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Penn's Agri-Women held a luncheon for legislators and aids in the capitol rotunda. From left, Carol Gregg, president, Penn's Agri-Women; Edward Helfrick, chairman, senate ag and rural affairs committee; and Mrs. Wolff and Boyd Wolff, ag secretary.

An Overview Of Pennsylvania Agriculture

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)—Agriculture is Pennsylvania's leading industry, and Penn's Agri-Women again hosted a luncheon of good food produced in Pennsylvania for legislators and their aids. The event happened in the capitol rotunda on Wednesday as part of the National Agriculture Day.

Pennsylvania's 54,000 farm families annually produce \$3.54 billion in crops and livestock, thereby stimulating \$38 billion in related economic activity.

Employment

Farms create employment for nearly 20 percent of Pennsylvania's workforce. The percentage includes producers and growers, food and fiber processors, as well

as those providing the machinery, supplies and services essential to farm production.

Farm Income & Cash Receipts

Cash receipts in 1989 from farm marketings totaled \$3.54 billion, an eight percent increase from the previous year. Pennsylvania ranks 9th nationally in cash receipts for livestock and livestock products, and 19th overall for total cash receipts.

Pennsylvania's 1989 net farm income was \$1040.2 million, up 26.5 percent from the previous year. This was an average of \$19,263 per farm. Off-farm income, for members of operator's households only, totaled \$1.2 billion.

Total production expenses for

(Turn to Page A29)

Nutrient Management Bill Receives Unanimous Support

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Pennsylvania farmers will most likely be spelling out exactly what they will do with manure wastes from their livestock, in the not-too-distant future.

In addition, farmers will also have at least one new acronym to memorize — AEU. It stands for Animal Equivalent Unit and could very well become a part of the common vocabulary of all farmers.

The reason for these anticipated changes is because state leaders apparently are getting very close to

an acceptable law covering the handling of fertilizers and nutrient-heavy wastes.

At least that seems to be the consensus of opinion and testimony from representatives of six statewide agriculture agencies and organizations, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Department of Environmental Resources (DER).

They provided testimony on Tuesday at a public hearing on state House Bill 496, a proposed nutrient management law.

The 2½-hour public hearing was held by the state House Agri-

(Turn to Page A31)

Fertigation Becomes Viable As Nutrient Law Looms Near

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — Any day now, Pennsylvania farmers could be faced with laws that may directly affect how they apply nutrients to their crops.

But some vegetable and nursery farms are already taking steps to more accurately regulate the amount of nutrients they apply to

the soil.

One of those methods, for vegetable and fruit crop farmers, is a method called "fertigation" — irrigating and fertilizing at the same time — through underground drip lines.

That method, when used precisely, can reduce the application of fertilizer up to 50 percent. It can also reduce the levels of pesticides up to 90 percent. And the irrigation

alone can save more than half of the total water used for the crop.

Uniform crop

In the case of one Lancaster Co. nursery that has been using the method extensively, fertigation has led to a more uniform crop that is more successfully transplanted.

Using drip irrigation to fertilize and apply pesticides has been in use, at least in California, since

1964. Only in the past 10 years or so has the idea taken seed in Lancaster County.

"The great thing about fertigation is that it's immediately avail-

able," said John Gault, who operates Gault Nursery Corp. in Conestoga, Pa. "You've got no waste, you've got no runoff, and it's one

(Turn to Page A24)

Md. Holstein Honors Youth

EVA MARTIN

Maryland Correspondent

ELLIOTT CITY, Md.— The awards banquet of the Maryland Holstein Convention was held at the Turf Valley Country Club, hosted by the Howard County Holstein Club.

The Maryland Holstein Association prides itself in the accomplishments of their youth and awards many trophies and scholarships to encourage the youth to attain even higher goals.

A \$500 scholarship to the University of Maryland College of Agriculture was awarded to Johanna Remsburg of Middletown. A \$500 scholarship to the University

of Delaware was awarded to David Hill, Eastern Shore. Four \$500 scholarships were awarded to Maryland students attending Virginia Polytech Institute — Charles Erhardt, Nancy Powell, Billy Swift, and Stacy Vansant.

Cynthia Fell and James Allen, senior record book winners, will also each receive a \$500 scholarship when they begin college. This makes a total of \$4,000 in scholarship money awarded.

This year, six juniors were awarded 1990 Junior Production Awards for their animals:

- 2-yr-old: Jim Allen, Jefferson, Glen-Toctin Tradition Sis, 25,763 ECM, Coldsprings Farm Trophy.

- 3-yr-old: Crystal Smith, Jefferson, OCS Dairy Sammy Ball, 29,261 ECM, Del-Myr Farm Trophy.

- 4-yr-old: Crystal Smith, Jefferson, OCS Dairy Phils Candy, 31,452 ECM, Brooklodge Farm Trophy.

- 5-yr-old: Charles Ehrhardt, Baldwin, Ehrhardt Clipper Josephine, 27,153 ECM, Oakview Ridge Farm Trophy.

- 6-yr and over: Shane Schwartzbeck, Union Bridge, Peace & Plenty Jungle Bell, 28,524 ECM, Kingstead Farm Trophy.

- Lifetime: Amy Savage, Germantown, Savage-Leigh Jo Amy,

(Turn to Page A20)



Vivian Stottlemeyer, Maryland Holstein Breeder Association, receives a revolving trophy for Champion 4-H Club Member with Holsteins.