

# Barr: Tax Reform, Clean And Green Dialogue Must Continue

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
ATGLEN (Chester Co.) — Dr. Robert Barr shared this "warning," as he called it, with Chester County farmers Thursday evening — watch what happens to Lancaster County under its court-ordered reassessment.

"The farmers in your neighboring county are looking at tax increases of 30-50 percent, even with Clean and Green," Barr told a record-setting attendance of 177 people on Thursday evening at the Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau 42nd Annual Spring Banquet at the West Fallowfield Christian Day School.

Without Act 319 (the official title for the Clean and Green Law, which sets a tax structure on the ag use value of a farm rather than the farm market value), Lancaster County farmers "would be looking at tax increases of two to three times their current tax bills."

Barr served with 21st Century Appraisals, the company contracted to perform the reassessments in several counties, including Lancaster and soon in Chester County. Barr told the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) members that he helped develop appraisal policies with the company and now serves as president of the Fair Tax Institute, under contract with the PFB to assist, for a fee, farmers

in making use of Act 319 in the farm appraisal.

Barr said that many counties, as a result of reassessment, have come to the Fair Tax Institute and are asking for help.

"A problem area is that there are no standards for reassessment anywhere in the state," he said.

As a result, the results of the reassessments will "shock the farmers," and he urges more work on local tax reform.

Barr said that the institute is working to make sure the tax base is "fair and equitable" and urged the PFB members to "continue the dialogue" as reassessment takes place.

"Most all of you will be in Act 319 when reassessment takes place" in Chester County, he said. Before the reassessment order came to Lancaster, he said, there was not one farm in Lancaster County in Clean and Green. He said that Act 319 is "a great law and it's doing a wonderful job," but pointed out there is a "tremendous need for educational programs" to ensure that the law is implemented correctly in the counties under court-ordered reassessment.

Barr said that ultimately, if farmers are considering appealing the assessment later on, "the burden of proof is on you" to provide farm "evidence of value, sales and

comparable sales." He told farmers to "get a second opinion."

Farmers who request help with Clean and Green can contact their local farm bureau representative and sign up for assistance with the institute.

Robert Yarnall, president of the Chester-Delaware Farm Bureau, said the banquet was the "single largest turnout for any single banquet in Chester-Delaware Farm Bureau history."

Charles Wollaston, membership chairman, reported that in the past year, 102 new members were added to the county farm bureau, an affiliate of PFB. Altogether, there were a total of 738 members at the county level.

Harold Bryson, director of member services, said total income for the county bureau the past year totalled \$63,160, of which \$53,136 went to pay dues to PFB. Total income was \$69,462 with total expenses at \$53,136. After expenses of \$6,186, for the first time, the county bureau earned a profit of \$2,276.

One of the big issues addressed during the recent PFB legislative tour, according to Harold Kulp, director of governmental relations, was local tax reform. Work is proceeding on two bills.

Charles Brosius, state secretary of agriculture, told the members that Gov. Tom Ridge will continue his support of Pennsylvania farmers in the effort to raise family farm income.

Also at the banquet, members were honored. Outstanding Service to Agriculture awards were presented to C. Barclay Hoopes, director; Richard Breckbill, director; Charles Wollaston, membership chairman; Susan McCardell, newsletter editor; and Jennifer Joyner, director.



Charles Wollaston, membership chairman, left, receives an Outstanding Service to Agriculture Award from Robert Yarnall, president of the Chester-Delaware Farm Bureau.



Jennifer Joyner, a director of the county bureau, was honored with an Outstanding Service to Agriculture Award by Robert Yarnall, president of the county bureau.



Robert Yarnall, president of the Chester-Delaware Farm Bureau, left, presents an Outstanding Service to Agriculture Award to C. Barclay Hoopes, director.



Officers and directors of the Chester-Delaware Farm Bureau at the banquet Thursday evening. From left, C. Barclay Hoopes, director; Jennifer Joyner, director; Bob Lange, director; Harold Kulp, director governmental relations; Robert Yarnall, president of the Chester-Delaware Farm Bureau; Ed Cannon, director member relations; Charles Brosius, Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture; Roy Kolb, director ag commodities; David Herr, director; Harold Bryson, director member services; and Artie Necdham, director.

