

Plowmen Compete At Old Tyme Days

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MANCHESTER (York Co.)** —

Despite nearly-record low rainfall and dry fields for the past month, plowmen competing at the state and national plowing contests found northern York County's ground to be in fair working condition.

"It didn't plow all that hard," observed Bob Miller, Millersburg, president of the state Plowmen's Association and a key organizer of the plowing activities last week during Old Tyme Days. The 11th Old Tyme Days and 122nd Great Grangers Fair were held August 23-27 on the Blaine Rentzel farm, north of Manchester.

Miller added to several years of state wins by again taking the small plow honors. In the state large plow contest, Carlisle dairy farmer Bill Crain claimed Pennsylvania honors, also for a second year running. Vintage-equipment collector Chuck Noonan, York, added to his numerous state wins in the antique plow competition. State winners are now eligible to plow in the 1996 national contest, to be held next July in Sioux City, Iowa.

Other placings in the state small plow contest included Jay Stoner, Mechanicsburg, second; Michael McCoy, Chambersburg, third; Dennis Stoner, Mechanicsburg,

and Matt McCoy, Chambersburg, tied for fourth; Trevor Rentzel, York, sixth; Dean Hess and John Conely, both of York, tied for seventh, Justin Hammers, York, ninth, and Harold Rauch, Walnutport, tenth.

Placing behind Crain in the large plow runoffs were Harold Forrester, Chambersburg, second, and Jim Mowry, Somerset, third.

Harold Forrester, Chambersburg, also finished second in antique plowing. Third was Michael McCoy, Chambersburg; fourth, Trevor Rentzel, York; fifth, Jay Stoner, Mechanicsburg; sixth, Charles Stambaugh, York; seventh, Dean Hess, York; and eighth, John Conley, York.

Judges for the state small plow contest included Myron Young, Chambersburg; Allen Deiter, Northumberland, and Charles Deitch, Carlisle. Large plow officials were Roy Mauer, Dalmatia, and Iowa plowman Jim Quinlan.

NATIONAL PLOWMEN'S COMPETITION

A total of 44 plowmen furrowed their way through the national runoffs, with top honors going to midwestern competitors. Winners of the small and large plow categories are now eligible to compete next year at the international contest to be held in Ireland.

Large plow winner was Travis Hutchinson, Bradford, Ohio.



Chuck Noonan and his son, Chuck Noonan II, fork hay into their 1930 stationary Case baler. The baler is part of Noonan, Sr.'s extensive Case collection.

Though Hutchinson has been competing as a plowman since 1978, this was his first time to snag the first-place honors. He plowed with a 4-bottom, 14-inch International model.

Ray Willhoite, Wall Lake, Iowa, also claimed his first national win, after several second and third place finishes in prior contests. He farms 600 acres of corn, beans, and hay, and has competed "off and on" since 1958.

Pennsylvanians who competed in the national small plow contest were Bob Miller, Millersburg, who finished fourth, and Trevor Rentzel, York, 12th. Bill Crain, Carlisle, and Jim Mowry, Somerset, finished sixth and seventh in the large plow competition.

In addition to hosting tractor-powered plowing contests and a seminar for new plowmen, Old Tyme Days debuted a national horse plowing contest. Also new on the Old Tyme Days schedule was the J.I. Case Collectors' national meeting, pulling in vintage Case equipment enthusiasts from across the country. An extensive lineup of antique Case tractors and equipment, along with numerous restored pieces from other manufacturers, added to the show's variety.

Demonstrations of the early pieces ran through the five-day event, including baling, corn shelling and this year's added attraction, an operating belt-powered sawmill.



Ray Willhoite, Iowa, left, won the national small plow contest, while large plow national honors went to Travis Hutchinson, Ohio. The original painting behind the winners was created by local artist Lisa Ahrens in honor of the J. I. Case Collectors national meeting held during Old Tyme Days.



State Plowing Contest winners who will represent Pennsylvania at the 1996 national contest are from left, Bob Miller, small plow, Bill Crain, large plow, and Chuck Noonan, antique plow.

Early Deadlines: For September 30 Issue

Because of the street fair in the town of Ephrata where *Lancaster Farming* is published, we need to change our publication deadlines for the week of September 25 to 29. These special deadlines are as follows:

- Mailbox Markets — Monday, Sept. 25, at noon.
- Public Sales — Monday, Sept. 25, at noon.
- General News — Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 5 p.m.
- Other Than Farm Equipment Classified Ads, Section C — Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 5 p.m.
- Farm Equipment Classified Ads, Section D — Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 9 a.m.
- Late-Breaking News — Wednesday, Sept. 27, at noon.

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