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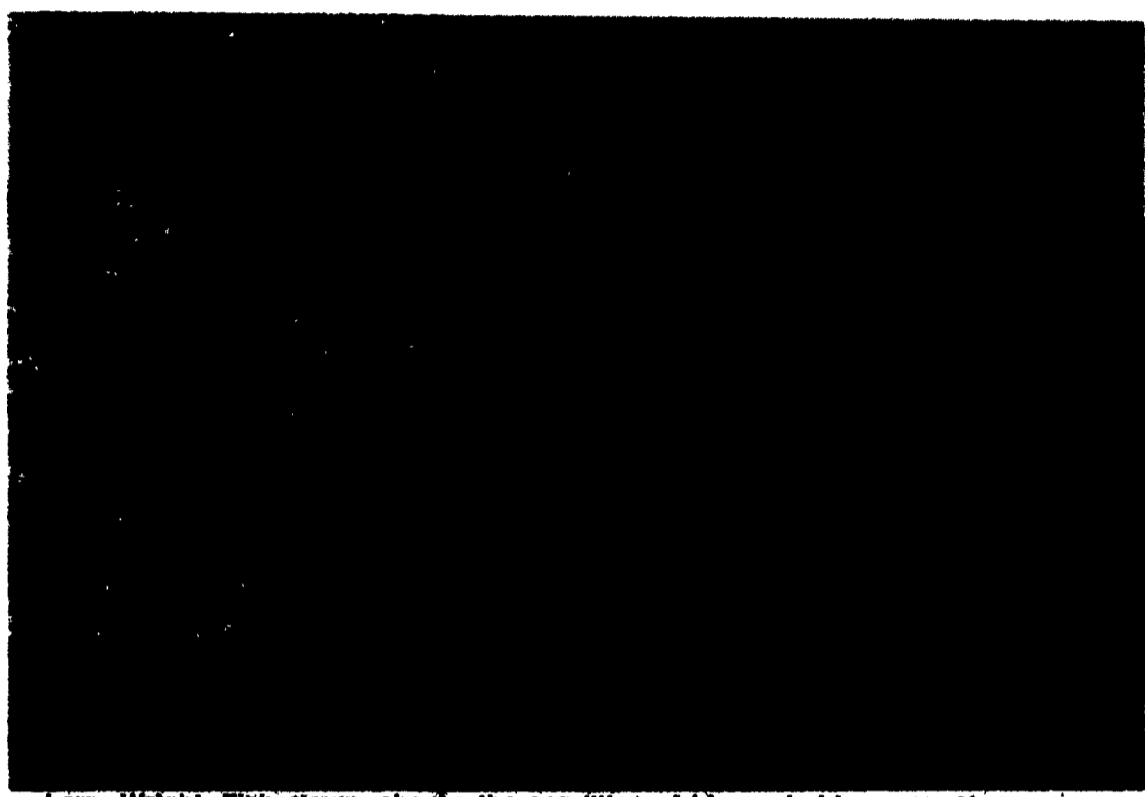
Blossom Time On Chestnut Ridge

BY LINDA WILLIAMS
Bedford Co. Correspondent
FISHERTOWN, (Bedford Co.)
— Chestnut Ridge is one of those areas in Pennsylvania where apples just naturally seem to thrive.

"It's the chert limestone soil we have here," says Larry Wright, owner of 180-acres of apple orchards on the Ridge. "It provides good drainage and, at the same time, holds the water and keeps moisture around the roots of the trees."
"There is also good air movement which helps to keep the frost away." The picturesque ridges give the trees plenty of sunlight in the daytime and, at night, the cold air so essential for good apples.

"The apple growers are like any other farmer," Wright says. "We take a lot of risks. We have to contend with the weather and insects including the gypsy moth. There can be too much water or too little. To add to these problems, we were caught off guard when bad publicity over the use of Alar hit last fall."

Wright, like other apple growers in Chestnut Ridge and probably most of Pennsylvania has not used Alar, a product which is used.



Larry Wright, Fishertown, checks the condition of his apple blossoms. National apple industry leaders said this week they have asked growers to stop using the chemical Alar because of consumer fears. But Wright and most other Pennsylvania apple producers have not used Alar since 1985.

