



Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Holds Annual Meeting, Morris Given Distinguished Ag Service Award

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — The 26,167-member Pennsylvania Farm Bureau highlighted their year with an annual meeting this week and named Samuel Morris, former state lawmaker from the 155th district in northern Chester County, to receive the 1994 Distinguished Service To Agriculture Award.

In addition, Dean and Jody Kind, Slippery Rock, in Lawrence County, received the Outstanding Young Farmer Award. Berks was named the All-Star County for the fourth consecutive year, and Shelly Brown of Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, won the Discussion Meet and will now compete at the National Farm Bureau meeting in St. Louis next January.

At the banquet Tuesday night, Morris and Eleanor, his wife of 53 years, accepted the Distinguished Ag Service Award from President Keith Eckel. Morris served in the

state house of representatives from 1971 to 1979 and again from 1981 to 1990. During his tenure Morris sponsored 80 bills that supported or protected agriculture. Notable among these bills were Act 319 of 1974 known as the "Clean and Green Act" that allows tax relief for farms; Act 43 of 1981 that allows farmers to establish ag security areas for farmland preservation, and he was the prime sponsor of the bill in 1988 that allowed the state to fund the purchase of development rights to prime farmland.

In addition, Morris also sponsored legislation for "The Right To Farm Act" of 1982 that protects farming practices from nuisance lawsuits from neighbors or local governments.

The Kinds were one of three finalists for the annual award which recognizes a farmer or farm couple who have demonstrated outstanding farm management and leadership skills before reaching age 30. They were presented with a

\$500 cash merit award from the Dodge Division of Chrysler and a \$100 Savings Bond from PFB. They will also receive an expense paid trip to the American Farm

Bureau's annual meeting in January. There they will compete in the Outstanding Young Farmers and Ranchers contest with participants from other state farm bureaus for



Eleanor and Samuel Morris receive the Distinguished Service To Agriculture Award from PFB president Keith Eckel.

national honors and the grand prize of a 1995 Dodge 3500 4x4 pickup truck.

Dean and Jody are part of the Grassy Crest Farm family farm corporation which operates a 1,000-acre dairy farm. They have about 360 head of Holsteins and milk 194 cows that average 19,500 lbs. Dean has primary responsibility for the dairy herd, handling herd management, production, reproduction and feeding. He makes all breeding decisions and is in charge of feeding heifers.

Jody is responsible for keeping records on all registered calves and keeps track of the herd's records on computer. They show and sell registered animals.

Dean serves on the board of directors of the Beaver/Lawrence County Farm Bureau and chairs the Young Farmer and Rancher committee. He is also in charge of organizing DairyMAP management training workshops for dairymen.

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Atlantic Dairy Reviews Successful Year, Builds For The Future



John and Julie Mayer are Atlantic Dairy Cooperative's 1994 Outstanding Young Cooperators. The Mayers operate a 279-acre farm with a 145-head mixed herd in Taneytown, Md.

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Atlantic Dairy Cooperative (ADC) ended its fiscal year with record-setting amounts of milk marketed and one of the most profitable years ever — the third highest in the cooperative's 77-year history.

ADC held its annual meeting on

Thursday and Friday at the Lancaster Host Resort to review its past year and "build for the future."

The profitable year resulted in more than 3,500 dairy farm member families in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia receiving an additional milk check the equivalent of five cents

per hundredweight. The net margin, up from \$5.4 million last year, equates to member earnings of 25 cents per hundredweight.

Sales of 3.5 billion pounds of member milk and favorable market conditions helped propel the net profit to record levels.

"We didn't have too much milk that we had to incur surplus mark-

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Solution To Ascites 'A Genetic One,' Says Poultry Researcher

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — While poultry producers can put a lot of diseases in check by proper heating and ventilation management, the ultimate solution to a disease called ascites may lie in genetic manipulation, according to a Penn State poultry professor.

Dr. Guy Barbato, associate professor of poultry science, spoke to more than 30 broiler and layer managers and other industry personnel at the Poultry Management and Health Seminar at Kreider's Restaurant on Monday.

Barbato provided information into the "causes, cures, and concerns" regarding ascites in broilers. Barbato also provided some research into management and other alternatives producers may use to control the disease in flocks.

As fall temperatures begin to fluctuate, the problem of controlling ascites in broilers becomes more difficult. Ascites, a condition in which fluid accumulates in the broiler's abdomen, has other signs

as well, including right ventricular atrophy in the heart and broiler pulmonary hypertension. This hypertension is characterized by high blood pressure which robs the body of necessary oxygen.

An indication of ascites onset is the dark blue or purple comb, "a classic telltale sign," said Barbato.

The fluid accumulation, a straw color, is the result of the hypertension and subsequent pressure in the liver. Fluid (plasma) is literally forced from the liver.

The disease was first noticed in birds in high-altitude conditions and under poor ventilation with high salt diets, primarily in South and Central America. But more and more, the disease is prevalent in the north.

Simply put, according to the poultry professor, genetic selection to make the birds grow at a rapid rate causes the bird to lose the necessary energy to adapt to changes in the environment. Environmental stress, particularly cold conditions, leads to onset of ascites at a fairly rapid rate.

Penn State and other research has concluded that ascites accounts for at least 50 percent of all post-day 14 mortality among broilers. In some cases, ascites has

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SCC Nutrient Advisory Board Continues, Uncertain Of Changes

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
(part 1 of 2)

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Uncertainty about the extent of changes to the state Department of Environmental Resources as promised by Gov.-elect Tom Ridge in his campaign platform was a matter of

concern Wednesday for the 15-member State Conservation Commission Nutrient Management Advisory Board.

The board held its November meeting in Room 309 of the state Department of Agriculture building in Harrisburg to further work to recommend and advise the commission in the creation of working

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Deadlines Change For Thanksgiving

The Lancaster Farming office will be closed Thursday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving day. News and advertising deadlines for this week are as follows:

- Public Sale Ads — Noon, Mon., 11/21.
- General News — Noon, Wed., 11/23.
- Classified Section C Ads — 5 p.m., Tue., 11/22.
- All Other Classified Ads — 9 a.m. Wed., 11/23.