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Dairying On The Mountain Is A Distinctive Pleasure

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Lancaster Farming Staff
NAUVOO (Tioga Co.) — People with names that ironically match their job are a common source of humor.

With a last name of Butters, what else could someone do but be in the dairy industry?

But it's no joke to say that Butters' milk is their bread and butter — the Butters family has been making milk for more than 80 years in Tioga County.

This year the farm family was recognized not only for their devotion to milk production, but for their care to maintain an attractive place of business. The recognition comes through the state Dairy of Distinction program.

According to family members, the significance of the honor means something to the Butters.

It has something to do with where the farm is located.

Dairy operations in the northern tier of Pennsylvania have not traditionally been viewed as being on par with dairies in the southern belt of the state.

There are reasons for this; some based in geology and geography, and others based on historic trends.

The traditional northern tier farm is more likely to be described as a beef raising operation.

There are concentrated areas of

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The Butters' Dairy of Distinction farm in Tioga County sits atop a mountain like most of the farms that settled the high ground of the Allegheny Plateau geological region. But most of the livestock farms in the neighborhood are beef cattle. After more than ¼ of a century as a family-owned and oper-

ated dairy farm, the Butters place has received state recognition. On the right, presenting the award to the Butters is Dan Baker. The Butters family, from left, back row, is Jamie, David, Terry, and Glen. In the front row, from left is Angie, Sandy, Andrew, Jillian, Pat, Erick, Peggy and Raymond.

Farmers Send Bottles, Cans To State Legislators

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — Pennsylvania farmers are giving state lawmakers a little taste of what they see every time they go to work in their fields. This week, 500 farmers are sending empty beverage cans to their legislators in an effort to help establish a refundable beverage container deposit in the Keystone state.

"We live along a main highway and our major concern is that every time we harvest, we must gather up cans and bottles," said Richard

Mains, Newville. "And we don't find all of them. They get into the silage and harm the animals we feed. One shattered bottle can contaminate three to five tons of silage. We have magnets on the harvesting equipment to catch the metal, but the glass gets through into the feed."

At a press conference at the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association's home office, Richard Newpher, administrative secretary, said the world seems to be drowning in trash, but we are ignoring a safe,

sensible and proven manner to recycle bottles and cans, both valuable resources and major contributors to trash along our highways and in our fields.

"Rural Pennsylvania is a trash dump for irresponsible persons throwing bottles and cans out their

car windows. If we placed a deposit on bottles and cans, people would be less likely to dump them along the highways and it would make it a profitable situation to clean up trash," Newpher said.

"The industry says, 'it will not work,' but it's working in many

other states," he said. "It's time for the legislators to move this legislation and let the people vote on it in a referendum."

About half the cans are being sent to Allegheny County Senator,

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Agri-Business Association Formed To Tell Positive Side Of Farming

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — A new pro-active farm organization has been formed to tell the public about all the advantages agriculture provides for their livelihood, their economics and their dinner table. William Brubaker, executive secretary, Pennsylvania Agronomic Products

Association (PAPA), said this coalition of the fertilizer and pesticide industries including farm suppliers, retailers and applicators, has been established to take the message to the legislature and to the public. The message: "We have done far more good than evil over the years in terms of agriculture's productivity."

"We have made some mistakes

and we have learned some lessons," Brubaker said. "But we are cleaning up our act and it's time to get out and tell people."

Formed from a nucleus of the former Pennsylvania Inland Fertilizer Association, the bylaws were revamped in March, 1990, to include the many people in the agronomic fields who would not

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Water Testing Featured At Penn-Jersey Crop Management Days

DOYLESTOWN (Bucks Co.) — If farmers bring a water sample with them to the Penn-Jersey Crop Management Field Days on September 22 at Delaware Valley College, it will be tested at no charge for dangerous nitrates.

Nitrates can be harmful to both people and livestock. If it is detected, it can be treated to reduce and eliminate the danger. People with wells are responsible for the quality of the water they use. No

government agency has responsibility.

If farmers bring in at least one cup of a carefully taken water sample in a clean glass or plastic container, it can be tested at the field day. Allow the water to run for two minutes before taking the sample. Make sure the container has no food, chemical, or soap residue.

Water testing is only one of the things to do at the field day. The

program highlights conservation and sustainable agriculture. On site will be:

- Ag industry trade show.
- Tillage equipment demonstrations.
- Planting equipment demonstrations.
- Herbicide demonstrations.
- Nutrient management demonstration.
- Field tours.

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Sarah Boyd, nine, shows her grand champion hog at the Elizabethtown Fair. See the story on Page A-33.