Gov. Casey Opens Farm Show

(Continued from Page A1)

The carriage was driven by Roger Thoms of Spring Mills, Centre County, the winner of the team hitched-horse competition at last year's show.

During the opening ceremonies. Gov. Casey paid tribute to the state's 55,000 farm families and 2.000 food processors. Then, he officially opened the doors of the show, which is free of charge to

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the public. The show will close Friday.

"Pennsylvania has traditionally been seen as a state of heavy industry — coal, steel, oil, railroads," Gov. Casey said, "but we're also home to America's largest rural population. Agriculture is the state's biggest, most productive industry, generating \$35 billion in economic activity.

"It's important that the tradition of farming in Pennsylvania, which stretches back 300 years, continues strong into the 21st century."

Gov. Casey cited several new programs that have benefitted

agriculture, such as the creation of a state Animal Health Commission to protect farm animals from disease, and the establishment of a farmland preservation initiative that is the most ambitious in the nation

The farmland preservation program helps farm families pre-

Showcase Sale Scheduled

Lancester Farming, Saturday, January 13, 1990-A29 serve their land for agricultural use.

> "For years, state government has talked about saving the vanishing farms of our Commonwealth, and now we're doing something about it," Gov. Casey said.



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