

DEC 0 2 02

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 38 No. 3 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, November 28, 1992 60¢ Per Copy \$19.00 Per Year

Backdoor Effort Fails To Get Nutrient Management Law Passed

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Efforts by a few members of the state House of Representatives and a handful of lobbyists to push nutrient management legislation into law failed when the proposal died Wednesday night in the Senate Rules Committee as the 1991-92 General Assembly adjourned.

Any future consideration of nutrient management legislation by the state will require a new proposal within the new General Assembly which takes office in January.
Pundits do expect a measure to be proposed as one of the first orders of business by the new Legislature. Any acceptable new measure is also expected to be very similar to the failed measure.

In fact, the failed measure was highly praised by the few who were privileged to view it.
The exact wording of the proposed law was little seen by anyone outside of a close group of lobbyists, legislators, and academicians because, with no previous announcement, on Nov. 18 it was added as a rider amendment to a Senate bill for environmental education (Senate Bill 1444).

The amendment to SB 1444 was made while the bill was in the House Appropriations Committee, chaired by Philadelphia Rep. Dwight Evans, who did not return phone calls.
Rep. Jeff Coy, D-Shippensburg, was the main sponsor for the amendment, according to Steven Crawford, executive director of the House Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee.

Coy was unreachable for comment by presstime, but Crawford said that Coy and others in the House attempted a last minute move to re-introduce nutrient management legislation so it could be accomplished in the current legislative session.
The partisan effort to get a nutrient management law into place was so close to succeeding, that up

(Turn to Page A32)



Edward and Miriam Hess, couple on left, and Amos and Ruth Conley, at right, receive Century Farm Awards from Secretary of Agriculture Boyd Wolff, center.

Ag-Industry Honors Irwin, Century Farm Families

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Family farms and dedicated leaders of the agricultural industry have made Lancaster County the garden spot of the country.

The Agriculture Industry Banquet held on Tuesday evening honored two century farm families and Jay Irwin, retired county extension director, for contributing to successful agriculture. To keep the county's success moving into the 21st century, Dr. Larmartine Hood, dean of Penn State College of Agriculture, challenged the industry to aggressively establish export markets with developing countries such as Africa and the Commonwealth of Independent States (formerly the Soviet Union).

Typical export countries such as Japan and western Europe are not

where the export growth will be because population growth is stagnant, he said.
Pennsylvania has a tremendous advantage over other parts of the country, he said. They are close to ports and transportation, but more importantly, the county has a tradition of commitment to the agriculture sector. The area has a large and high quality water supply, because individuals have made a commitment to minimize usage of pesticides and fertilizers.
"Don't sit on our laurels and ride into the 21st century," Hood said, "We should add value to ag commodities through processing and packaging of foods and goods."
He challenged the industry to be sensitive to those who don't understand agriculture. Embark on education. Move away from the notion that "we were here first."

(Turn to Page A31)

Maryland Dairy Task Force Studies Possible Strategies

JOYCE BUPP
York Co. Correspondent
ANNAPOLIS, MD—Concern over the number of dairy farmers and processors that continue to exit the dairy business, a Maryland Dairy Task Force has been studying possible strategies to maintain a viable state dairy industry.
The Dairy Task Force is a 26-member group established by Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Robert Walker and the Agri-

culture Cooperative Extension Service.
The establishment of a Maryland Milk Commission has been proposed by the Task Force as a legislative step toward maintaining a viable dairy industry within the state.
"For several years, Maryland processors have complained about encroachment into local markets by out-of-state processors who have market protection in their

own states under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board and the Virginia Milk Commission," explained Myron Wilhide, Detour, a member of the Task Force.
"This problem has gotten worse over the last year, when processors outside of the state have taken grocery store contracts from local processors, because they have the ability to undercut local processors by avoiding over-order premiums and still remain protected in the local market.
"In addition to protecting local processors, the inability of state milk commissions to price product across state lines is one of the reasons the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board and MACMMA had to drop our over order premiums on July 1 of this year."

Wilhide explained that proposed legislation to establish a Maryland Milk Commission would:
- Help maintain high quality locally produced and processed dairy products for Maryland consumers;
- License processors and distributors of milk in Maryland;
- Establish minimum Class II raw milk prices as established by a commission board, with a majority of consumer representatives;

(Turn to Page A30)

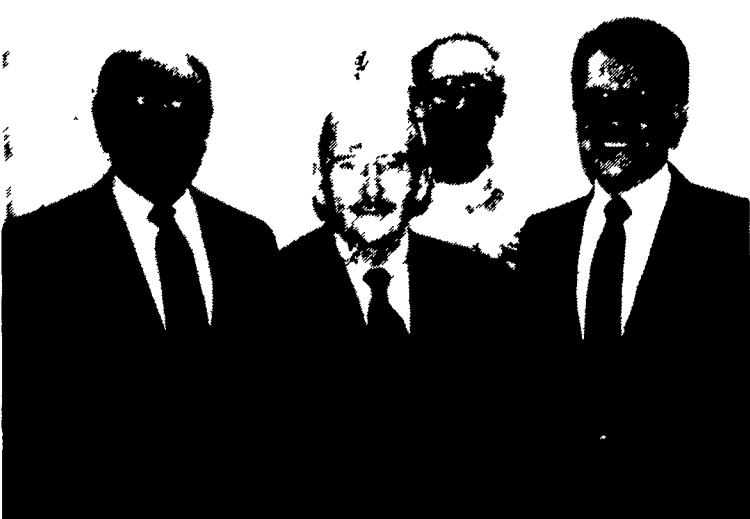
(Turn to Page A28)

Tillage Meeting Looks At Long-Term Results

CARLISLE, College Park, Md.
— Conservation tillage — particularly the no-till method — has established itself as a prime reason for reduced surface runoff from farmland in the Middle Atlantic states.
The crop residue it leaves behind provides a barrier that helps keep agricultural chemicals out of streams, ponds, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.
Crop residue also results in a proliferation of earthworms and their burrows. This burrow network causes soil to become porous and greatly increase its water-holding capacity — a plus in drought years.

But, does increased soil porosity produce an adverse environmental effect — channeling atrazine and other agri-chemicals into the groundwater?
A veteran U.S. Department of Agriculture soils researcher from Ohio and a trio of successful farmers from West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania will tackle this question — and many others — at the Mid-Atlantic Conservation Tillage Conference on Dec. 17. This year's 19th annual event will be held at the Embers Inn and Convention Center near Carlisle, Pa.
Sponsoring organizations

New Poultry Federation Officers Elected



HARRISBURG, (Dauphin Co.)—The new officers of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation were announced this week. They are, from left, Jay Greider, Elizabethtown; Lynn Henninger, Berrysburg; Bill Schlotterbeck, Hallam; and Paul Hann, Lancaster. The four men were elected for the 1992-93 session.
Henninger was reelected for a second term as chairman of the board. He is president of M.G. Henninger & Son, Inc., a retail Purina dealership and turkey, broiler, cattle producer. Hann was elected vice-chairman and is the commercial poultry district manager for Purina Feeds.
Greider was elected treasurer and is a sales and service representative for Wenger Feeds. And Schlotterbeck was elected secretary and is the live production manager for Tyson Foods.