



# OPINION

## Dog Law Reform

The state's new Dog Law regulations are not in reaction to complaints from animal rights activists or their pawns.

These were a crafted set of revised regulations to bring the state up to date and level with regulations at the federal level.

Nothing more should be read into it, but of course people will.

Sometimes news is real, accurate, informative and educational.

Many times it is nothing but cheap entertainment.

Despite the so-called "investigative" reports by news crews with secret cameras trying to cash in on the popularity of the "puppy mills," officials at the state level and many within the state's dog industry know that the industry as a whole is far from being tolerant of cruelty and neglect.

The dog breeding industry is large in Pennsylvania.

But most breeders do not make money by selling neglected, mistreated, or malnourished dogs.

The possibility of civil or criminal charges and the associated costs in money and reputation is enough to prevent that.

Nevertheless, in every human activity there are always some people whose sloth, disregard or incompetence disgraces and demeans the respectable work engaged in by others.

All the tax-run programs in the world won't do anything if people don't have the courage to adultly address situations they encounter, and to not patronize, recommend, or condone substandard or obviously negligent behavior.

The recent change in the state Department of Agriculture's regulations were created to bring state regulations up to federal standards, and to make some clarifications, so as to prevent misunderstandings about what is expected in minimal care and facilities for keeping dogs.

The PDA Bureau of Dog Law is working with those in the dog industry to improve the ability of the state to serve the dog industry — from those who breed dogs to those who buy dogs.

There are some dog-marketing channels that by their nature can't guarantee the conditions of the parent dogs or whether or not proper vaccinations or papers exist. Those channels have served a useful purpose, especially during times when neutering farm pets was prohibitively expensive.

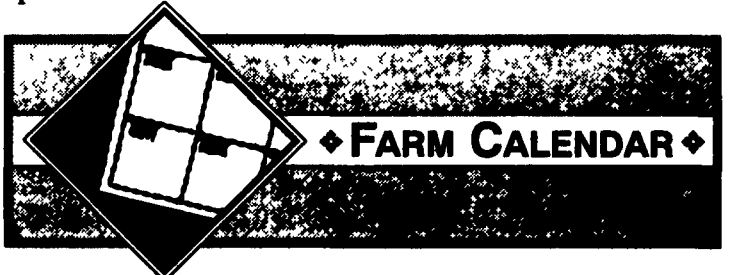
There is still a place for that dog-marketing business, and there are still outlets serving it, but it does not represent the main stream of the dog breeding industry.

The mainstream dog breeding industry is operated by state and federally licensed kennels.

There are a few people out there who perhaps should try to find something else to do that better matches their interests, skills and abilities than breeding dogs.

But that's true with every industry and every activity and job.

The majority of the Pennsylvania dog breeding industry has been and appears that it will continue to be something of which to be proud.



**Saturday, November 4**

Northeast Lamb Pools, Troy Sales Barn, grading 9 a.m., sale 3 p.m.

Pa. Emu Farmers' Association (PEFA) Incubating and Hatching Seminar, Centre County Vo-Tech School, Pleasant Gap, 1 p.m.-6 p.m.

Adams County 4-H Dairy Club Awards Banquet, Pine's Lutheran Church, New Chester, 7 p.m.

Berks County 4-H Livestock Banquet, Kutztown Grange Hall, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, November 5**

**Monday, November 6**

Wayne County Cooperative Extension dinner, Cordaro's Restaurant, Honesdale, 7:45 p.m.

Northampton County Extension annual meeting, Extension Office, Nazareth, 7:30 p.m.

Penn State Income Tax Institute,

Family Heritage Restaurant, Franconia, thru Nov. 7.

Octorara Young Farmers Fulton Bank presentation, Octorara Ag Ed Room, 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, November 7**

Solanco Young Farmers meeting, Corn Grain Management, Solanco High School.

Pa. Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program, Helena Chemical Company, Biglerville, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Pa. Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Program, Adams County Nursery, Aspers, 12:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

Pa. Turfgrass Council Inc., Penn State Golf Turf Conference, University Park, thru Nov. 9.

Agronomy Ag Service School, Holiday Inn, DuBois, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Tuplehocken Young Farmers Program, Utilizing Consultants, Way-Har Farm, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

S.W. Pa. Hay Auction, Westmore-



### Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz

Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

**To Attend**

**Animal Housing Expo**

The 1995 Animal Housing Expo will be held Nov. 8-9 at the Lebanon Fairgrounds.

It is designed for farmers interested in upgrading their livestock, poultry or dairy facilities or in building new facilities.

The Expo will give ideas on ways to improve the animal's environment to enhance its health and comfort and boost production efficiency. Or you may learn how to create a better working environment and improve labor efficiency.

At the Expo, farmers will be able to hear a variety of presentations and see numerous exhibits related to animal care and housing.

The Expo is sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension and local agribusinesses. Admission is free.

For more details, see related articles in this issue of the *Lancaster Farming*.

**To Plan For Fall Feeding**

Early fall signals the time most beef cows in Pennsylvania will be at the lowest feed requirement for the year, according to Chester Hughes, extension livestock agent.

This means there may be some ways to lower feed costs and save expensive hay or stockpile pastures.

