

York Farm Bureau Honors Pat Sueck

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York Co. Correspondent
AIRVILLE, (York Co.)—
 Rarely does York County farm woman Pat Sueck find herself at a loss for words.

But being named the Distinguished Service Award winner by the York County Farm Bureau recently left this agriculture activist groping for her thoughts.

"I was speechless," she admits, adding, "And I knew I was getting the award. But I was really touched by it."

The award was presented at the group's annual meeting, held in early October. Because she is a member of the county board and rarely misses a meeting, Farm Bureau county board members were unable to keep her selection a secret.

Pat Sueck is a nurse by profession, a farm woman by marriage, and an agriculture leader by her natural ability, outgoing style and dedication to the industry. She and her husband, Elmer, and the seven children they raised, moved to their Airville farm near Muddy Creek Forks in 1969, from subur-

ban Baltimore. Along with their off-farm professions and agriculture leadership, the couple has bred and raised hogs.

Active in numerous agriculture organizations, Pat has served on the county Farm Bureau board and the state and national Farm Bureau women's committees. She is the president of Penn's Agri-Women and a member of the York County Society of Farm Women.

Pat has been a director of the York County Conservation District since 1990 and was recently elected second vice president of the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts. The organization promotes the local conservation districts, networks with other state and national conservation, agriculture and environmental groups.

"I especially like the networking with the Department of Environmental Resources. It's a good opportunity for dialogue between conservation and environmental. With conservation districts being the implementers of programs, we

can convey a lot of positive grassroots input on how they relate to environmental issues," she says.

Since early 1993, Pat has been serving as the executive director for the Agriculture Awareness Foundation of Pennsylvania, parent organization for the Ag In The Classroom teacher education program. Working out of an office in the Suecks' cozy, woodland home, Pat handles public relations and fund-raising, attends conferences around the region, sets up displays, speaks to groups, and networks with related organizations by phone and FAX to educate the public about food production.

"Our focus is to educate kindergarten through sixth grade, teaching teachers what agriculture and farmers are about, how to integrate agriculture information into their classrooms and the myriad of careers that are available through agriculture. So many people do not realize the impact agriculture has on so many other parts of the economy, the processor, the

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The York County Farm Bureau recently honored farmer, leader and activist Pat Sueck with its Distinguished Service Award for "outstanding service to agriculture."

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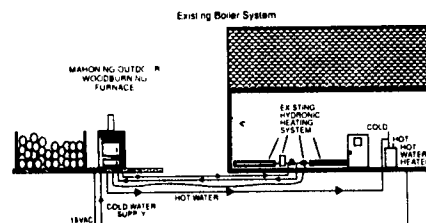
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