

Cornfield Converted To Maze To Help Flood Victims

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Lancaster Farming Staff
ANNVILLE (Lebanon Co.) — Gerald and Connie Hoffer, of Anville, aren't telling in which field the dinosaur resides. They and others fear that public knowledge would invite curiosity and thrill seekers who inevitably would end up causing the destruction of the giant.

Clarification is needed. The Hoffers raise cash crops on a number of acres in the Anville-Palmyra area and corn, naturally, is one the their best. They didn't allow some reptilian monster to take over one of

their cornfields. What they did was allow a group of people to use the cornfield in the construction of the world's largest maze — a 126,000 square foot image of a huge dinosaur, a Stegosaurus. The purpose of the two miles of trail cut through the field is double: raise money to be used by the American Red Cross specifically for Midwest flood relief efforts (farmers helping farmers); and attempt to get into the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest maze ever created (on purpose). On Sept. 11 and Sept. 12, the maze is to be open to the public for a \$5-per-person opportunity to

conquer the huge game. Only closer to the date is the exact field location to be publicized. Officials and a student at Lebanon Valley College are behind the concept of meshing the objectives of going for a world record, raising funds to assist the suffering, and providing an opportunity for fun. Adrian Fisher, of Hertfordshire, England, is the maze designer. According to the college, he and his company, Minotaur Designs, create mazes around the world. According to a college press release, "Fisher stated that this was the largest maze he'd ever attempted and the first one he'd tried in a corn field." "It's a first in many ways," Fisher said in the statement. "The sheer scale of it was quite daunting, but I'm pleased with the way it is turning out."

Don Frantz, a LVC alumnus who was born and raised in Hummelstown, came up with the idea, according to the college. Frantz, who works for the Walt Disney Company, Orlando, Fla., said the maze would be an activity that would provide fun for students and the surrounding community. "It's an ideal community event that everyone — old and young — can participate in. It's a perfect family activity, an activity that can draw people together. In addition to attempting to tackle the maze during the two days in September, there is also planned games, chicken barbecue, hot air balloon rides and other, to-be-announced activities for participants to enjoy. Volunteers actually cut the paths through the corn, led by student Joanne Marx, a senior from Sparta, N.J., who is majoring in

hotel management. It had taken more than two weeks to prepare. On Monday, Marx got to see the creation from the air — the only way to truly visually encompass the beast. "We knew then, we'd done it right. It was an emotional moment." Gerald Hoffer said the volunteers dug the corn stalks out by hand, but he expects to be able to salvage some of the corn. He said he figured the work would effectively destroy an acre of corn. And while he was paid something for the destruction of the corn, it was far from being a profitable venture. But he added that because, "It's going for the flood effort. We really feel good about it coming off." Hoffer also said he was told to expect about 5,000 people, but that attendance could reach as high as 25,000.

GLENN'S UDDERINGS

(Continued from Page A33) ter than that of 2nd, 3rd and greater lactation cows and their sires, genetic progress in the herd is being made. The county averages in Table 3 show good progress. The PTAS of 1st lactation cows is +101, \$45 greater than the


+56 for 3rd lactation and older cows. An even greater improvement is seen in their sires' PTAS, 177 compared to 114. I have just received the Semi-Annual Sire and Service Sire Summary for the County. The averages are shown in Table 4. How does your herd compare to these averages?

Table 4	PTAM	PTAF	PTAS
Service Sire	+2086	+68	+242
Sires of:			
1st Lact. Cows	+1625	+57	+192
Older Cows	+1212	+44	+143
All Cows	+1307	+47	+154

Here again, genetic progress is evident. The service sires are several generations "never" than the sires of the cows and they should have higher PTAS. In Table 4, the PTAS of the current service sires is about \$100 greater than the sires

of the older cows. The PTAS of the sires of the 1st lactation cows is about \$50 greater than that of the sires of the older cows. Penn State is an affirmative action, equal opportunity university.

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