**Mercer Livestock Auction**  
MERCER, PA  
April 4, 1995  
CATTLE 260 . PDA . Compared with last Tuesday's market sl steers steady, cows 1 00 to 2 00 lower. STEERS: Choice 1050/1400 lbs 62.30-66.85, Select 56.00-63.10, Standard 45.00- 50.25. HOLSTEINS: Choice 1075/1525 lbs. 57.50-61.00, few Select 52.50-57.50, few Standard 45.00-51.00. HEIFERS: few

Choice 1050/1225 lbs 64.10-67.00, few Select 55.00-60.00 COWS: Breaking Utility and Commercial 37.00-39.75, few 40.00, Cutter and Boning Utility 34.00-38.50, Canner and Low Cutter 30.00-33.00. Shells down to 28.00. BULLS: few Yield Grade No. 1 1450/2100 lbs. 48.25-50.50, one 58.25, few No. 2 975/1300 lbs. 41.75-43.75. FEEDER CATTLE: STEERS: Medium Frame No. 1 400/675 lbs. 67.00-73.00, Large Frame No. 2 750/1000 lbs 43.00-47.50; HEIF-

**DISTRIBUTORS FOR: SILO QUEEN**  
2390  
2339 - 2518  
**North Coast Seed Corn**  
• 502 - 109 Day  
• 2307 - 107 Day  
• 2400 - 110 Day  
• 2525 - 117 Day  
Fertilizer

**SOYBEANS**  
North Coast - 354, 284 & All New 374  
Agri - 8836, 9139, 9329, 9434  
STINE - 3090E  
Also Avail. Resnick, Pella & Williams  
**SEED OATS**  
Armor Hercules  
**ALFALFA**  
Vernal  
84 VWAP 94 MPR  
Wetfoot  
Timothy  
Orchard Grass Clover  
also toro & climax timothy  
Baler Twine

WHOLESALE & RETAIL  
**BOYDELL FARMS**  
302 Iona Road, Lebanon, PA 17042  
Phone: 717-272-8943

ERS: couple Large Frame No. 1 585 lbs. 69.00, Medium Frame No. 1 270/500 lbs. 59.00-67.00; BULLS: few Medium Frame No. 1 300/600 lbs. 59.00-65.00.  
CALVES 60...VEALERS: Standard and Good 65/100 lbs. 36.00-50.00, Utility 55/85 lbs. 21.00-31.00. FARM CALVES: No. 1 Holstein bulls 90/110 lbs. 105.00-134.00, No. 2 95/115 lbs. 80.00-100.00; few No. 1 Holstein heifers 90/95 lbs. 175.00-202.00 one No. 2 85 lbs. 130.00. Beef cross bulls and heifers 65/95 lbs. 105.00-160.00.  
HOGS 103...Barrows and gilts steady to 1.00 lower. BARROWS AND GILTS: US 1-2 230/260 lbs. 36.00-37.25, US 1-3 215/270 lbs. 34.10- 35.25, US 2-3 215/260 lbs. 31.00-33.25. SOWS: few US 1-3 365/535 lbs. 28.50-31.00. BOARS: 250/585 lbs. 20.00-22.50.  
FEEDER PIGS 0...NO MARKET TEST!

SHEEP 25...SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice 90/110 lbs. 71.00-83.00, 25/55 lbs. 76.00- 100.00. SLAUGHTER SHEEP: few 8.00-19.00.  
GOATS 8...One Small 37.00, few Small Kids 16.00-26.00. --- per head.

**Aberdeen Livestock Market**  
Aberdeen, Md.  
Wednesday, April 5, 1995  
Report Supplied by Auction  
SL STEERS: MARKET STEADY, CHOICE 2-4: 1100-1400 LBS. 64.00-67.00 SELECT & LOW CHOICE: 1000-1500 LBS. 60.00-64.00. HOL STEERS: HI CHOICE & PRIME 1250-1400 LBS. 58.00-60.00, CHOICE 1200-1500 LBS 56.00-58.00; SELECT ALL WEIGHTS: 52.00-55.00  
SL HEIFERS: MARKET STEADY. CHOICE & PRIME: 950-1300 LBS.

63.00-66.00, SELECT ALL WEIGHTS 900-1400 LBS 54.00-60.00  
COWS: MARKET 1.50 HIGHER BRK UT & COMM 2-4 BULK 39.00-43.00 HI DRESSING 43.00-47.00, CUTTER & BONE UT 38.00-41.00, HI DRESSING 41.00-44.00, CANNER & CUTTERS 36.00-39.00; LOW DRESSING 34.00 DOWN  
BULLS: MARKET 2.00 LOWER ALL WEIGHTS 1000-1900 LBS. 47.00-58.00  
VEAL CALVES. MARKET STEADY CHOICE & PRIME: 200-400 LBS. 77.00-90.00; HI GOOD & LOW CHOICE: ALL WEIGHTS 59.00-68.00  
FARM CALVES: MARKET 5.00 HIGHER. HOL BULLS 100-125 LBS 110.00-133.00, HOL BULLS: 85-95 LBS 88.00-109.00, HOL. HEIFER CALVES