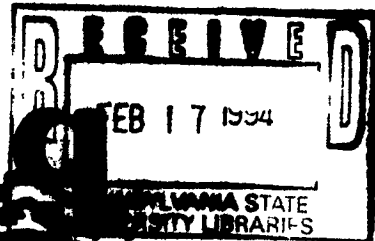


# Lancaster Farming



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First place ear corn three-year class award went to Burd Schantz, right, from Curt Rakestraw, secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association.

## Corn Growers Need To Counter Big Oil, Get Ethanol Use Act Passed

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff  
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The corn industry stands to benefit in a big way if President Clinton's Clean Air Act finally passes.

"This is going to happen unless 'big oil' (companies) can convince the EPA and the (Clinton) Administration that we can't meet the requirements that are in the proposed rule," said Mike Wagner, executive director of the Ohio Corn Growers Association.

Wagner spoke to about 200 corn growers and industry representatives about the many uses of corn in a wide array of environmentally friendly products, including ethanol, last week at the annual Pennsylvania Corn Conference.

According to Wagner, growers

should continue to urge their senators and representatives to support the proposed rule, which will mandate use of ethanol in fuel oil to the annual tune of 500-600 billion gallons, equivalent to more than 200 bushels of corn.

He said that lobbyists from the major oil companies have testified against corn growers. In recent testimony before committee, Wagner said big oil was claiming that growers "are making too much money. Corn's at a five-year high. They say that we're the worst polluters in the world. That all you do is raise more corn, pollute more air, pollute more water. They name you by names."

In reality, according to the Ohio Corn Growers Association director, big oil didn't mention they

were getting \$6 billion a year in subsidies, and have received, since about 1916, about \$123 billion in subsidies, while corn growers get under a half billion dollars a year. "They don't try to tell the press and the people that."

Also, oil is imported at a rate that is startling. "We have a national debt probably because we're spending \$150 million a day for foreign oil," he said.

Corn growers could see the floor price of their product drop anywhere from a nickel to 20 cents if the act isn't passed, according to Wagner. In Ohio, where a statewide ethanol fuel oil blend program is in effect, ethanol use is up to about 15.5 million gallons a month, "more than any state in the

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## BST Sales Strong, FDA Warns Against Labeling

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — The controversy over Monsanto Corp.'s synthetic bovine somatotropin (BST) product called Posilac is apparently waning, especially in light of a warning by the federal Food and Drug Administration that false labeling will not be tolerated.

Posilac, the first biotechnology

product created through "genetic farming" was approved for use in feed production late last year by the FDA, with a moratorium for sales until Feb. 3.

Though not necessarily an industry term, "genetic farming" refers to the technique of taking genetic material responsible for making a certain substance, attaching it to the genetic material of a harmless bacteria, and grow-

ing the resulting bacteria in order to harvest the desired substance in bulk.

It is a process used to manufacture insulin for treating diabetics and it is also the process used primarily to manufacture BST.

During the sales moratorium, Monsanto operated a 24-hour, seven-day per week, toll-free telephone, Posilac-information service, but was prohibited from taking any orders for the product.

The company waited a day after the moratorium expiration, and on Friday, Feb. 4, the company began sales.

Two days later, as of Feb. 6, Sunday night, there were 2,000

orders placed from across the nation, ranging in dose amounts of 50 to 5,000, according to regional company representative Dan Gard.

The threat of consumer rejection, especially that caused by fears spread through professional protesters, such as Jeremy Rifkin, is apparently not as strong as it had been because of a more recent action taken by the FDA.

According to a New York Times article published Tuesday, those opponents of BST who seek to persuade producers from not using the product through the intimidation of a threat of labeling were delivered a serious blow by the FDA.

According to the article, FDA

on Monday "warned dairy producers and distributors ... not to mislead consumers with labels on milk and other dairy products that improperly refer to" Posilac or BST.

The FDA effectively said that it is illegal to advertise falsely and that "BST-free" is not true because all milk contains BST; that states should monitor and prevent such false labeling of dairy products; and that if milk is to be sold as being from cows not treated with Posilac, then an accurate record keeping system for each cow — following the flow of milk from individual cow to consumer —

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### Keystone Pork Congress

Wednesday  
February 16  
Penn Harris Inn  
Camp Hill

## Sign Up For Youth Contest At Pork Congress

ANDY ANDREWS  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — For more than 15 years, the Keystone Pork Congress youth public speaking event has become a cornerstone of youth competition in the swine industry.

Up until about seven years ago or so, it has stood alone as part of the activities of the 16th annual Congress, scheduled this year on Wednesday, Feb. 16 at the Penn Harris Inn in Camp Hill.

In the years since, the contest has had strong competition from the annual Pork Bowl, held at the same time. While attendance has been split between two events, those who attend the Congress may want to listen to what some of the youth are saying regarding pigs and the environment, animal rights/welfare, and the future of the industry.

You could learn a lot, according

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## State Young Farmers Name Winners

EVERETT NEWSWANGER  
Managing Editor

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The three-day annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association was highlighted with an awards banquet Wednesday evening. Each of the regions presented their award winners in community service, outstanding young farmer over 30, and under 30. State winners were named from each of these regional division winners.

Glenn and Barbara Snyder, Gettysburg, were named state winners of the Outstanding Community Service Award. Glenn and Barbara own two farms, one that has been in the family for over 100 years. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Their crop and livestock enterprise is well-managed, but they have time to help others. Barbara sings in the church choir and is the organist. Glenn has won many awards and is a past state Young Farmer President and serves Mt. Joy Township as a supervisor. They have been active in the Farm/City Week activities in Adams County.

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Glenn and Barbara Snyder from the Gettysburg Chapter in Adams County received the state outstanding community service award.