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National Breeders Hold Convention In Pennsylvania

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
 Managing Editor

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — In the opening session of the National Association of Animal Breeders 48th annual convention, H. Louis Moore, professor of agricultural economics at Penn State, gave

his views on the economy and how it relates to agriculture.

"I'm bullish on the economy," Moore said. "Interest rates are positive even though they will likely creep up. Inflation is good news; food prices and supplies are good because farmers are producing

more than we need to eat; unemployment is not too bad, and business and consumer confidence is good.

On the negative side, Moore said the cost of entitlements (social security and other things government can do nothing about) are high and

growing. Social security cost \$319 billion in 1994 and was 20.5 percent of federal spending.

In addition, the world is in a recession; Congress is having second thoughts about health care;

world unrest has caused hot spots around the world, and domestic and foreign policies are weak.

But Moore said the farm outlook is "better than some have per-

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Snider Dairyman Of Year At World Expo

MADISON, Wis. — The World Dairy Expo is recognizing four individuals for outstanding agricultural leadership. They'll be

honored at the 28th annual World Dairy Expo, Oct. 5-9, in Madison, Wis. These outstanding dairy leaders include:

• Dairyman of the Year — Obie Snider, Imler.

• Dairy Woman of the Year — Bonnie Jo Ayars, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.

• Industry Person of the Year — W. Terry Howard, Madison, Wis.

• International Person of the Year — John Edward Moffit, Newcastle-Upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

DAIRYMAN OF THE YEAR

The top Dairyman of the Year is 68-year-old Obie Snider, a "gentleman, a professional with the highest standards, a top breeder of registered Holsteins, an international servant for the dairy industry and agriculture in general..." according to Arthur Nesbitt, president of Nasco International, Inc. Snider owns and operates Sing-

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Obie Snider at home in the dairy barn.



Floyd Jones, Convoy, Ohio, right, receives a 50-year award from DuWayne Kutz, NAAAB board chairman. Even after 50 years of service, Jones is still employed as a technician for COBA/Select Sires, Inc.

Tobacco Growers Worry About Tax Proposals, Prices For Crop

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

LANDISVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — A lot of tobacco growers "are holding their breath at this point" while rumors persist about taxes on products going up dramatically. If so, growers and markets could be hit hard, according to Larry Weaver, president of the Pennsylvania Tobacco Growers Association.

About 125 growers and other industry representatives were on hand at a meeting Monday night at the Penn State Research Station near Landisville to discuss the future of the industry and hear about the proposed tax increases.

Included were members of the association, which supports 1,100 growers, mostly in Lancaster County, according to Weaver.

Prices for tobacco at auction and in private sales have been declining steadily through the years, and this steady decline has worried many tobacco growers, who raise the county's number one cash crop, estimated at about 9,800 acres with a value of more than \$21 million.

The Clinton Health Care proposals are particularly frightening, since the proposals will make those who use tobacco products pay for national health care. And this means substantial increases in the cost of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

At the meeting, U.S. Rep. Robert S. Walker (R-16th) spoke in defense of the tobacco industry about the tax proposals. Walker said that the revenue from tobacco

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The tobacco harvest in Lancaster County has progressed rapidly this week as farmers rush to get the maturing crop into the sheds before wet weather reduces quality and production. In the photo, on the Ruben Stoltzfus

farm north of Intercourse Tuesday afternoon, Larry and Chad Stoltzfus handle the large, heavy lath of tobacco while Clint Stewart drives tractor. The Stoltzfus family farm 11 acres and are about half done with their harvest.