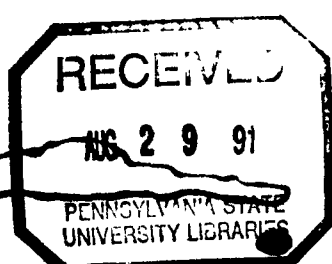


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Ag Forum Brings Exploits Of Congress, Susquehanna Water Commission Into Focus

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)—An intense discussion of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission's proposed water use fees and the impact of the attempted government overthrow in the Soviet Union formed the basis for a much larger than expected attendance at the Ag Issues Forum breakfast Tuesday morning.

Michael Brubaker, agronomy consultant and founder of the forum, said 10 reservations came in advance for the meeting at Willow Valley Restaurant. But before US Congressman Robert Walker and Robert Bielo and Richard Cairo, executive director and secretary, respectively, of the commission, took the stand, 50 farmers and agribusiness persons filled the small room behind the bakery.

"What's happening in the Soviet Union will impact US agriculture," Walker said. "The Soviet Union is a very important market for grain and under more recent credit oriented grain selling programs, I think it is questionable that the Congress would extend credit to the new regime should the coup stay in place."

Walker said the reduced exports could force the US government to buy more surplus grain. But by Wednesday, reports of the coup's failure to keep control of the Soviet government allayed these fears and sent November beans limit up on the Chicago Board of Trade.

On a national drought assistance program, Walker said he didn't expect a decision to be made for several weeks. "We know we have a drought situation in many Pennsylvania counties," Walker said.

"But the overall national situation still has not been fully assessed. If we have significant losses over the nation, I think there will be considerable pressure for a national drought program."

DAIRY PROGRAM

Walker said the national dairy

bill that did not get out of committee had both economic and political ramifications. "Economically, the bill went in a direction that we in this nation have long rejected," Walker said. "It imposed enforceable guarantees in the market place and was specifically an attempt by the mid-West to redefine the

national market in ways so that they can introduce their products into what has traditionally been Northeast markets.

"Everybody in the Northeast needs to understand what's happening here," Walker said. "I realize a lot of dairy co-ops could care

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Milk Board Shows Support For Drought-Stricken Farmers

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — There is no drought of talk of support for Pennsylvania's dairymen who could be facing a fall and winter with strained income and empty feed bins.

At least from public officials. But the private citizen has an

opportunity to be heard also — an informal hearing by the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board (PMMB) is still going on and is open to the public.

The PMMB is an agency which was created to protect Pennsylvania's dairymen. It sets prices and regulates the industry, and attempts to ensure fair prices and high quality product.

The current drought hearing, as such, started August 15 as an informal hearing and has continued to remain open. It means that the board is still accepting any and all testimony from the general public about the effect of the drought on dairymen.

Those wishing to provide testimony may write to the board. Envelopes should be addressed to

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The Hamming family had roots in Holland and Canada before coming to America in 1956. In the photo, left to right, Bruce and Mary Hamming; sons Bruce, 8; Mark, 4; and parents Janet and Ike Hamming, with a favorite member of the dairy herd, Foothill Acres Starwars Genle (VG88-EX Mammary).

Hamming Family's Roots In Holland, Have Successful New Jersey Dairy

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

WANTAGE, N.J. — When you talk cows with Ike and Bruce Hamming, you get a feeling of interna-

tional roots that have grown into a very practical registered Holstein family farm. And when you walk through the barns, you see the strength, dairy character, and good udders on these cows that let you know why this is the top 1990 DHIA herd in Sussex County.

From the time he was 18 years old, growing up in Holland, Ike had the desire to immigrate. And when he was 24 years old, he found his wife, Janet, who had the same desire. So after the immigration papers were in order, they were

married and left home to cross the ocean on a nine-day trip to Canada.

"It was a big honeymoon cruise," Ike said with a laugh. "Six of the nine days we were seasick."

After the Hammings arrived in Canada, Ike worked in a coal and lumber yard for a year and then became a herdsman for two years before coming to America in 1956. Soon they started farming and raising their family of children, which includes Peter, Margret, Bruce, Renee, and Ray.

"It's completely different now

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Regina Landis Brings Home Supreme Sheep At E-town

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — Regina Landis showed total surprise and astonishment at clutching the coveted trophy. She admitted that she did a lot better this year than last, picking up supreme champion sheep at the Elizabethtown Fair Wednesday.

Regina, a sixth grader at Locust Grove Mennonite, exhibited her Hampshire ewe lamb, "Amber," in the middle of one of the longest

and largest sheep shows in Pennsylvania. The Landis family, including brother Wendall, nearly swept the awards in the Hampshire breed class.

Regina, daughter of Abe and Dottie Landis, Manheim, has exhibited four years at the Elizabethtown Fair. The family manages 60 Hampshire sheep at West View Acres, and she plans to show at the Manheim Fair in October. Regina also showed for two years at the

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Regina Landis' Hampshire ewe lamb ("Amber") won supreme champion sheep honors at Elizabethtown Fair on Wednesday. Regina, a sixth grader at Locust Grove Mennonite, has been exhibiting sheep four years and will show sheep at the Manheim Fair in October. At right is Dirk Wise, judge for the show.