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Extensive Conservation Work Garners Honors For Harnish Family

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — The R. Edwin Harnish family of Nine Points was honored with the Outstanding Cooperator Award at the 41st annual Lancaster County Conservation District dinner meeting Thursday night.

More than 200 people attended the event, which honored several district members for their involvement in a multitude of conservation programs.

The Outstanding Cooperator

Award honors a farm family for their conservation efforts throughout the years.

The Harnish family — Edwin, Arlene, Jenny, Jill, and Brian — operate Spruce-Edge dairy farm on the southeast corner of Bart Township. Edwin and Arlene began farming in 1966, when they began renting the farm from Edwin's father. Edwin Harnish has been a member of the district since 1971.

Spruce-Edge Farm, comprising 190 acres, manages 55 cows and

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National DHIA Recognizes Individuals, Elects Officers

MADISON, Wis. — The National Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) presented three prestigious awards during its National DHIA Convention Awards Banquet, held March 17 at the Holiday Inn - West, in Middleton, Wis.

The association was formed for the purpose of maintaining accurate records of the performance of animals within the various dairy cattle breeds so as to improve the breeds through selective breeding programs based on genetically influenced performance.

During the 27th annual meeting, members who attended also reviewed audited, financial statements for 1989, 1990 and 1991,

reviewed its national activities, reviewed the value of national DHI records, and voted on officers and proposed amendments to its resolutions and bylaws.

Donald W. Long, a 52-year-old Holstein breeder and past president of the Wisconsin Dairy Herd Improvement Cooperative (WDHIC), in Weyauwega, Wis., was this year's recipient of the H. Victor Joachim Distinguished Leadership Award.

This award goes to an individual who has shown exceptional leadership and guidance in all areas of the DHIA.

In speaking about Long, Pete Giacomini, WDHIC chief execu-

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Susquehanna Co. Dairy Day Draws 600

RONALD CLARK

Susquehanna Co. Correspondent

FACTORYVILLE (Susquehanna Co.) — The third annual Susquehanna County Dairy Day was held at the Elk Lake High School late last week. The feature speaker

of the day was Boyd Wolff, state of Pennsylvania Dairy and Agriculture. Secretary Wolff reviewed the vast changes which have taken place in the dairy industry during the lives of many of those in attendance.

secretary of agriculture.

In presenting his address, "State While stressing that family farms are still dominant in the state, he referred to the days when changes were made from backyard dairies of one or two cows, to the days when larger herds took over and milk was sent to local creameries in cans. From those methods we have now progressed to much larger herds, from cans to bulk tanks, from shovels and wheelbarrows to barn cleaners to liquid manure storage; from individual milking units to parlors and pipe-

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Staff Members Recognized

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — This week, two staff members at *Lancaster Farming* received recognition for their reporting efforts. Editor Everett Newswanger won the 1992 Northeast Farm Communicator's Nor'Easter Contest photo/journalism award, and staff writer Andy Andrews received the FFA honorary membership award from the Grassland Chapter at New Holland.

Earlier this year Newswanger also received the public relations award from the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. Andrews' recognition comes from Garden Spot High School from where he was graduated.



The R. Edwin Harnish family of Nine Points was honored with the Outstanding Cooperator Award at the 41st annual Lancaster County Conservation District dinner meeting Thursday night. From left, Jenny, Edwin, Arlene, Brian, and Jill. Photo by Andy Andrews.

Ohio Dairy Breeders Propose Herdbook For Unregistered Holsteins

First of two parts
KARL BERGER

Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — If a cow looks like a registered Holstein, produces milk like a registered Holstein and, most importantly, is bred like a registered Holstein, is it a registered Holstein?

Now for the first time, registered Holstein breeders across the country are grappling with these questions. Breeders from Ohio have put forward a proposal that the national Holstein Association consider establishing a second herdbook for at least some of the vast population of grade, or unregistered, black and white cows nationwide.

As was the case in 1988, the last time this issue came before the association as an official proposal, the Ohio plan is generating considerable debate and some controversy among local members. Several breeders attending a recent Winter Forum in Frederick, Md., one of a

series of such meetings held across the country, spoke out bitterly

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Ephrata H.S. Discontinues Relationship With Young Farmer Program

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — On Monday night the Ephrata School District board of education agreed to substantially decrease the funding and discontinue its relationship with the Ephrata Area Young Farmer Program (EAYFP).

The program, with 123 members in the region, asked for approximately \$75,000 for funding in the 1993-1994 fiscal year, but was granted, under an agreement, only \$28,000.

The program funds obtained from the district at the meeting will be used to hire an advisor to oversee the possible formation of a committee to direct the duties of the director, according to Nevin Horning, Litzitz, president of the EAYFP.

Horning told *Lancaster Farming* that the young farmers are in the process of forming that committee, but the details and projected dates have not been established as of presstime. Horning said details will be worked out in a series of meetings in the near

future.

According to Ackley, the school district has been trying to disassociate itself of the young farmer program for "quite a few years," he said. According to Gary Krafft, board president, the idea of separating the EAYFP from the school district had been under deliberation for a number of years.

The Young Farmer program has been identified by Drew Myers, curriculum and instruction committee chairman, as a type of "booster club" for the high school students' FFA program. According to Ackley, the EAYFP serves farmers in the region with a wide array of programs beneficial to area farms and agribusiness.

Horning said the organization operates Tent City at the Ephrata Fair, which is a major source of their funds, and many other programs.

"It's a whole new ballgame now," said Horning, though he said he wants the program to continue as it has been.



Byron and Pat Hunsinger and their sons Leslie, 13, and Brandon, 10, received honors in their home Susquehanna County this week for owning the top DHIA herd in the Pennsylvania.