

Lancaster Farming

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Governor Requests Disaster Designation For 27 Counties

JOYCE BUPP

York Co. Correspondent

DOVER (York Co.)— John Shearer, Jr., is a husky-built farmer, used to wrangling bags of seed grain and maneuvering large equipment.

Thursday he knelt in a field of crackling dead weeds and bone-dry soil, cradling in work-worn hands a curled, limp, dying stalk of corn. Kneeling with the York grain producer on the parched land under a broiling morning sun were Governor Robert Casey and Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Boyd Wolff.

After examining the sparse stand of wilting corn, Governor Casey announced that he would immediately request from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan a drought disaster declaration for 27 Pennsylvania counties. A federal disaster declaration would make drought-stricken far-

mers in those counties, and 25 bordering ones, eligible for federal emergency disaster assistance.

"From the Maryland border to the northern tier, we are seeing tremendous crop losses from the extremely high temperatures, which hit earlier than usual, and from the lack of rainfall.

"Based on the data Secretary Wolff has been helping us gather and this examination, we will ask for a formal disaster declaration. The production losses to date are already estimated at \$195 million," the Governor said. "York County is especially hard hit, as is Cumberland County.

"A drought has a depressing effect on the whole economy," said Casey, noting the related loss of jobs, lower income for rural business and increased food prices.

Officials and farmers are com-

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Lancaster County Poultry Queen Deb Wolgemuth, center left, and Alternate Bev Ginder, center right, hold a get-acquainted luncheon for contestants participating in the poultry queen pageant on August 2 at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster. Marlene Enck, left, Diane Musser, right, and three other contestants will compete for both county and state titles. See story on page B12. Photo by Lou Ann Good.



Chester County Holstein raffle calf with friends. Left to right, Cliff Gibble, winner; Rodney Bare, breeder; Ken Umble, field day chairman; Becky Blank, dairy princess; and Brandon Umble, leadman.

Chester Holstein Raffle Calf Going To Brethren Relief Sale

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

COCHRANVILLE (Chester Co.)—The winning ticket in the raffle for a registered calf at the Chester County Holstein Field Day was drawn for Cliff Gibble, Select Sires representative. Since Cliff

doesn't have a place for the calf, he announced he was going to donate the calf to the Brethren Church relief sale to be held on September 27.

The calf, a Black Star out of a Melvin daughter was purchased at the Harold Bare sale. Harold deducted half the bid price for the

county association. A total of 750 tickets were sold at \$1 each, and more could have been sold if they had been printed.

"Needless to say, the raffle was a big success and we will want to try it again," said Ken Umble, field day chairman.

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Maryland Dairy Princesses Prepare For Competition

EVA MARTIN

Maryland Correspondent

FREDERICK, Md. — Maryland has six regional dairy princesses competing for the state title this year. They met recently for a seminar on the beautiful campus of Hood College in Frederick.

The campus setting was a great place to become better acquainted and discuss many pertinent subjects for their role if chosen Maryland Dairy Princess. Dairy food preparation, skit presentations, public speaking and grooming were some of the subjects presented at the seminar.

Tonya Jean Broadwater

Tonya is a resident of Accident, Md. and represents Allegheny-Garrett. She is the 17-year-old daughter of Gary and Virginia Broadwater.

Tonya graduated from Northern

Garrett High and plans to attend college pursuing a nursing career.

For the past two years, she has enjoyed being involved in SHOP which is Students Helping Other People. She is also treasurer of the VJCA Club and Craft Club. Her family owns 135 head of Holsteins.

Dawn Margaret Downey

Dawn's parents are Frank and Carolyn Downey. They live on a 300 head Holstein/Jersey dairy farm near Downsville, Md.

Dawn is 15 and attends Williamsport High School. After graduation, she plans to attend college and major in elementary education.

This past summer she was chosen to attend the 1991 National 4-H Conference. She has been a state public speaking champion.

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Rogers-Allen Order

Approved In New York State

BATAVIA, NY — Efforts by the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency (RCMA) to obtain higher milk prices for farmers have paid off with the approval of New York's Rogers-Allen order last week.

Based upon New York's

actions, surrounding states have raised prices, too, in efforts to keep dairy farmers from bankruptcy during this period of severely depressed milk prices.

"This is a historic decision for dairy farmers," Executive Director Carmen L. Ross said of the vote that approved the Rogers-Allen order. "Farmers have made their voices heard in establishing a price for their milk. Establishment of this order proves that if dairy farmers work together through an organization like RCMA, they can accomplish their goals."

It is the first time the Rogers-Allen Act, passed in the late 1930s, has been used to establish statewide minimum milk prices.

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