

# Lancaster Farming

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## No BVD Epidemic, But Concern Prevails

### BVD Update, Cattle Restraint, Milk System Management At Housing Expo

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff  
NORTH CORNWALL (Lebanon Co.) — "There does not appear at this time to be an epidemic ripping through this area, but we need to be aware," said Dr. Lynn Sammons, veterinarian from Willow Creek Animal Hospital, Reading.

Sammons provided the latest information about bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) in the region on Tuesday during the 1994 Animal Housing Expo.

Visitors crowded the room at the Lebanon Fairgrounds to hear about

the causes and treatment of BVD, which has created a lot of worry for dairy farmers throughout the region.

The disease is carried by and attacks cows, but also can be carried by sheep, goats, and white-tailed deer. Symptoms of this strain of the virus cause dairy cattle to get an extremely high fever (from 107 to 110 degrees), bloody diarrhea, running mouth and nose, milk drop, off feed, abortions, and death within 14-44 hours, according to the veterinarian.

The virus, which can be found through a titer test in about 90 per-

cent of cows in Pennsylvania, according to Sammons, only becomes active if there are susceptible animals.

Although the disease was first identified about 50 years ago in an outbreak in New York state

(caused by BVD Type 1 virus), according to Sammons, a vaccine kept it under control.

About eight years ago, according to Sammons, the disease reappeared in an outbreak in some areas of Pennsylvania and New

York State. Reports have verified that herds in Ontario, Canada were infected in early 1993 with BVD. What made it difficult to detect, according to Sammons, is that the virus does not show up in blood

(Turn to Page A32)

### Pennsylvania Dairies Of Distinction Announced

KINGSTON (Luzern Co.) — The Northeast Dairy Farm Beautification Program announced Pennsylvania winners of the 1994 Dairy of Distinction award this week. Thirty-three farms in Pennsylvania have been selected as new recipients of this honored award.

The Dairy of Distinction program has been operating in Pennsylvania since 1986. Including this year's winners, a total of 555 Pennsylvania dairy farms have

been recognized through this program.

The program was established in New York State in 1983, and has since spread to Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The program was developed to recognize farms which maintain a high quality farm appearance.

Farms that apply are judged on the roadside appearance of buildings, grounds and surroundings. The winning farms receive attrac-

(Turn to Page A21)

### Cooperatives Council Honors Several At Institute

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SHIPPENSBURG (Cumberland Co.) — The theme for the 1994 Pennsylvania Council of Cooperatives (PCC) Institute held at Shippensburg University was "Cooperatives: Made From the Best People On Earth."

Quite a few of those people came away with awards and other honors during the banquet that was the highlight of the institute.

For starters, there was Daniel Atkins of Lebanon County, who won the spot as the first-year scholar in the Walter Loy Quiz.

The second-year scholar winner for the quiz was Colleen Mowery of Jefferson County.

The boy winner for the Jay Irwin Leadership Award was Tony Miller of Lancaster County. The

(Turn to Page A36)



Receiving the Jay Irwin Leadership Awards were Tony Miller, Lancaster and Kathy Duncan, Erle/Crawford.

### Bradford Farm-City Day Draws 700 Visitors

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HORN BROOK (Bradford County) — "Fascinating," was how Joe Adams of Hornbrook described his visit to Bradford County Farm City Day.

And, judging from the crowd's reaction, many other visitors were fascinated as well.

Hosted by the Wanck families on Son-Cada Farm, this year's Farm City Day drew about 700 people, that's more than twice as many as the group hosted last year, according to the Wancks.

Son-Cada Farms has been in the Wanck family since 1893. Currently Merle and his wife, Peg and their children, Julia, Amy and Erin, farm with his brother, Les and his wife, Kathy and their children, Lisa, Jason, Jacob and Eric.

The farm boasts 150 head of Holsteins, half of which are registered.

"It was a goal of my grandparents to have a registered herd, said Amy Wanck. "They weren't able to do it in their lifetime, so my parents and uncle are carrying on the tradition. Our goal is to have an all registered herd.

They also own 300 acres on which they raise 90 acres of corn and 160 acres of alfalfa for hay and haylage.

While at the farm, visitors had the chance to see sheep shearing demonstrations, take a wagon ride

to see field demonstrations, get a first hand glimpse of goats being milked and touch young farm animals, including a pig, two calves, and hens.

They would also take a tour of the Wancks' barn where various veterinarian and herd management tools were on display, and talk with numerous exhibitors.

One popular stop was the food area where free coupons could be cashed in for milkshakes and everyone could sample some of the Pennsylvania Beef Council's Teriyaki Stir-Fry hot off the grill.

The Kiwanis Club sold desserts and a chicken barbecue with all the trimmings was also available for sale.

Information leaflets on the costs of farming, the resources necessary to successfully operate a farm as well as dairy product and beef information and recipes was handed out also.

For Ebony Thompson of Washington D.C. area, who was visiting friends in the area, the best parts included the milkshakes and the hay ride and the sheep shearing demonstration.

For others, the best part of their visit to the farm was actually seeing animals up close. Kittens were also one of the favorites mentioned.

Organizers of the event agreed that many of their goals were met

(Turn to Page A20)

### Lancaster Holstein Field Day Held

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ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — The Lancaster County Holstein Association held a social/field day Thursday at the farm of Steve and Heidi Hershey near Elizabethtown. In the morning, John Bomgardner, Lebanon County dairy farmer, served as the official judge of three classes to be placed for prizes by the attendees.

In the women's division, Jesslyn Oberholtzer was first; Alma Wen-

ger was second; Susan Howard placed third.

For the men, Paul Zimmerman was first; Darrell Ranck was second; Gerald Risser was third.

In the youth class, Wilford Martin was first; Jason Wivell, was second; Justin Wivell was third.

After a nice chicken barbecue lunch, the program included several reports. State director John Howard reported that at the national convention last week, the associ-

(Turn to Page A25)



Three-year-old Rachael Coon of East Towanda gets a close look at a pig during Bradford County's second annual Farm City Day.