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OCT 1 1994
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Lancaster Farming

Vol. 39 No. 47 60¢ Per Copy Lancaster Farming, Saturday, October 1, 1994 Five Sections \$21.00 Per Year

Holstein Is All-American Supreme Champion

VERNON ACHENBACH, JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Out of the more than 1,000 dairy animals entered during the week-long All-American Dairy Show, held at the state Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, a 5-year-old Holstein owned by Marion Andrew, of Kents Reserve Holsteins, in Centreville, Md., was named the supreme champion out of all the breeds.

The supreme champion of the week-long Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show has become a high honor pitting the grand champions of the six major dairy cattle breed shows held during the week.

The competition was tight and several judges determine the supreme champion.

While results for the national shows weren't completed by presstime, in addition to the supreme champion, the grand champions of the various breeds included:

- the grand Jersey, Pensmith TJ Mindy Jersey, shown by Spring Valley Farm, Westminster, Md.;

- the grand Milking Shorthorn, Kingsdale Lucy, owned by Lucy Syndicate, with GMC Farm, Cornish Flat, N.H.;
- the grand Ayrshire, Sonny Acres JJ Bouquet, owned by Doug Evans, of Sunny Acres Farm, Georgetown, N.Y.;
- the grand Guernsey, Littlefield Fayette Mona Lira, owned by Alison Littlefield, of Littlefield Farms, Watertown, N.Y.;
- the grand Brown Swiss, Hawthorne Rhythmic Riki, owned by Charles Chaney, of Garstlyn

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At the annual Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Coronation on September 24, Natalie Dawn Welch from Somerset County earned the state crown with her outstanding performances in speech, presentation, and impromptu questioning. Read more about the pageant and the Pennsylvania Dairy Princess written by Lou Ann Good on page B2.

Northeast Poultry Show Focuses On Biosecurity, Prices, Quality Control

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Poultry producers have tackled disease, fluctuating prices, and rodent control for decades. But when Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) showed signs of increasing about 15 years ago, the problem was handled not with fierce independence but by cooperation among government, industry, and science.

At the Northeast Poultry Show held Wednesday and Thursday of this week at Host Resort in Lancaster, Dr. John Mason was lauded for his work as director of the USDA SE pilot program that was set up in Lancaster.

controlled when people are willing to work together, according to McLaurin.

The willingness for producers to develop trust in the government's program was largely established through Mason's diplomacy. The cooperative attitude among producers, scientists and government in working with the pilot project set up in Lancaster County is being held up as a model to other commodities who face similar problems caused by disease, McLaurin said.

"Producers are taking every effort to eliminate even the slightest risk of foodborne illnesses," said Paton, who is retiring after 40 years of service with USDA.

It is this cooperative spirit that Dr. Ed Mallinson of the University of Maryland would like to see expand.

"It's an opportunity to seize and additional money to be captured to use for the eradication of disease."

In his speech on biosecurity, Mallinson said that decisions made now on such issues as manure removal will affect the future of flock health, safety, and profitability. He stressed the importance of biosecurity to take every step possible to prevent disease in the flock.

His definition of biosecurity is simple he said, "Don't bring germs to your birds and don't bring your birds to germs."

John Pederson, an expert on commodity price predictions, told the audience that record meat supplies will occur in the next nine months partly because of cheap feed available as a result of record crops.

"When feed is cheap, meat is cheap," Pederson said.

Meat exports are expected to hit

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"Mason is U.S.'s foremost authority on SE control," said J.C. (Mac) McLaurin, president of the Egg Association of America.

Traditionally, producers are often wary of accepting government assistance in dealing with problems, but the SE case showed how effectively a problem can be

People are often skeptical that government involvement will cost more money, but that is not the case, Mallinson said.

A Visit To Pennwoods Percheron Farm

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor
CENTRE HALL (Centre Co.) — For the John Cole family, working with draft horses, Pennwoods Percherons, to be specific, has become addictive. The Coles show in the six and eight horse hitch classes around the nation and plan to be at the Keystone International Livestock Show next week. KILE is one of 45 qualifying shows on the Classic Series Show circuit.

In February each year the "world series of draft horse hitching" takes place in Ocala, Florida. This North American Six-Horse Hitch Classic is the climax of the show season, and the Cole team won this prestigious event earlier this year.

John is co-chairman of the KILE horse committee and on the KILE executive board.

At Pennwoods, the horses are worked daily. "They never do any farm work," Chad said. "But they need to be trained so they perform well at the shows."

"It's hard to tell someone what you are looking for in a horse for a hitch team. You just know the horse is right when you see it in the team. The 'wheel' pair (next to the wagon) should be the largest with the 'swing' pair in the middle next largest. The 'lead' pair will be the smallest and have lots of lift and action in the front hooves."

"We like the sport because we're around a lot of nice people," Chad said. "It's family oriented, and we like that. They are people just like us."

The Cole family also helps with the 4-H program by taking horses

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Chad and Ronda Cole with Northwoods Luke, one of their show horses.