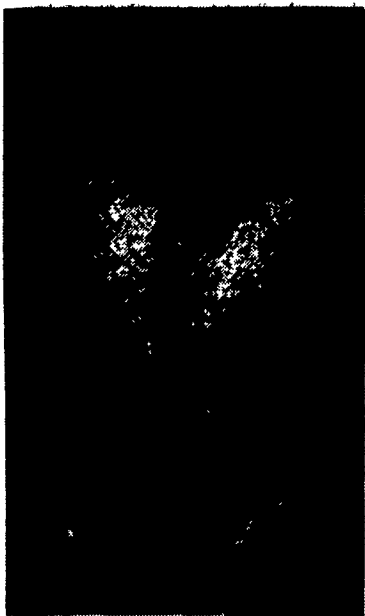
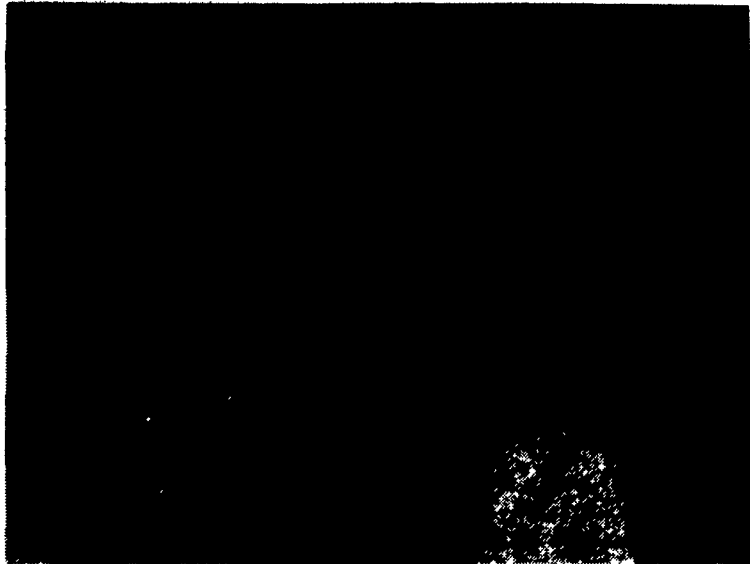


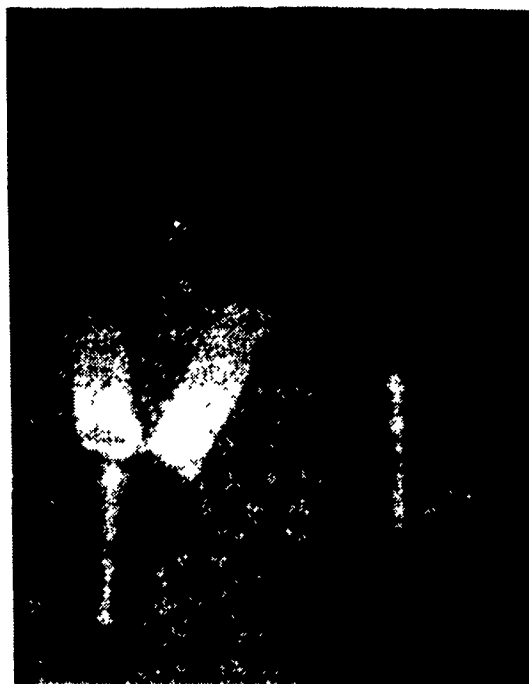
Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association Awards Banquet Held



The Junior Progressive Breeder Award goes to Irene Benner, Millerstown, Perry Co. The award recognizes breeder-owners of top producing and type cows.



Production Contest Winners, selected from 240 entries, were honored for their participation in the milk, fat, and protein production contest.



Distinguished Junior Members Winners-Senior Division, Tammy Balthaser from Bernville, Berks Co., and Corey Will of Berlin, Somerset Co., will represent Pennsylvania in the National Distinguished Junior Member Contest to be held during the National Convention June 25-28 in Charleston, S.C.

(Continued from Page A30)

Indiana County Farmers Raise Profitable Corn

INDIANA (Indiana Co.) — Farmers were able to produce an acre of corn in Indiana County in 1989 at a cost lower than the state average, and receive a substantially higher than average labor and management return per acre for their efforts.

At the Indiana County Crops and Soils Day program held at the Rustic Lodge in Indiana on Friday, Feb. 9, county extension agent Gene Schurman released figures which showed equipment costs, herbicide and insecticide expenses and the total cost of corn production per acre were less in Indiana County than the statewide average in 1989. Schurman's cost and return analysis also showed Indiana County farmers' labor and management return for corn production, excluding labor and drying, was more than \$50 per acre greater than the state average.

The 1989 Pennsylvania Corn Club summary figures for Indiana County, per acre, with state averages in parentheses, were:

Equipment totals: \$68.68 (\$70.89).

Herbicide material: \$10.68 (\$17.45).

Insecticide material: \$9.06 (\$11.00).

Total costs per acre: \$210.62 (\$261.20).

