

# Tree Seedlings For Seat Belt Use

YORK (York Co.) — Motorists observed wearing seat belts were rewarded with free evergreen tree seedlings at nine interstate welcome centers along interstate highways in Pennsylvania recently.

The unique seat belt incentive program, which ran from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., was jointly sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Police, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), and the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association.

State Police officers positioned themselves at PennDOT Welcome Center entrance ramps and observed motorists who were wearing seat belts. Vouchers were presented to motorists who were wearing seat belts. The vouchers were then redeemable for a Christmas tree seedling inside the welcome center.

The Christmas Tree Growers Association donated approximately 8,000 seedlings for the program.

"The evidence is clear and irrefutable," said Deputy State Police Commissioner Robert C. Hickes at a news conference at a welcome center near York. "Seat belts save lives. Federal studies have concluded that seat belt use reduces the possibility of highway death and injury by half."

State Agriculture Secretary Boyd E. Wolff said the incentive program not only helped reinforce the important message on seat belt use, but also showcased Pennsylvania's Christmas tree growing industry.

"Pennsylvania is a home to 42 million Christmas trees growing on 44,000 acres," Wolff said. "The state's tree industry provides 10,000 jobs and brings in about

\$25 million annually in revenue. Pennsylvania is the fifth largest producer of Christmas trees in the nation."

William R. Moyer, state deputy secretary for Highway Administration, said PennDOT was "pleased to use the welcome centers as an opportunity to highlight the importance of seat belt use and to encourage motorists to drive safely in Pennsylvania."

Others attending the news conference here were Peter Abraczinskas, President of the Christmas Tree Growers Association, and Queen Evergreen Lori Irvin of Homer City, Indiana County.

Evergreen tree seedlings were handed out at the following welcome centers: I-70 in Fulton County, I-76 in Fulton County (Sideling Hill), I-78 in Northampton County, I-79 in Crawford County, I-80 in Mercer County, I-81 in Franklin County, I-81 in Susquehanna County, I-83 in York County, and I-95 in Delaware County.

Seat belt use in Pennsylvania is currently estimated at 68 percent.



State Agriculture Secretary Boyd E. Wolff participated in a recent promotion at state welcome centers that rewarded motorists wearing their seat belts with a free Christmas tree seedling. Pictured, left to right, Fred Strathmeyer, Jr., Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association Board Member; Secretary Wolff; Queen Evergreen Lori Irvin; Peter Abraczinskas, president of the Christmas Tree Growers Association; Deputy State Police Commissioner Robert Hickes; and William Moyer, deputy secretary for highway administration at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

## Limousin Enthusiasts Ready For Junior Show

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The 1994 National Junior Limousin Show and Congress is rapidly approaching as Limousin juniors and breed enthusiasts prepare for activities July 18-23 in Jackson, Miss.

A host of activities is planned for everyone during the week, beginning with the ever successful and always educational North American Limousin Junior Association Leadership Conference. The theme of "Creative Problem Solving" will challenge and teach

participants of all ages.

What's more, history will be made as show judges are provided with EPD information for the first time ever in addition to the standard performance data. Complementing the national heifer show will be the bred-and-owned show, with prizes sponsored by the Breeder's Cup committee, and a steer show.

Cattle are not required to compete at the show and congress. Juniors can choose events ranging

from public speaking and extemporaneous speaking to sales talks and quiz bowls. Points for each contest are added together for the top honors in the Limousin Sweepstakes.

Activities for the whole family, in addition to the competitions, will include tours of the Missis-

issippi Ag Museum, balloon rides, a "Welcome to Mississippi" dinner with Mary Ann Mobley Collins, and a Limousin beef cook-off sponsored by the Limouselles.

For more information on the show and congress or the Limousin breed, contact the North American Limousin Foundation at (303) 220-1693.

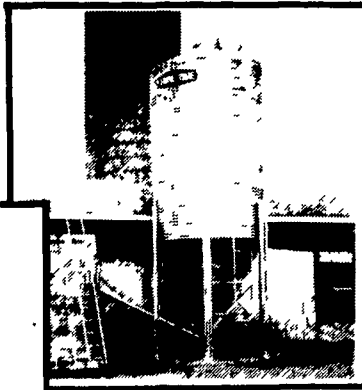
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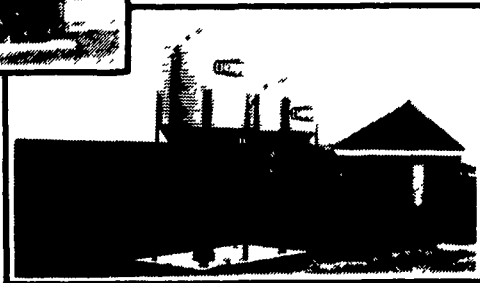
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