

Lancaster Farming

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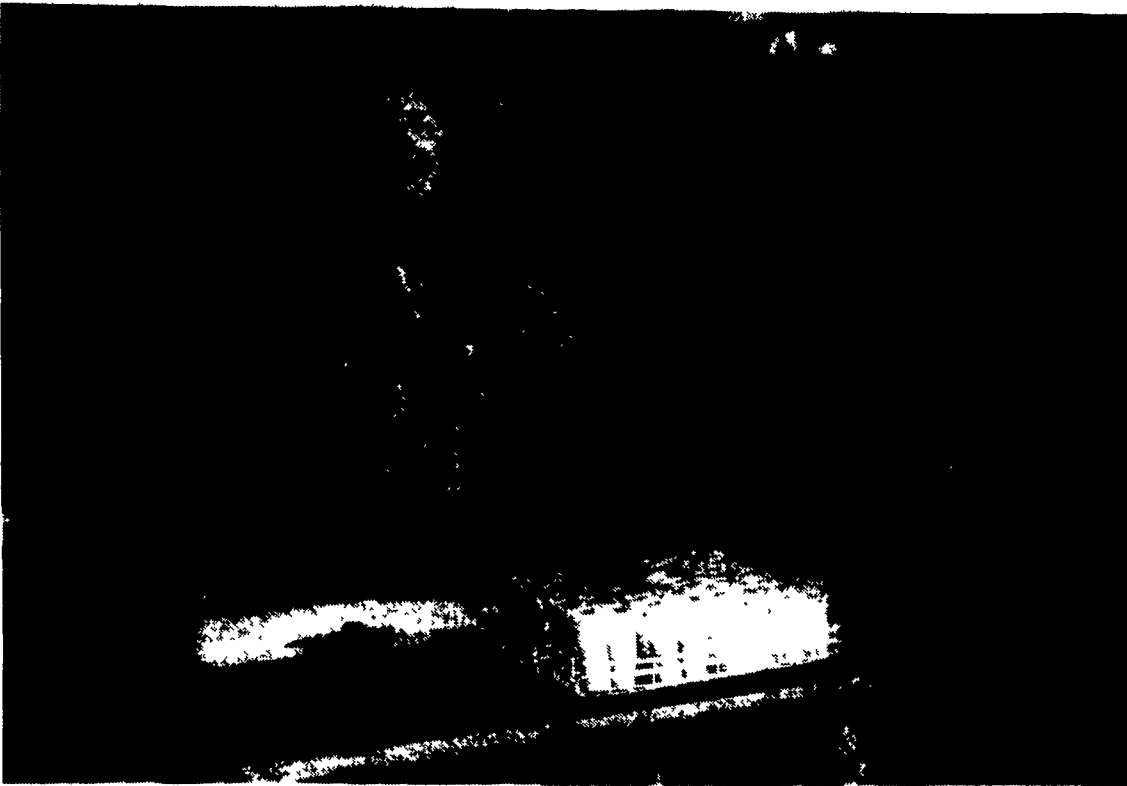
Lancaster Farming, Saturday, July 2, 1994

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No Such Thing As 'A Day In The Life Of A DHIA Technician'



York County DHIA technician Abbe Gore relocates her portable office, a tabletop, after wrapping up another test day on her herd circuit. Gore represents all DHIA technicians who work on the farm. Experiences are many and varied.

JOYCE BUPP

York Co. Correspondent
UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Somewhere across the state, at almost any hour of the day or night, a Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) technician is on the job.

Or, as Centre County technician Anne Brooks puts it: "I set the alarm clock for a different time every day."

It's an observation that is probably echoed by nearly every one of the nearly 200 Pennsylvania DHIA technicians offering dairy herd testing to the commonwealth's thousands of dairy farmers. Pennsylvania DHIA, headquartered on Orchard Road, provides a range of herd testing and cow record-keeping information and services.

Anne Brooks, Bellefonte R3, is a senior technician for the state's milk production records and testing cooperative. Her job responsibilities include monthly weighing and sampling milk on client dairy herds and gathering data for comprehensive herd record informa-

tion on production, feeding and breeding. As a senior technician, she also helps train new technicians and does fill-in testing around the state as needed.

What technicians do, she summarizes, is gather information that "gives the farmer a record of a cow's production to help determine if she is paying her way."

"Every day is different," adds this 15-year-veteran DHIA employee "I like the job because I get to meet new farmers and see new herds across the state."

Average size of the 30 herds which Brooks tests is about 60 cows, with more than 2,000 cows total on her circuit. Two of her herds each number 175 head in the milking string.

"Some technicians last a very short time, because they, or their families, can't adapt to the schedule," admits this mother of two grown children. Brooks got her job when the technician at the farm where she was helping to milk cows decided to quit - and asked if she might be interested in

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Ag Protests Fee Impositions, Supports Management Effort

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — A number of people representing various segments of the state's agricultural segment on Tuesday voiced opposition to a proposal by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission that would initiate a fee structure for relatively high levels of water use.

At the same time, the majority

of those testifying also offered comments of support in the commission's effort to manage the water supply for the commonwealth.

The SRBC — an autonomous agency formed by a compact between Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York and the United States in December 1970 to oversee water use within the basin of the Susquehanna River — has proposed a

revision and addition to its regulations, and its staff is in the process of holding public hearings on the proposal.

Perhaps the most significant changes to the regulations are proposals that would include agriculture and community water sup-

pliers as having to abide by the regulations, especially the consumptive-use regulations,

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Poet Hill Genuine Risk received championship honors for Susan Means of New Albany last week at the Pennsylvania Dairy Goat Association show. See story on Page A32.



Justin Good, left, clinched county swine champion at the 32nd annual Lancaster County FFA Hog Show and Sale at the Manheim Farm Show grounds last week. Hatfield Quality Meats, represented by Kenton Good, right, purchased the hog for \$1.80 per pound.

Genetics Key Championship

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff
MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — Justin Good understands the adage well enough to interpret it himself: "If it's going good, don't change anything."

Justin's efforts to ensure the same type of hog market genetics for his show animals, obtained from a Canadian source that garnered a championship at the New Holland Swine Show last October,

clinched county swine champion at the 32nd annual Lancaster County FFA Hog Show and Sale at the Manheim Farm Show grounds last week.

His 230-pound "4-Way" hog — combining the preferred genetics of a Hampshire, Duroc, York, and Landrace — won lightweight

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Celebrate July 4

To celebrate the 4th of July, *Lancaster Farming's* office will be closed on Monday, July 4. Our offices will open again at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, July 5. Have a good day!