more palatable and is

consumed in larger quantities by livestock."

On the other hand, alfalfa harvested too often results in a shorter stand life.

The first harvest of the season is very important. It determines the number of cuttings and sometimes the quality. "Early first harvest permits a more intense harvest schedule and can result in both higher yields and higher quality," said Lacefield. "Timely first harvest may reduce or eliminate

(Turn to Page A40)

### Chester County Crops Day

## Pre-planting Herbicides Offer Advantages In Any Weather

**BY PAT PURCELL**  
The dry weather of 1988 caused some peculiar problems for many farmers in southeastern Pennsylvania. While those no-rain-in-sight forecasts were good for making hay they were not at all helpful to those waiting for the rain to start their herbicides to work on those weeds in their own corn and

soybean fields. Without the rain, fall the post planting herbicides were not activated and carried into the soil.

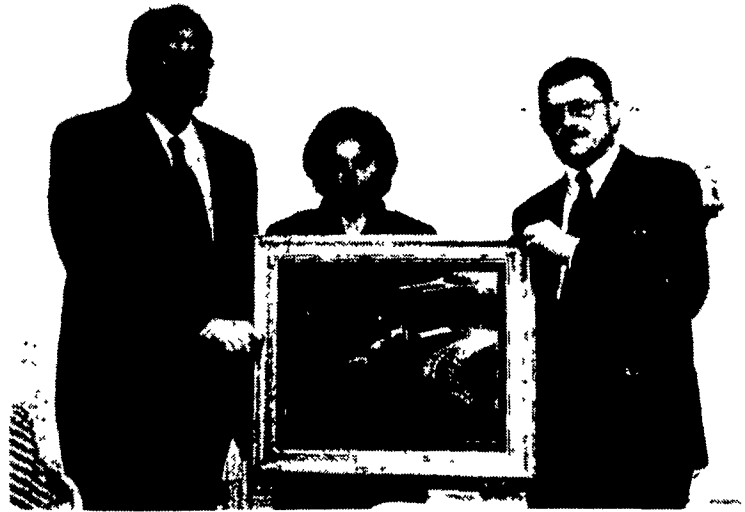
John Yocum, senior research associate at Penn State University agronomy department discussed the use of pre-planting herbicides at Chester County Crops Day held in Guthrieville on Thursday. The

dry summer initiated some interest in this line of herbicides which could be incorporated into the soil prior to planting. According to Yocum, proper placement in relation to the crop is crucial. For instance Prowl® on corn is a good grass control, but to be safe there must be 1½ inch soil

(Turn to Page A32)



Blackbird Anna of GU brought the top bid of \$3,900 at the Pennsylvania Angus On Parade Sale, which was held last week in State College. Consigned by Genetics Unlimited and Greg Krueger of West Grove, the open heifer was sold to South Branch Farms of York. See page A26 for the complete story.



Dale and Fay Herr, left, of Kirkwood were presented with an aerial photograph of their farm by Robert E. Wagner, vice chairman of the Lancaster County Conservation District, during the district's annual banquet on Thursday night. The photograph is part of the Outstanding Cooperator Award, which the district bestowed on the Herrs for their conservation work over the past 19 years.

## Lancaster Conservation District Presents Awards

**BY LISA RISSER**  
NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster) — Conservation is important to A. Dale Herr, a Kirkwood dairy farmer. Ever since he purchased his first farm in 1970, he has employed conservation practices such as diversions, waterways, and contour strips.

The Lancaster County Conservation District presented Herr with their Outstanding Cooperator

Award in recognition of his accomplishments and commitment to conservation during their annual banquet on Thursday night.

The LCCD also presented an award to participants in the Westfield residential development. The award recognizes development projects that incorporate sound storm water practices to reduce runoff and control erosion and

(Turn to Page A40)

## Butter Sales Efforts Turn To Coupons

**BY KARL BERGER**  
Special Correspondent  
HARRISBURG — Dairy promotion specialists are hoping their new use of an old idea -- coupons -- can increase or at least stabilize sales of butter, which have been shrinking for several years. A couponing effort spearheaded by the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board

and extended by several regional promotion groups, such as the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program, is under way in the weeks before the upcoming Easter holiday.

Locally, the Pennsylvania program will fund the placement of cents-off butter coupons in the insert sections of Sunday news-

(Turn to Page A29)

### Maryland Senate Bills Dead

## Veal Industry Under Pressure From Animal Rights

**BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER**  
Managing Editor

EPHRATA—For the moment, two Maryland Senate bills that would have sharply curtailed the white veal meat industry in that state are dead. Senate Bill 606, The Maryland Wholesome Veal Act that was introduced on February 2, 1989, to be come effective July 1, 1989, has been withdrawn by its sponsor, Ida May Garrott, senator, Montgomery County, Maryland.

And Maryland Senate bill 501, The Veal Calf Protection Act, a restrictive growing bill also introduced by Senator Garrott on January 30, 1989 to become effective July 1, 1991 was first changed in objective to establish a task force to evaluate the complaints of the animal rights organizations and later killed in committee.

These developments came last Friday when the state senate Economic and Environmental Affairs committee held hearings on the bills in Annapolis. And as a result of these hearings, the committee voted 7 to 4 to kill the bill altogether. So the issue is dead for this year.

The wholesome veal act would have prohibited the sale, donation, transportation or the receiving of any livestock raised for veal if antibiotics had been administered to the calf by the farmer. Only a licensed veterinarian could administer antibiotics and only for a limited period of therapy. The bill was withdrawn because present meat inspection laws are adequate to protect consumers.

The purpose of the veal calf protection act was to prohibit a person from raising calves for production of veal if the calves are confined in a crate, pen or a stall where they cannot stand up, lie down, turn around, groom themselves

or have contact with other calves. Any calf over two weeks old must be fed solid food and iron to maintain its good health.

Retail establishments such as restaurants would have needed to furnish notarized statements from suppliers that veal has been produced in compliance with this act.

Any officer of any society or association incorporated in the State (Maryland) for prevention of cruelty to animals would have been able to, upon their own view in relation to cruelty to animals, make arrests and take violators before any commissioner or district court. These society or association officers in addition to state police officers could not have been denied "reasonable access to any facility where calves are raised for the production of veal."

The penalty was a misdemeanor with a fine of not more

(Turn to Page A30)