

Lancaster Farming

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Part Of PCA Tour June 17

Food By-Products Vary, But Promote Savings At Barley Farm

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CRESWELL (Lancaster Co.)

—If you can find a food waste product that resembles corn — is consistent in terms of low moisture and has a high energy value — then you've got a cattle food source to save you money.

Barley's Star Rock Farms is an example of a farm that succeeds by feeding the right food by-products, and is one of the farms selected for a tour during the annual Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association (PCA) Field Day on Saturday, June 17.

Robert Barley, who helps manage the 1,850-head steer operation called Star Rock Farm, said, "The

best food by-product is something that is high in energy and high in protein and is consistent, with low moisture.

"A lot of your waste products are high in moisture, like salad. Sometimes I get chocolate syrup, which is high in moisture and hard to handle. But your best by-product is one that is consistently dry, high in energy, and is just like corn."

Walking down the aisle in the

main barn, where 750 steers are housed, Barley kicks some of the remnants of the by-products into the troughs. A pineapple head here, a slice of honeydew there, a lemon here, an open grapefruit there, in addition to carrots and other salad remnants make up a portion of the feed for cattle. Barley also makes use of noodle waste, burritos, and other pasta-type products which the cattle readily eat.

Barley, who farms 3,000 acres at Star Rock in partnership with his brother Tom and cousin Abe, Jr., purchases noodle food product waste from a local food processing company. Altogether, the food by-products make up about 10 percent of the volume of feed to the mostly Holstein steer herd and about 35 percent of the total energy intake for the herd.

The rest of the feed is corn silage and high moisture corn, and at

times ryclage and high moisture barley. The corn silage is a major component of the feed, including high-moisture ground ear corn. Protein is added to the total mixed

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Dairy Issue Next Week

The Dairy Issue, a special annual tribute to the dairy industry, comes to you from *Lancaster Farming* next week. We have special on-farm features and reports on farm management, dairy promotion, and messages from advertisers.

In addition, the first of the annual dairy recipes will be presented in Section B, and our livestock, grain, and auction reports, along with regular columns, will be in place.

Look for next week's special dairy issue when we feature dairy farmers and agribusinesses which help provide wholesome milk and dairy products to the urban population centers.

SCC To Review Nutrient Management Advisory Board Recommendations

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The State Conservation Commission (SCC) is scheduled to meet June 21 at the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg to review recommendations for regulations to implement the state's Nutrient Management Act.

The recommendations are a set of regulations created by the commission's 15-member Nutrient

Management Advisory Board working with the commission staff.

The commission staff are also employed by the state Department of Environmental Resources and ostensibly will be involved in carrying out support of the enforcement of the regulations through the conservation districts.

On April 19, the Nutrient Management Advisory Board by a show of hands had unanimously (though not all present) approved a

set of regulations to recommend to the commission.

The commission is an independent agency chaired by the state secretary of environmental resources, with the secretary of agriculture as a member.

The commission is the agency given authority to administer the Nutrient Management Act, since the law was formed with the concept that mandatory nutrient management planning would best be

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Office Closed Monday

The *Lancaster Farming* office will be closed Monday, May 29, to observe Memorial Day. But our office will open again for business at 8 a.m. Tuesday.



A pleasant spring that is somewhat cooler than normal has given local farmers a good chance to get well into spring planting. The Pennsylvania Ag Statistics Service reports corn planting ahead of the five-year average. And while corn has started to emerge, the cool weather seemed to have caused sprouting to take longer than usual.

Rainfall into the week ending May 21 was reported short to mostly adequate in northern Pennsylvania, short to surplus in the central region, and short to mostly adequate in southeast Pennsylvania. In Lancaster County, tobacco planting has started, and recent rains have resulted in good pasture growth.

In the photo, Jeff and Dale Rohrer, Lititz, began planting their 150 acres of

beans this week. Dale said planting was delayed a little by the rains, but the warm weather now will help germination and bring the crop on about as fast as if it were planted earlier. The Rohrers also have 150 acres of corn.

On another note for Lancaster County farmers, the deadline for Clean and Green applications was officially extended 90 days to Sept. 1. The reassessment notices had been mailed right in the middle of planting season, and many local farmers felt they did not adequately understand or have time to properly consider their options in the program. The judges in Lancaster County court agreed and gave the extension. Next year the deadline reverts back to the June 1 timetable. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.