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The Hess family operates a "farrow-to-finish" beef operation on their bicentennial farm. Dairy calves are purchased a few days after birth and are raised until they are ready to go to the packer. The Hess family includes, from left, Karl, Jonathan, 10, Konrad, 12, Michael, 4, and Elma.

Growing Beef From Start To Finish

BY LISA RISSER

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

— About a year ago Karl and Elma Hess began considering their options. Veal producers since 1980, they had decided their future didn't include raising veal, but they wanted to remain in farming.

The operation ideally would utilize the veal barn and other buildings on the farm as well as the silos. Hog production was out as they'd already tried it and not found it to their liking.

Beef cattle seemed the answer, specifically Holstein beef. "We have what I like to call a 'farrow-

to-finish' beef operation," said Karl. "We feed Holstein beef from the time they're a couple days old until they go to the packer." The Hesses move about 300 cattle yearly in five cycles.

Calves are purchased at no older than a few days and housed in the veal barn until they are eight weeks old. At this time, they are moved to a backgrounding barn, which is a tobacco shed modified for loose housing. At 18 weeks the animals are moved to the feed lot where they remain until they are sold.

Buying the animals young gives

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Clouds Part For Lancaster Holstein Show

BY PAT PURCELL

QUARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.)— Dark clouds loomed over the Lancaster County Holstein Show held Thursday at the Solanco Fairgrounds and heavy rains greeted the first classes of entries, but Mother Nature herself could not resist the parade of beautiful black and whites and at noon she pulled back the clouds and made the sun shine on 194 contestants to kick off the Holstein show season throughout Pennsylvania. "This cow's got a lot of frame and a lot of balance in that udder - the kind you like to see at national shows,"

said open show judge Jim Burdette of Windy Knoll View Farm as he selected Tom McCauley's Queen Star Sexy as the show's grand champion. Breeder on Sexy is Star Dede Syndicate and she is sired by Oceanview Sexation.

Sexation was the 100,000-pound class winner also with her snugness and tremendous height and width of rear udder. The aged cow champion captured the reserve grand champion title handily. Dreamstreet Sheik Daphne ET, owned by Silvermine Holsteins and bred by Dreamstreet

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Grand champion was Queen Star Sexy (right) owned by Tom McCauley and reserve grand went to Dreamstreet Sheik Daphne ET owned by Sharon Frey-Thomas (left). Show judge was Jim Burdette (left) and presentations were made by Angela Spickler, dairy princess.

Pasture Management, Alfalfa Production Stressed At Forage/Livestock Field Day

BY LISA RISSER

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — Farmers from around southeast Pennsylvania ignored the overcast skies and brief rains to come and learn about forages at the Forage/Livestock Field Day here Wednesday.

The day, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Forage & Grassland

Council, was hosted by Milton Hershey School Farms and included many educational sessions and exhibits.

A major concern was what to do with alfalfa in a wet year. This topic was addressed in a session conducted by Dr. John E. Baylor, director of market development for

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Pennsylvania Ag Teachers Name Association Officers

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.)— The Pennsylvania Agriculture Teachers' Association conducted its annual Professional-Technical Education Institute for Agricultural Educators earlier this month at the Penn State University.

A highlight during the conference was the officer elections for the Pennsylvania Agriculture Teachers' Association for 1989-90. They are: Ronald L. Frederick of Twin Valley High School, president; Paul Heasley of Danville Area High School, president-elect; Ronald J. Althoff

of Solanco Area High School, treasurer; Robert B. Lauffer of Garden Spot High School, treasurer-elect.

Pre-conference sessions included: "Aquaculture as Part of the Curriculum" presented by Steve Van Gorder, of Fresh Culture Systems and the Alternative Aquaculture Association; "Forestry/Orienteering Practicum" presented by Jim Herrold, agriculture teacher at Somerset County Vocational Technical School; "Hydraulics and Pneuma-

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Poultry Queen Pageant To Be Held

The 1989-90 Lancaster County Poultry Pageant will be held on August 4 at the Farm and Home Center at 6:15 p.m.

Three contestants will compete for the county and state title this year. Contestant Melissa S. Garber, 706 Milton Grove Rd., Mt. Joy, is the daughter of James and Martha Garber. She graduated from Lancaster Mennonite High School in 1988 and was active in

field hockey and softball. Melissa's family raises pullets and layers.

Contestant Anita Meck of 1503 Beaver Valley Pike, Willow Street, is the daughter of Ken and Esther Meck. Anita graduated from Lampeter Strasburg High School in 1988 and was active in the FBLA, band, and FFA. Her family raises pullets.

Contestant Kimberly A. Smith of 1191 Bartville Rd., Christiana, is the daughter of Thomas and Susan Smith. She will graduate in 1990. Kimberly's high school activities include newspaper editor, yearbook artist and she is also a member of the FBLA. Kimberly's family raises layer chickens.

For additional information and tickets please contact J. Douglas Wolgemuth at 367-8915.

Kimberly A. Smith

Anita Meck

Melissa S. Garber