## PFA/FB To Present Young Farmer, Rancher Awards

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — The Pennsylvania Farmers' Association/Farm Bureau (PFB) will present its Young Farmer & Rancher Achievement award to one of four finalist farm couples during its 43rd Annual Meeting, Nov. 15-17, in Hershey.

Several hundred farm leaders, including 165 Voting Delegates, will gather at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center to elect officers and adopt policies for the statewide farm organization. PFB

represents 23,546 families in 54 county farmers' associations. It is affiliated with the world's largest farm organization, the 4 million member American Farm Bureau Federation.

PFB presents its annual Young Farmer & Rancher award to a farmer or farm couple under age 30 who have demonstrated exceptional business skills, personal growth and leadership abilities. This year's winner will receive an

expense-paid trip to American Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in January, a \$500 cash merit award from the Dodge Division of Chrysler Motors and a \$100 Savings Bond. Competing for the state award

Brian C. and Fay Dietrich of New Tripoli, Lehigh County, members of a family partnership

which operates a 1,000-acre dairy

farm with 425 cows. The farm

pounds of milk annually and features a state-of-the-art cow facility and a computerized milking system.

produces more than 4 million

Donald L. and Joanne Stoltzfus of Morgantown, Berks County, members of a family partnership which operates an 800-acre dairy farm. In addition to the dairy operation, the family operates a manure hauling business.

Daniel R. and Sherri Mains of

Newville, Cumberland County operate a 300 cow dairy operation with Daniel's father. They farm 635 acres, are distributors for Pioneer Seed Company and operate a mulch/tan bark business.

Phillip Gene and Debra Ott of Winber, Somerset County operate a 72-cow Holstein herd with a rolling herd average of over 19,000 pounds of milk annually. Phillip Gene operates in partnership with his brother Alvin, who works off the farm.

## 18 Pa. Ag Groups Join Forces To Support NAFTA

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — Convinced that the North American Free Trade Agreement is a clear-cut winner for Pennsylvania agriculture, 18 agricultural groups have joined forces in a statewide coalition to rally support for the agreement.

The coalition, known as Pennsylvania Ag For NAFTA, was organized at a recent meeting near Harrisburg.

The coalition believes NAFTA means more markets for agriculture and jobs for Pennsylvanians. "Passage of NAFTA is a win-win situation for Pennsylvania agriculture and Pennsylvania's economy," the coalition stated.

The coalition points to the fact that Mexico is the fastest-growing market for the United States and

the third largest customer of U.S. farm products. Trade with Mexico already accounts for nearly 23,000 jobs in Pennsylvania. NAFTA is expected to produce a net gain of another 3,000 jobs in the state. Pennsylvania's exports to Mexico have increased by 310 percent since 1987, rising from \$181 million to \$742 million. "That's three times the growth rate of Pennsylvania's exports to the rest of the world," according to coalition members.

For Pennsylvania agriculture the benefits have been even more dramatic. "Pennsylvanai agricultural exports sold to Mexico have increased more than eight times to \$36,601,233 since 1987," the coalition said. "The sale of agricultural products and the growth

of agribusinesses will multiply even faster when NAFTA opens markets."

Mexico's ability to produce food, fiber and plant materials has been unable to keep pace with its rapidly growing population. Mexico must satisfy this growing demand for agricultural products with imports.

Pennsylvania Ag For NAFTA believes the NAFTA treaty will provide great export opportunities. "NAFTA will tear down far more Mexican than U.S. trade barriers because right now we have the more open market," the coalition said. "Their agricultural trade barriers are four times higher than ours. NAFTA will give us preferential treatment over exporters in

other countries. What benefit will there be in turning our backs on an export market that is already growing and prefers U.S.-made products? We believe NAFTA is a doorway to economic improvement for our state and we urge Congress to approve its passage."

The organizations belonging to Pennsylvania Ag For NAFTA are: Agway, Inc., Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, Dairylea Cooperative, Inc., Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association, Inc., Milk Marketing, Inc., PennAg Industries Association, Pennsylvania

Apple Marketing Program, Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers, Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association, Inc., Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers' Association, Pennsylvania Farmers' Association/Farm Bureau, Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association, Pennsylvania Livestock Association, Pennsylvania Meat Packers Association, Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council, Pennsylvania Seedsmen's Association, Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Producers Association, and the Pennsylvania State Grange.

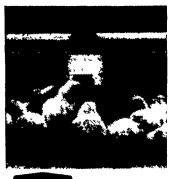
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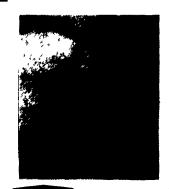
tor broilers



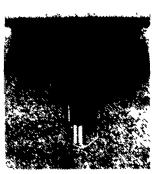
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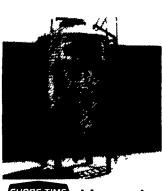
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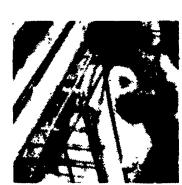
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