

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 37 No. 41

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, August 22, 1992

60¢ Per Copy

\$19.00 Per Year



Farmers had the opportunity to see and compare many different models of equipment this week at the annual Ag Progress Days exhibition at Rockspring. In the photo above, some of the more than \$20 million worth

of equipment is shown on display at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center. More than 500 acres of educational and commercial exhibits, tours, and machinery demonstrations were part of the show.

Thomas: We May Become Complacent

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) — In an address at the government/industry luncheon at Ag Progress Days, Penn State President Joab Thomas said he fears that we have become complacent in regard to agriculture.

"We have been so successful (in food production) that I fear we may have become complacent at a very

inappropriate time," Thomas said. "In the popular press we see questions about the value of agricultural research. Even in the decreased appropriations from state government, it reflects this kind of complacency with regard to the need for agricultural research."

Thomas noted the reduction in the percent of people in the world that are hungry. Where there is hunger, it is because of political

reasons and not from lack of know-how in production agriculture."

While the percentage of people who are hungry is down, because of population increases, the number of hungry people remains constant.

"Additional land in production agriculture is a diminishing possibility to meet this demand," Thomas said. "The problem will have

(Turn to Page A33)

Ag Progress Days Hay Show Winners Named

ROCKSPRING (Center Co.)—Winners from Lancaster, Northampton, and Perry counties won championships in the hay show held this week in conjunction with Ag Progress Days.

R. Edwin Harnish, Christiana, Lancaster County, had the top entry in field cured or partially field cured plus mow finish and no

head section. The winning entry was from the alfalfa, later cutting class.

Robert Bieber, Nazareth, Northampton County, won the partially field cured plus heat dried, with no preservatives division. The winning entry was also alfalfa, later cutting.

(Turn to Page A32)

DER Secretary Says Not Enough Nutrient Management Plans Written

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff

MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — As many as 23,000 out of a total of 25,000 farms in the Susquehanna River valley may remain without some kind of nutrient management

plan, according to an official with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (DER).

In the six years since the Chesapeake Bay Program has been in existence, only 600 farms have signed up with a DER program to

reduce the flow of nutrients into the bay as part of the original bay agreement, according to Arthur A. Davis, state DER secretary. According to the DER secretary, if more plans aren't written, federal guidelines may be passed which

would have severe and long-range impacts on the storage and application of nutrients on farms.

Davis spoke to about 80 ag industry representatives at the Ag Issues Forum at Kreider's Restaurant on Thursday.

In the six years a voluntary Bay nutrient reduction program by the DER has been in place, the department, according to Davis, has been dissatisfied with the results. To meet the Bay program's 40 percent reduction goal in the coming decade, Davis said that at least half of the farms in the basin need to develop nutrient management plans "if we're going to meet the

concerns not just of the Chesapeake Bay but for our own water quality concerns, our groundwater here," he said.

Nutrient reduction

Davis spoke about the issue of nutrient management during a recent meeting of the Chesapeake Bay Council. At the meeting, nutrient reduction and its importance took center stage.

Davis said that the House Bill 496 proposal for nutrient management planning, still being reviewed by the state Senate Ag Committee, is the best course of

(Turn to Page A21)

New Holland To Close Mountville Plant

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — An estimated 200 people are to be laid off from Ford New Holland operations here because of an announced closing of its Mountville plant.

According to published reports in a Lancaster newspaper, Ford New Holland announced the lay-

offs and the plant closure on Monday as part of a major restructuring which has targeted the loss of about 400 corporate jobs, at least half of which are salaried positions.

The announcement also included the closing of the Belle-ville foundry and a possible

20-percent reduction in its North American work force.

A majority of the jobs are management-level, with early retirements and voluntary quit-tings expected to account for a portion of the terminations. The newspaper report said that employees

(Turn to Page A32)