

# Rabies Here To Stay

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the first wave of rabies, still going strong, has been more or less restricted to raccoons. He said the first-wave virus is a strain that prefers raccoons, but was spread through contact to other animals; such as cows, cats, horses, dogs, groundhogs and foxes.

A new strain of rabies is showing up that prefers skunks, Sammons said. He pinpointed the area comprising Adams, Franklin, Bedford, Fulton and surrounding counties as the place where the skunk rabies is getting a start.

Meanwhile, the raccoon rabies is still continuing to spread east, Sammons said. He predicted that Bucks County could soon be getting hit hard.

For 1989, the highest number of rabies reported came from those counties affected with the raccoon strain.

Leading the state was Montgomery County with 85 cases of rabies, 73 percent from raccoons.

Adjacent and to the northwest of Montgomery, Berks County was second with 64 reported incidents, 67 percent from raccoons.

Chester County tallied the third highest number of confirmed ani-

mals with 61 cases, and 62 percent of those from raccoons.

Lehigh County - sharing a border to both Montgomery and Berks counties, and about half the size of

each - reported 58 cases of rabies, with 79 percent of those from raccoons.

Delaware County, wedged between Chester and Montgomery counties and Philadelphia, was fifth with 44 cases, with 89 percent attributed to raccoons.

Philadelphia had 38 cases of rabies reported, 97 percent from raccoons. The rest from skunks.

Statistics kept by the state Department of Health also show that Lancaster saw a drop from high levels in previous years to 21 cases last year. Lebanon County similarly had lower reports with only three confirmed animals, all raccoons.

Records show that the counties

in which skunks are starting to spread the disease are still relatively dominated by rabid raccoons. However, last year saw a rise in the percentage of reported and confirmed skunks in those counties.

Statewide, health department officials report 486 rabid raccoons, 86 skunks, 66 cats, 25 bats, 14 fox, 11 cows, four horses, four dogs, two groundhogs, and one case each of sheep and rabbit.

1989 Rabies Incidents			
COUNTY	SPECIES, NUMBER		
Adams	R-12,F-3,C-1	Huntingdon	R-1,S-1,F-1
Allegheny	B-1	Junata	R-4,S-3,F-2
Armstrong	S-1,B-2	Lackawanna	S-1
Bedford	R-7,S-2,FX-1,C-1	Lancaster	R-15,F-3,FX-1,C-1,SH-1
Berks	R-43,F-11,S-4,D-2	Lebanon	R-3
	C-2,FX-1,GH-1	Lehigh	R-46,S-5,B-4,F-1,FX-1
Blair	R-3,S-2	Lycoming	R-10,B-2
Bucks	R-14,B-2,F-1,S-1	Luzerne	R-3,S-2,FX-1,B-1
Butler	B-1	Mifflin	R-3,S-2
Bradford	R-1,S-1	Montgomery	R-62,S-11,F-7,E-2
Cambria	R-2,F-1		RB-1,FX-1,B-1
Carbon	R-6,F-1	Montour	R-2,R-2
Centre	R-6,S-2,E-1	Monroe	R-6,S-3,F-1
Chester	R-38,F-9,S-8	Northampton	R-24,S-4,B-2,F-1,FX-1
	B-3,C-2,GH-1	Northumberland	R-5,S-2,F-2
Clarion	B-1	Perry	S-6,R-5
Clearfield	R-2,F-1	Philadelphia	R-37,S-1
Columbia	S-1,B-1	Potter	R-2
	R-12,F-2,FX-1	Schuylkill	R-5,S-3,F-2,B-1,E-1
Cumberland	S-1,B-1	Snyder	S-1
	R-21,S-5,FX-5	Somerset	R-3,F-1
Dauphin	F-3,C-3	Tioga	R-7
Delaware	S-2,R-1,B-1	Westmoreland	R-3,S-2,B-1
Fayette	R-39,F-4,S-1	York	R-21,F-6,S-6,D-2,FX-1
Franklin	R-1		
Fulton	R-9,F-1,C-1		
	S-2,R-1		

Key: C=cow, R=raccoon, S=skunk, F=feline, FX=fox, E=equine, B=bat, GH=groundhog, D=dog, SH=sheep, RB=rabbit.

