

# Rain Couldn't Dampen Spirit

(Continued from Page A28)

Through management, the Brackmans are trying to re-establish oak, maple, ash, and poplar in the area.

"We've had a lot of competing species that are coming in that are basically weeds, so we're in a non-stop battle with them," he said.

Another tour opportunity was to travel south of Canton to Earl Ridall's veal barn, and to a constructed wetland adjacent to a veal

barn owned by Roger and Carol Hikoek.

"The veal barn tour was very well received and we're going to concentrate more on that next year because a lot of farmers had never toured a veal farm before," said Bertrand. "So were the tours to the reconstructed wetland that they're using to filter the veal water run off."

People also enjoyed seeing emus and llamas up close as well as watching the sheep shearing

demonstrations.

"This year we had more exhibitors and more variety of exhibitors," said Bertrand.

As with each Farm-City Day event, the goal is to reach the non-farm population, giving them a chance to learn about farming up close. In the past, attendance at the event has been about 75 percent non-farm and 25 percent farm. This year, the committee estimates that fewer non-farm people attended the event.

"Even though it drizzled all day, we got a lot more farmers than we figured. This year attendance was about 50-50 non-farm to farm," said Bertrand. "Our goal is to get the non-farm people out."

Although next year's plans are uncertain, committee members strongly believe that the event will be held because of the increasing



Members of the first class of Master Gardeners in Bradford County put their knowledge to the test as they answered Farm-City Day visitors' questions. Pictured are Master Gardeners Donna Brink and Aurora Hulslander as they examine five different varieties of Thyme.

support.

"Even more people contributed this year than last year, we think that the Farm-City program is a

solid program for Bradford County. After going through it three times, we hope it to be a yearly tradition now," said Bertrand.



Cattlemen's Princess Krista Byers, left, and Pa. Beef Council Intern Kevin Brightbill offered beef and veal to Farm-City Day visitors. The two planned on serving about 1,000 people before the day was over.

## Acresage Reports More Vital Than Ever Before

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — Farmers were reminded that their crop insurance and certain U.S. Department of Agriculture benefits are in jeopardy if they fail to file their planted acresage reports on time.

The reminder, from Jenifer Hershey, acting county executive director of the Consolidated Farm Service Agency, said that crop insurance acresage reports must be signed by the insured or a designated agent by the required deadline, which differs by crop and lo-

cality.

Acresage reports for farm program purposes must still be filed at the CFSA office; however, crop insurance acresage reports must also be filed with the insurance provider. If insured through a private crop insurance agent, the crop insurance acresage report must be submitted to that agent. If farmers purchased the basic, catastrophic insurance coverage (CAT) through the CFSA office, they can sign their crop insurance acresage reports at the same time they report acresage for farm program purposes, Hershey said.

The other major risk management program, termed the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), applies only to those crops for which insurance is not available. NAP provides a

comparable level of benefits as that offered under CAT, but no premiums are charged. Planned acresage of NAP-covered crops must be reported on time to the CFSA office, or no NAP benefits will be paid, if a crop loss occurs.

The CAT and NAP coverages replace the ad hoc crop disaster programs of past years. Unlike previous disaster programs, however, they require timely reports of planted acresage to receive benefits.

Acresage reporting dates for crop insurance and NAP in Lebanon County are oats - May 31 (exception: can be reported July 15 if reported with one of the following crops): Corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, sweet corn, tobacco - July 15 and uninsured (NAP) crops - July 15.

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