



# Lancaster Farming

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## Serious Beef Breeders Take EPDs To Heart

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff  
LOYSVILLE (Perry Co.) —

Small, part-time beef breed operations can transform their operation from a mere hobby to a profitable enterprise if they take expected progeny differences (EPDs) to heart when selecting dams and sires.

The entire Pennsylvania beef industry, in fact, is at a major crossroads — they must either

begin to use EPD and other herd performance records like serious breeders in most other states or suffer in an increasingly competitive industry, according to many experts.

Dr. Burleigh Anderson, VMD, Meadow Mist Farms, understands the importance of developing and using herd performance and EPD records when managing his stock. Anderson, who manages a

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## Recent Price Gain Makes Year Look Better For Dairy Farmers

KARL BERGER

Special Correspondent

FREDERICK Md. — A sharp turnaround in the Minnesota-Wisconsin manufacturing milk price in April has given credence to predictions that 1992 will be a far better year than 1991 for area dairy

farmers.

The M-W, as the pricing measure is known, jumped 48 cents this past month, to \$11.46 a hundred-weight for 3.5-percent-fat milk. The U.S. Department of Agriculture uses the M-W to set prices in its nationwide federal order

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Ed Gilbert, right, manages the 100-cow Angus beef breeding herd on the Meadow Mist Farm operated by Dr. Burleigh Anderson, VMD, Loysville. Anderson's cattle are carefully tracked using herd performance and EPD records. Photo by Andy Andrews.



All set for a tour of the J. LeRoy Esbenshade farm in Manheim are, from left, Jay Irwin, former Lancaster County Extension director; Elva Dajludzionek, teacher trainer from Poland; Jozefa Wilczak, economist from Poland Agricultural Advisory Center; Jozef Flaga, director of Agricultural Advisory Center; and Betty Irwin.

## Ed Board Puts Ag In School

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) —

The state Board of Education Thursday adopted wording changes in regulations that would put agriculture into regular school curricula.

The changes are to board regulations that concern a list of required subjects schools must offer. The regulations allow local district discretion.

Thursday's action by the board remains a proposal until given final approval by several reviewing boards.

However, while the changes are still to be reviewed, the board also put them on a fast-track because of the support for change already

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## Turkey Houses The Length Of Three Football Fields



Perhaps the longest turkey raising building east of the Mississippi River, the roofs on this pair of 915-foot long buildings stand out against the less reflective greenery in

## Polish Agricultural Advisors Observe American Industry

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff  
MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) —

In an effort to help Polish farmers, two representatives from the Agricultural Advisory Centre in Boguchwala toured Lancaster County farms this week.

Former Lancaster County Cooperative Extension Director Jay Irwin hosted the Polish visitors, Josef Flaga, director of the Ag Centre, and Josefa Wilczak, economist and interpreter.

"It's a delight to have these two special guests visit us," Irwin said. "They were instrumental in helping me with my work in Poland."

Last year, Irwin spent six months in Poland where he taught marketing skills and laid the groundwork for setting up western cooperatives.

Irwin took along slides of local farms, which he used to show the Polish people how farming is done in Pennsylvania. One of those farms was the poultry operation of J. LeRoy and Judy Esbenshade of Manheim.

When the guests arrived at the Esbenshade farm on Tuesday, they immediately recognized the farm as the one that Irwin had photographed, which is known as one of the most attractive farms in the county.

The Esbenshades cash crop hay, corn, and soybeans on their 107-acre farm and on an additional 85 acres that they rent. They own 90,000 layers and showed the guests how the eggs are packed.

The Esbenshade operation is much larger than those in Poland,

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the southeastern part of Lebanon County. The buildings are actually longer than three football fields stretched end-to-end. See story, page A26.