## 30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

-Robert Hess, Strasburg R1 dairyman, was elected to the board of directors of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Artificial Breeders Cooperative in the annual meeting of the group of Thursday night.

Hess deposed another Strasburg R1 farmer, Earl L. Groff from the board after 16 years as a director and president of the organization during the past year.

Hess was nominated for the office by Paul Wenger, Quarryville R1, who had been nominated for the post by the nominating com-

mittee. Wenger withdrew from the race and proposed Hess's name from the floor.

-One new member was welcomed and one new baby was honored by the Society of Farm Women No. 14 at the regular meeting in the home of Mrs. Warren Hershey, Paradise R1, recently. Co-hostesses were Mrs. Paul Longenecker and Mrs. Ellis Esbenshade.

Mrs. Joseph Nolt was initiated into the society and a silver spoon was presented to Donald, the new son Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Hershey, Paradise R1.

The program included a book review by Mrs. Amos Ranck and a vocal duet by Mrs. Raymond Herr and Mrs. Ross Acker, accompanied by Mrs. Warren Hershey.

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. Christian Landis, Ronks R1, on March 9. Co-hostesses will be Mrs. Henry Rohrer, Mrs. Joseph Nolt and Mrs. Aaron Shirk. Mrs. Robert M. Esbenshade is reporter for the group.

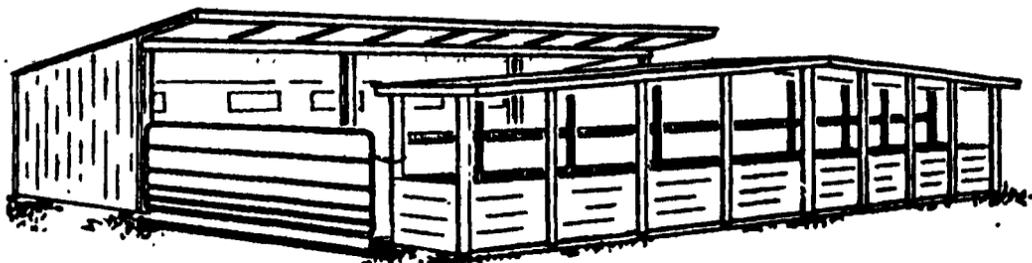
-The members of Farm Women Society No. 7 found that the proof of the sweet rolls is in the eating as they were served the results of a demonstration on sweetroll making by Mrs. J. M. Byler, Akron, at the regular meeting of the group in the home of Mrs. Willis Landis, Paradise, recently.

Mrs. Josephine Brown and Mrs. Ira Mast, delegates to the state convention made reports to the local society.

Plans were formed to serve the Lions Club Father-Son Banquet in the cafeteria of the Paradise Township Elementary School on Feb. 22.



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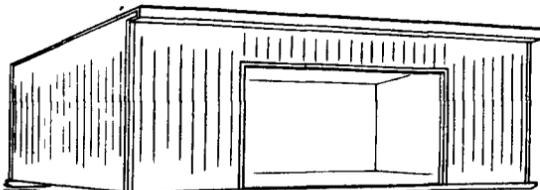


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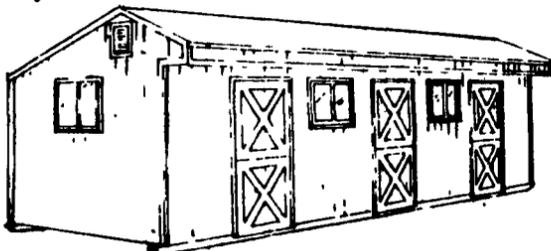
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