Apple A Day Is Still The Doctor's Orders

BY PAT PURCELL
CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.)
—"Virtually no risks"; "levels are permissible and safe" and "what Alar remains on apples does not represent an unacceptable health

risk", Dr. Sorrell Schwartz said repeatedly during the video news conference televised on Monday, hosted by the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association in Camp Hill. Schwartz of Georgetown University, an advisor of risk assessment on environmental health, told viewers that the Environmental Protection Agency's decision to cancel the use of Alar does not translate into impending disease resulting from its use.

"It is very important to settle the question now that while Alar is being cancelled what Alar remains on apples does not represent an unacceptable health risk," said Schwartz. "My advice to consumers is that there is nothing to be concerned about. It is not necessary to buy Alar free products. Virtually no risks result from exposure to these low levels of Alar."

The video and the following PFA news conference was held in response to the recent airing of the "60 Minutes" program "A Is For

Apple" concerning pesticide residue in food, specifically Alar in apples.

President of the American Farm Bureau, Dean Klechner, criticized the program for its lack of balance

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Berks Co. FFA Holds Banquet

BY VALERIE VANTASSEL
Berks Co. Correspondent
KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) — Kirk Sattazahn received the County Star Farmer award at the Berks County FFA banquet held last Tuesday at the Kutztown Grange. Sattazahn, a senior at Conrad Weiser High School, was named as the State Star Farmer by the Pennsylvania FFA in January during the organization's Midwinter Convention. His program is a diversified one including dairy, crop and livestock enterprises.

Sattazahn was also honored as Berks County's top prepared speaker and as the outgoing county president. He plans to run for FFA State President in June during FFA Activities Week and has been accepted at Penn State University.

Eric Marshall, Twin Valley, and Scott Youse, Oley Valley, were awarded scholarships to attend the Washington Leadership Conference, a national event held each summer in the country's capital.

Marshall was inducted as the county's new president with

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Penn State Faculty Members Tour Pennsylvania

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Now that classes are over, new faculty in the College of Agriculture at Penn State have switched roles. Instead of preparing courses and exams, 17 teaching and research faculty left May 15 for an intensive four-day course to learn about the diversity of Pennsylvania.

"Many of our new faculty have come from other parts of the country, or the world, and don't know what Pennsylvania is all about," says Dr. Joan Thomson, coordinator of faculty and staff development

ment for the college. "Some also are unfamiliar with our tradition of outreach and public service. We want College of Agriculture faculty to know the range of Pennsylvania's agricultural enterprises and the scope of Penn State's educational programs throughout the state."

The course schedule includes conversations with state officials and county commissioners, visits to some of the largest and most successful poultry and dairy farms in the country and inspections of

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DHI Organizations To Offer Test For Staph Mastitis

BY KARL BERGER
Special Correspondent
FREDERICK, MD — Dairy farmers in the Mid-Atlantic area soon will have access to a new weapon in their never-ending battle against mastitis.

Area Dairy Herd Improvement organizations are gearing up to provide a test for detecting *Staphylococcus aureus*, a bacteria that is one of the major causes of mastitis. The test should make it easier to identify infected animals and reduce bulk tank somatic cell counts, according to DHI officials.

The ProStaph mastitis test—a registered trademark of the ProScience Corporation of Sterling, Va., the developer and marketer of the test—received full federal licensing in April. DHIA Services Inc. is distributing it to the laboratories that service state and regional DHI units across the country. DHIA Services is the marketing subsidiary of the National Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

Richard Barth, general manager of the Pennsylvania DHIA, said his organization plans to begin

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Farm Is A Farm--Forever

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)—The grace and charm of an era gone by greeted invited guests to the celebration here among stately trees and a house full of memories. The festivities were initiated to mark Mrs. Mary Schantz's contribution to farmland preservation and to her equal contribution to the preservation of historical buildings.

While Mrs. Schantz had received recognition for her contribution to farmland preservation last year at the annual meeting of the Lancaster Farm-

land preservation official said this assembly of about 100 enthusiasts was called to "just rejoice over what Mrs. Schantz has done."

The farm, located on Springville Road, east of town, is in an agricultural security area and is in the National Registry of Historic Places. Permanent conservation and historic preservation easements have been placed on the property by will and with no cost to the two conservation organizations--Lancaster Farmland Trust and The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County.

The late 17th and early 18th century buildings will be preserved in



At the farmland preservation celebration are: (l to r) Alan Musselman; Daniel Herr; Nasser Basir; Mary Schantz; Debra Schantz-Basir; Christene Brubaker; Mary Wiley-Myers and Char-