Total costs per bushel: \$1.59 (\$1.92).

Labor and management return per acre: \$165.90 (\$124.17).

Three Indiana County farmers were recognized for their production in the 1989 Pennsylvania Corn Silage Club. In the 70 percent silage category, Clair Braughler of Rochester Mills produced 34 tons per acre; Tom Wallace of Marion Center produced 22.1 tons per acre; and Leonard Strong of Heilwood produced 20.1 tons per acre.

The state average for 70 percent silage corn was 21.9 tons per acre.

Indiana County winner of the 1989 Five Acre Corn Club grain production was Robert Dilts of Georgeville, with a total of 167.9 bushels per acre.

Rounding out the top three in the county for grain production were Edward Kuckuck of Saltsburg with 163.6 bushels per acre, and Stan Fabin of Homer City with 143.6 bushels per acre.

The state average for corn grain production in 1989 was 143.9



Indiana County Extension agent Ward Stover, left, congratulates Clair Braughler of Rochester Mills, winner of the 1989 Corn Club silage production contest.

bushels per acre.

The Crops and Soils Day program, sponsored by the county Cooperative Extension office, focused on corn production and soil nutrients, and gave approximately 90 farmers the opportunity to pick up two core credits and one category credit toward their pesticide license recertification.

Dr. Gregory Roth of Penn State University's Department of Agronomy, warned the farmers of the dangers of a buildup of nitrates in some of their fields while trying to increase corn production.

"On a typical Pennsylvania farm, only about 25 percent of the nutrients which come onto the farm ever leave the farm in the form of eggs or milk or meat," Dr. Roth said, adding this accumulation of nitrates can be a serious pollution threat if not properly managed.

Excessive soil nitrates may result from inappropriate applications of manure, fertilizer and crop residue, he said, adding some fields accumulate more nitrates than others. This buildup of

nitrates tends to be a source of pollution for groundwater more so than to surface water.

In their discussion of nitrogen fertilization of corn, Dr. Roth and Dr. Douglas Bcegle, also of Penn State's Agronomy Department, told the farmers Pennsylvania soil generally contains about 2,700 pounds of nitrogen per acre. Still, manure and crops such as legumes are important sources of N. But mineral N is continuously changed by weather and soil microbes, they said, making it nearly impossible to accurately predict how much N will be present in a particular plot at any particular time.

A new approach to nitrogen soil tests involves sampling during the growing season -- preferably in early June after the wet spring weather -- to determine the nitrate N available in the soil.

If, in the spring at sidedressing time, a nitrate N concentration of 25 parts per million is available in the soil, Dr. Roth said it is probably not necessary to add nitrate N fertilizer that growing season.

Corn has the greatest need for N starting about 30 to 45 days after emergence, the Penn State professors reminded the farmers. Penn State's N fertilizer recommendations are to apply 1.0 to 1.1 pounds of N per bushel of expected corn yield.

As for the future, Dr. Roth suggested the environmental threat resulting from a buildup of nitrates in the soil may someday lead to a limit on animal density, especially in the southeast part of Pennsylvania where nitrate and phosphate pollution problems are now most common. Another result may be a requirement for farmers to develop and maintain nutrient management plans, he said.

Another solution to the dangers of environmental pollution due to agriculture, Dr. Roth added, may be the advancement of "bait and kill" technologies, which attract insect pests to one location where they can be killed, eliminating the need for widespread spraying of dangerous pesticides.



Dr. Greg Roth

Wayne County Dairy Day Still Open

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.) — Committees for the 1990 Wayne County Dairy Day, to be held March 8 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. at the Wayne County Veteran's Memorial Armory, have been announced by Wayne County Extension Service personnel.

Victor LaTourette and Charles Dennis are to serve as program co-chairpersons.

Additional committees are as follows:

Lunch-William Werner, Rick Dulay, Ed DeVrieze and Robert Nearing.

Space Assignment- Peter Wilken and Victor LaTourette.

Sound system- James Yatonsky.

Registration- Patricia Mohn and Ted Kostige.

Seating- John Pawloski, John Mazzga, Robert Schmidt, Joseph Schweighofer, Karl Eisenhower and Robert Miller Jr.

Clean-up- Joseph Krompasky, Phil Gottschalk, John Pawloski, Fred Nordenhold, Art Davis, Beth Cassel and others.

Dairy Princess- Daisy Dix and Kathryn Dix.

Door awards- Robert Muller Sr., Don Hibbard, Rick Dulay and Art Davis.

Milk, Ice Cream and Cheese Bars- John Mazzga, Art Noble, Ellis Dix, Andy Dean, David Hudy, Giod Theis, and Dairy Princess representatives.

The program at Dairy Day will include educational presentations, commercial exhibits, dairy product bars, door awards, lunch, and a report from a Dairy Princess representative.

Agri-business firms and farm organizations interested in participating in Dairy Day and having an exhibit should contact the Wayne County Extension Service at 717-253-5970 ext. 239 very soon.

Dairy farm persons are asked to make reservations for Dairy Day by also calling the extension office.