

# Mifflin County Farm Bureau Holds Annual Meeting

**GAIL STROCK**  
Mifflin Co. Correspondent

McVEYTOWN (Mifflin Co.) — It may take time, but members of the Mifflin County Farmers' Association will be getting used to saying a new name—Mifflin County Farm Bureau (MCFB).

Members voted unanimously for the name change at their annual meeting held at the McVeytown Fire Hall. According to Member Relations Director Elrose Glick, bylaw revisions were last conducted in August of 1981, and before that in 1978 and 1969. The purpose of the name change is to align more closely to parent organizations Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau.

President Stan Dunk opened the meeting by introducing Carrie Stufft, a third grade teacher at East Derry Elementary School in Lewistown. Stufft attended *Ag in the Classroom* at Penn State this summer and told members how much she appreciated their sponsorship.

"In July, 99 teachers attended *Ag in the Classroom*. It was the first time some teachers were sponsored by their own school district," Stufft said, adding that her own school has enough money saved to sponsor a teacher next year. Stufft believes in the purpose of *Ag in the Classroom* so much, she is returning in 1995 as a presenter. Her video then explained what *Ag in the Classroom* is all about.

Conducted by the Pennsylvania Foundation for Better Living, *Ag in the Classroom* was designed to help teachers integrate agriculture into their curriculum through activity ideas, lesson plans, resources, and materials. Most children and parents today are 2-3 generations removed from agriculture and simply do not know how much agriculture touches their lives through food and clothing.

Through *Ag in the Classroom*, teachers learn how to incorporate agricultural concepts into the classroom curriculum without administrative hassles. For example, the video suggested teaching a language lesson with an agricultural theme or teaching science through hydroponic gardening in the classroom, compost and mushroom gardening or sprouting seeds. Most of the hands-on activities are agriculturally and environmentally based and will develop an awareness for school-aged children to learn and pass on to their children.

As one person on the tape said, "Give a man a fish and it's gone. Teach him how to fish..." It's teaching an agricultural awareness for future generations.

Stufft is married to veterinarians Dr. Grant Stufft and conducts children's activities for Kids Day at the Mifflin County Youth Fair and during Farm/City week.

State Director Wayne Freaman talked about two of the most important activities of Farm Bureau—the policy development process and electing officers.

Freaman said Pennsylvania reached an all time membership high with more than 26,000 members and more than 4,700 new members. He presented Dunk with a Member Services Co-op Advertising check. Ken Loht received a membership award from Freaman for signing up 25 new members on behalf of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. Only six other people statewide received such an award.

In the election for directors, George Goss was elected to represent Decatur Township, Allen Fultz, Armagh Township, Jeff White, Brown Township, and Duane Gearhart, Wayne Township.

State Advisory Council President Beth Laughlin announced the formation of a new Mifflin County advisory council led by Victor and Carolyn Yoder of Belleville.

Governmental Relations Director Mark Ellinger commented on the latest legislative activities statewide and nationally. "The issue of private property rights is getting bigger all the time," Ellinger concluded.

Member Services Director Dave Esh outlined several services for members including insurance coverage with farm agent Bob Smith, 50% off travel hotel rates, and updated manuals on worker's protection program.

Member Relations Director Elrose Glick presented awards to Joe and Beth Laughlin for their advisory council activities, Gloria Goss for volunteering as *Ag in the Classroom* coordinator, Ken Loht for his continuous activities as membership chairman and for making gain this year, and Gail Strock for filling the role of County Information Director and Newsletter Editor.

Policy Development Chairman Dave Stuck presented four policies for discussion and adoption. In the end, the group adopted three more policies presented from the floor, voting on topics such as Workman's Compensation, sele-



Receiving awards and recognition for volunteering their time for the Mifflin County Farm Bureau are from left, front row, Joe and Beth Laughlin, advisory council chairpersons; back row, Jeff White, Brown Township director; Mark Ellinger, governmental relations director; Duane Gearhart, Wayne Township director; and Ken Loht, membership chairman.



Elected to serve as Armagh Township's director was Allen Fultz, left; and re-elected into office for the Mifflin County Farm Bureau was Pauline Glick as Treasurer; Stan Dunk as president; and Dave Stuck as vice president. Janice White was re-elected as

nium levels in animal feeds, AG Statistics Report, public relations, BST in marketed dairy cows, disposal or recycling of used tires, and the State Bottle Bill.

Regional Organization Director

Joe Buck presented awards to Governmental Relations Director Mark Ellinger, Membership Chairman Ken Loht, and CID/CNE Gail Strock.

The following evening in a

reorganizational meeting, the board of directors re-elected Stan Dunk as President, Dave Stuck as Vice President, Janice White as Secretary, and Pauline Glick as Treasurer.

## Reproductive Management Tools Can Save

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — New reproductive management techniques can save dairy farmers time while improving their bottom line, according to an expert in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

"To give milk, cows need to give birth," said Dr. Michael O'Connor, professor of dairy science. "Cows should calve regularly so they spend more time in the most productive phase of lactation."

