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Joey Neff, 3-year-old son of Dean and Doris Neff, Washington Boro, and Pigionia II, the object of the Kiss A Pig contest for the American Diabetes Association, greet Jim Huber, Lancaster County Commissioner chairman, who won the contest last year. See story page A25. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.

Poultry Progress Day Addresses Industry's Concerns

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will have long-term positive effects on the poultry industry, according to Dr. Milt Madison of the USDA.

Madison spoke to about 200 persons who attended Poultry Progress Day at the Farm and Home Center on Thursday. He said that after a two- to three-year of short-term negative effect from restrictive quotas that are gradually relaxed, they should expect a four to six percent increase in products. The downside of the trade agreements is that poultry feed may increase in cost because of grain exports.

The annual event is a day for Lancaster County Poultry Association members to find out what's new in the poultry industry, examine government regulations, costs, disease control, and other aspects that affect the industry.

For those who could not attend

the Southeast Poultry Show, Dr. Paul Patterson of the Penn State poultry science department reported on strides in development of equipment to make the producer's job easier. One of these is a new device to toe-trim turkey poulters so they don't scratch each other. It is actually a microwave that zaps the turkey toes as they are being vaccinated. The toenail drops off within a 7- to 10-day period with no pain and side effects and considerably less labor involved in the process.

For meat type birds, Patterson

said there is a new cage system in the works in which the birds are caged and the droppings are disposed by conveyor belt. When the birds are ready to market, the bottom drops down, and the birds get a free ride on the conveyor belt to the loading truck.

For pennies, new products can be added to feed to keep the birds' acid levels stable and reduce the risk of bacterial that increases the risk of food poisoning. Patterson said that these products will not be mandated but will appeal to the

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Daylight-Saving Time Starts Sunday

The time to push the clocks forward one hour has come. Daylight-saving time officially starts at 2 o'clock on Sunday morning, April 3. While many people can simply make the clock adjustment on Saturday night before retiring, dairy farmers will need to change their milking and feeding schedules more gradually. Numerous cows now give more than 100 pounds of milk per day, and a slow change in milking schedule is necessary for both cow comfort and the maintenance of top production.

Pennmarva Young Cooperators Chosen

JOYCE BUPP

York Co. Correspondent

WILLOW STREET (Lancaster Co.) — Outstanding young farmer-members were honored last week by three regional dairy cooperatives as the finals of the Pennmarva Federation's Young Cooperator Program, March 23 and 24 at Willow Valley Resort and Conference Center.

Highlight of the annual conference of education and fellowship was the naming of Young Cooperator winners by federation members Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, Southampton, Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers, Reston, Virginia and the Middle Atlantic Division, Dairymen, Inc., Sykesville, Maryland.

Atlantic Dairy Cooperative John and Julie Mayer, Taneytown, Maryland, were named the

outstanding young cooperators for Atlantic Dairy Cooperative. They are the sole owners and decision makers at their Stony Point Farm, which includes 145 Holstein, Brown Swiss and Jersey cattle and

279 acres in corn, barley, hay and pasture. Herd average on the Holsteins is 20,204 milk and 711 fat, while the colored breeds average 13,950 milk and 652 fat.

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Delaware, Mid-East Merge, DHIAs Change Nationwide

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff

COLUMBUS, Ohio — There have been a number of mergers and realignments of dairy herd improvement associations across the nation in recent months as changes in national rules and fees have opened up a number of options, and, at the same time, have forced some isolated herds to seek out new alliances in order to

decrease and spread out costs.

According to Phil Dukas, CEO of National DHIA, the reorganization of DHIA on a wide-scale basis is the result of trends in the dairy industry and the wide use of electronic data gathering and transmission.

With the use of computers and telephone line links, geographical boundaries are no longer the deter-

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Conservation Learned At Early Age On Feidt Farm

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

MILLERSBURG (Dauphin Co.) — When 3½-year-old Jordy Feidt entered the tiestall barn, he looked back quickly at his grandma, Deloris Feidt, and said, "Grammy, cows!"

Jordy knew what to do, and asked to "scoop poop," picking up the shovel and pushing the manure off the floor into the alley scraper.

It didn't take long before Jordy's 1½-year-old brother Nicholas saw what Jordy was doing and

decided to pick up some grain and begin feeding the cows — something he has been doing from an "early" age, according to his mother, Teresa.

Teresa, husband David and David's father, Eugene and wife Deloris know the importance of

teaching the children early on about what is important to dairying. Along with knowing how to care for cattle, already the sons know that other work is just as important, also, especially in light of approaching planting season.

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Nicholas Feidt, 1½, helps feed the cows — something he has been doing from an "early" age, according to his mother, Teresa. For education and compliance with conservation techniques early on, the Feidts — including Nick's father David and grandparents Eugene and Deloris — were recently honored as the Dauphin County Conservation Farmers of the Year. Photo by Andy Andrews