Some feeding alternatives to consider are:

- Use stalk or stubble fields to extend fall grazing. Allow about one-fourth acre per cow and increase acreage weekly. Failure to limit acreage will result in poor

land Fairgrounds, 11 a.m. Penn State Income Tax Institute, Holiday Inn, Allentown, thru Nov. 8.

**Wednesday, November 8**

1995 National FFA Convention, Kansas City, Mo., thru Nov. 11.

DPC 26th Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Carrier Circle, East Syracuse, N.Y., thru Nov. 10. Animal Housing Expo, Lebanon Fairgrounds, Lebanon, thru Nov. 9.

Notheast Greenhouse Seminar, Luzerne County Community College Center, Nanticoke, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Southeast Regional Christmas Tree Growers meeting, Morgan Auditorium, Schuylkill Haven, 7 p.m.

Agronomy Ag Service School, Days Inn, Meadville, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Westmoreland County Farm-City Dinner, Mountain View Inn, Greensburg, 7 p.m.

Dairy Feed Industry Seminar, Ramada Hotel, Altoona,

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use of the field.

- Use your worst quality hay first. You may wish to limit grazing for a few weeks and feed the poorer quality hay.

- Graze older cows behind younger cows with calves or newly weaned calves in a pasture rotation.

- Use some food by-products. Apple pomace is a good cow feed either fresh or ensiled, but do not add urea to it. Potato chips and bakery wastes are good sources of energy, but cows will still need a lot of fiber. Fresh vegetables are fine, but with pregnant cows, watch for mold and protein levels in legumes.

**To Look For Frost Damage**

If temperatures reach freezing before corn or soybeans reach full maturity, damage will occur.

According to Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent, corn reaches maturity when the black layer is formed at the base of the kernel. Soybeans reach maturity when the bean pods are no longer

green. At maturity, neither crop will accumulate any more dry matter.

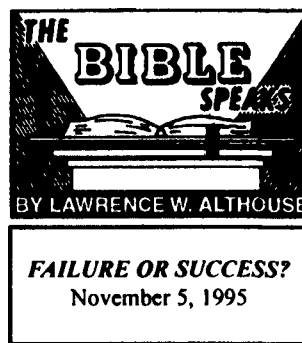
Frost before maturity will reduce both quality and yields. The characteristics of frost damaged corn include small and misshapen soft kernels, pithy kernel, and breakage of a high percentage of kernels.

Low test weight: below 45 pounds per bushel will result in low protein levels and low digestibility. Green beans are often difficult to extract oil from and the oil content is reduced.

The best use of frosted corn is animal feed. However, it should be tested and diets reformulated. Fungi are often a problem and should be checked for in storage. Expect storage time to be reduced by as much as 50 percent.

Livestock feed may be the best use for immature soybeans. Processors will discount for green soybeans based on the color definition in U.S. Grades.

*Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "When we combine forces, we multiply our chances of success."*



**FAILURE OR SUCCESS?**  
November 5, 1995

**Background Scripture:**

Acts 13 through 14

**Devotional Reading:**

Acts 13:13-26

When I was younger — when in fact, I knew everything — I thought I pretty well knew what was success and what was failure. Today, however, I realize that much that I thought was successful wasn't, and often what I thought was failure turned out to be something else. In fact, I seem to have learned that, not only is it difficult sometimes to tell the one from the other, but that neither is nearly so important as I once thought.

Vince Lombardi, the great football coaching immortal, is said to have remarked, "Whoever said, 'It doesn't matter whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game,' couldn't have been a coach." To a large degree, he was right: football coaches get hired to win victories and fired when they have too many defeats. As one who started his journalistic career as a sports writer, I know that school alumni and professional football clubs are much concerned about how their teams play the game if they lose it!

**PLUS AND MINUS**

But that doesn't mean that living by that perspective makes for successful living. Some of the unhappiest people I have known are those who have been professionally and economically successful. Correspondingly, I have known lots of people who never achieved professional prominence or economic prosperity and yet in my eyes were very successful as human beings.

When I read Paul and Barnabas' report on their first missionary journey to the Christian congregation at Antioch, I was interested to see how they would report their experiences. In secular terms, the mission was not a resounding success. They had been driven out of Antioch of Pisidia

(another Antioch); at Iconium they were soundly opposed and they fled for their lives; at Lystra they were initially wildly successful but eventually stoned and expelled from the city. In some of the cities they had caused deep divisions in the Jewish community itself, and sometimes between Jews and Gentiles. On the plus-side, there were many people who gladly heard and responded to their message; some churches were established.

Paul and Barnabas, standing up to report to the people of Antioch, the church that had sent them out, might have complained bitterly about the way they were treated on their journey, the hardships they had to endure, the fickleness of the populations. But, the writer of Acts says their report was definitely upbeat: "And when they arrived, they gathered the church together and declared all that God had done with them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles" (14:27,28).

**OBSTACLES OR DOORS?**

Note: not a word about whether they had succeeded or failed in their mission. The negative experiences they had along the way were interpreted, not as obstacles or defeats, but as a "door" opened to them by God. The way they "played the game" had actually been of more importance than whether someone decided that they had lost or won. The "way they played the game" was one of obedience to the task, even in the face of hostility and defeat.

Later, writing to the Corinthians, Paul saw his work from this perspective, not in terms of success or failure: "I planted, Apollos waters, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth" (I Cor. 3:6,7). We do what we can and leave to God the questions of ultimate success or failure. Obedience, not success, is what we're called to.

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