A calving interval of 12.5 to 12.8 months is most profitable. "If a herd has a calving interval of 13.5 months instead of 12.5 months, the potential loss in milk production is \$35 to \$45 per cow per year," O'Connor said. "Unfortunately, many farmers don't pay enough attention to reproductive management."

For instance, a recent Penn

State survey of Pennsylvania dairy producers found that only 41 percent consistently devote specific times twice daily for heat detection. "Many producers think it's a waste of time to watch their cows for 20 minutes twice a day," O'Connor said.

"But ignoring heat detection reduces the herd's reproductive performance, which costs the producer money. It's a catch-22. Farmers may not pay directly out of their wallets if they skip heat detection, but they'll lose potential profits to extended calving intervals."

Programmed or controlled breeding systems that use prostaglandin to synchronize estrus in groups of lactating cows may be the answer for producers short on time.

"Estrus synchronization systems can limit heat detection to

certain days of the week when treated cows are likely to exhibit standing and mounting behavior," O'Connor said. "Estrus also may be easier to detect, since these behaviors increase when several cows are in estrus together."

## Corby Zeigler's Lamb Takes Overall Championship At Manheim

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**Yearling:** 1. Jessica Stoltzfus, 2. Radell Peters; 3. Jessica Schmidt.

**Champion Dorset:** Jessica Stoltzfus

**Hampshire**  
**Lamb:** 1. Wendall Landis, 2. Regina Landis.

**Yearling:** 1. Regina Landis, 2. Wendall Landis.

**Pair:** Regina Landis.

**Champion:** Regina Landis

**Montdale**

**Lamb:** 1. John Schmidt

**Champion:** John Schmidt.

**Shropshire**

**Ram:** 1. Lisa Witmer.

**Lamb:** 1. Tracy Bollinger, 2. Lisa Witmer; 3. Lisa Witmer

**Yearling:** 1. Tracy Bollinger, 2. Lisa Witmer; 3. Lisa Witmer

**Champion:** Tracy Bollinger.

**Southdown**

**Lamb:** 1. Peter Hoffines

**Champion:** Peter Hoffines

**Suffolk**

**Ram:** 1. Jerry Bollinger.

**Lamb:** 1. Ryan Tracy; 2. Sarah Boyd.

**Champion Suffolk:** Ryan Tracy.

**Supreme Breed Champion:** Peter Hoffines.

**Market Lambs - Lightweight**

**Class #1:** 1. Jay Zimmerman; 2. Jay Zimmerman; 3. Ryan Donough.

**Class #2:** 1. Travis Donough; 2. Gerald Boyd; 3. Jason Stoltzfus

**Class #3:** 1. Travis Donough; 2. Amy Bollinger; 3. Travis Donough.

**Class #4:** 1. Travis Donough, 2. Amy Bollinger; 3. Gerald Boyd.

**Class #5:** 1. Travis Donough; 2. Derick

Bollinger; 3. John Schmidt.

**Champion:** Travis Donough.

**Reserve Champion:** Derick Bollinger.

**Market Lambs - Heavyweight**

**Class #1:** 1. Jessica Schmidt, 2. Regina Landis; 3. Wendall Landis.

**Class #2:** 1. Derick Bollinger; 2. Ryan Tracy; 3. Wendall Landis.

**Class #3:** 1. Ryan Donough; 2. Jason Stoltzfus; 3. Ryan Donough.

**Pair of Lambs**

**Class #1:** 1. Travis Donough; 2. Amy Bollinger; 3. Derick Bollinger.

**Class #2:** 1. Ryan Donough; 2. Ryan Tracy; 3. Jason Stoltzfus.

**Champion Pair:** Ryan Donough.

**Champion Heavyweight:** Ryan Donough.

**Reserve Champion:** Jason Stoltzfus.

**Champion Non-Selling Lamb:** Travis

Donough

**Reserve Non-Selling Lamb:** Ryan

Donough.

**Sale Lambs - Lightweight**

**Class #1:** 1. John Tracy; 2. Wendall Landis; 3. Angle Erb.

**Sale Lambs - Heavyweight**

**Class #1:** 1. Ryan Donough; 2. Ryan Tracy; 3. Jessica Stoltzfus.

**Class #2:** 1. Brandon Zeigler; 2. Regina Landis; 3. Ryan Donough.

**Class #3:** 1. Corby Zeigler; 2. Travis Donough; 3. Jessica Rohrer.

**Class #4:** 1. Derick Bollinger; 2. Amy Bollinger; 3. Jason Stoltzfus.

**Champion Heavyweight:** Corby Zeigler.

**Reserve Heavyweight:** Derick Bollinger.

**Champion Sale:** Corby Zeigler.

**Reserve Sale:** Derick Bollinger.

**Champion Overall:** Corby Zeigler.