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Chester County Crops Day Examines Pesticide Laws, Storage, And Use

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff
GUTHRIESVILLE (Chester Co.) — "For your family's and workers' peace of mind, you want to be safe and you don't want them to get hurt," said Russ Powell, Penn State business management extension agent, about pesticide laws Wednesday at the 1990 Chester Country Crops Day.

About 140 attended the one-day conference sponsored by the Chester County Penn State cooperative extension for Chester County farmers.

"We offer Crops Day to provide farmers with some of the latest seed and soil facts and figures, including pesticides and herbicide information," said Walter B. Wurster, dairy extension agent. "Three core and three category credits are

provided to farmers toward their license to use pesticides at the meeting."

The conference featured nine exhibitors for grain and grain-related products. Also at the conference, three awards were presented to Chester-area farmers. Omar Beam won the Chester County Conservation Farmer of the Year. Carl Yoder was presented the Five-Acre Corn Club Award from the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association.

Innovative Conservation System Award

Dunwoody Zook won the Innovative Conservation System Award for his efforts in raising steers on his high-density rotation grazing farm, which makes better use of the land and the grasses for

feeding.

Zook's farming technique provides less erosion and a better

grass crop for steer feed.

Conference topics included small grain production, pesticide

storage buildings, nitrogen management for corn production, the fate of pesticides in the environment, corn herbicides, chemical regulations and you, and small grains for silage.

Comply with OSHA

Powell said that farmers should strive to comply with OSHA regulations because the fines "can be severe."

Powell discussed the regulations imposed by Pennsylvania's Worker and Community Right to Know and the Superfund Amendment Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III laws. Regulations requiring farmers' responsibilities to train employees under OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (HazCom) regulation were also discussed.

HazCom specifies that farmers with more than 10 employees must provide full training, including a formal written training program and a material safety data sheet (MSDS) list of chemicals used on

(Turn to Page A30)



Robert Francis, right, chairman of the Chester County Conservation District, presents the Chester County Conservation Farmer of the Year Award to Omar Beam.

Experts Say BST Works, Safe Too

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a two-part series of a report on Bovine Somatotropin (BST) as discussed by several experts at a recent Penn-Jersey Dairy Exposition. Out of the many issues facing the dairy industry as it enters the 1990s, perhaps no other is more significant than the proposed use of biotechnology to increase milk yields.

VERNON ACHENBACH, JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff
ALLENTOWN (Lehigh Co.) — Two agricultural experts with vested interest in the production of the milk-increasing drug, Bovine Somatotropin (BST), say the drug can be a good and safe cow management tool in the U.S. dairy industry.

Especially, for the small dairy operation.

The experts are among a field of

four who spoke last week during the all-day, Penn-Jersey Dairy Exposition. Also speaking were a Penn State University ag economist, and a spokesman from the BST-opposed ice cream manufacturer, Ben and Jerry's, of Vermont.

About 200 dairy farmers, from Pennsylvania and New Jersey, attended the event to listen to the guest speakers and have questions answered.

The event was sponsored in part by the Penn State and Rutgers universities' extension services and various dairy farm equipment supply and service businesses.

The final message each speaker left with the crowd ranged in emphasis:

- The economist urged farmers to "be aware of the issue and look at the source of information."

(Turn to Page A22)

DHIA Annual Meeting Program Finalized

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — The Pennsylvania DHIA has finalized its program for the second annual meeting of the corporation to be held on March 1-2, 1990 at the Days Inn (formerly the Sheraton) in State College, PA.

This year's program, which is

split between two half-day sessions as in previous years, includes board committee and management reports on the first day. That day's program is highlighted by two new events that will be conducted simultaneously. One is an orientation for newly elected

directors and committee members of local associations and units. That session, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., will provide information and insight into the DHIA's purpose and structure from the local association through the NCDHIP Policy

(Turn to Page A24)

Sire Power Scholars Named

VERNON ACHENBACH, JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

NEW CUMBERLAND (Cumberland Co.) — Fourteen students whose parents are members of Sire Power Inc. received \$500 scholarships recently.

In addition to the Sire Power scholarships, a \$2,000 Lew Camp-

bell Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Susan Deeds, of Jumping Branch, W. Virginia. Deeds, a student of dairy science at Virginia Tech, does all the sire selection on her family dairy farm.

Deeds is a certified artificial insemination technician and breeds about half the family's cows and heifers. At Surry Com-

munity College she finished with a 3.95 grade point average.

From the Northeast region, those who earned the Sire Power Scholarships include: Tammy Balthaser, Bernville, a student of ag business and food science; Gary Bicksler, Richland, a student of dairy production; Darwin Bratton, Millerstown, a student of food science; Michael Eckert, New Albany, a student of ag business management; Tina Hoser, Stewartville, N.J., a student of ag journalism; Carolyn Norman, Liberty, a student of ag science; James Shadeh, Alexandria, a student of ag science; Anthony Weaver, Selinsgrove, a student of animal bioscience; Duane Stoltzfus, Morgantown, a student of dairy and animal science; and Marvin Zimmerman, Benton, a dairy science student.

In the Maryland sales division of Sire Power, recipients include: Karen Knutsen, Rising Sun, a student of animal science; Nancy Powell, Union Bridge, dairy science; Johanna Remsburg, Middletown, animal science; and Kelli Winters, Smithsburg, dairy science and pre-veterinary studies.

The annual scholarships are awarded to college students whose agricultural activities, curriculum and grades reflect a high standard, according to officials.



Recipients of Sire Power Inc. scholarships are, from left in back row, Duane Stoltzfus, Darwin Bratton, James Shade, Marvin Zimmerman and Gary Bicksler. In the front, from left are Carolyn Norman, Tammy Balthaser, Susan

Deeds, Kelli Winters and Karen Ann Knutsen. Missing from the picture are Nancy Powell, Johanna Remsburg, Anthony Weaver, Tina Hoser and Michael Eckert.