

# Wenger Receives Delp Award, Lancaster Century Farms Named

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1995 winner. Melvin Wenger, 82, founder of Wenger Feeds, Rheems, began his business career upon graduation in 1935 with a grocery store in Elizabethtown and became one of the first to offer self-service. With this background, in 1944, Wenger bought a feed mill and in 1962 built one of the first egg layer complexes.

Over the years, the business grew, and today a son and three sons-in-law, along with more than 200 employees, manufacture bulk feed with emphasis on the egg layer business. Wenger's lifetime support of agriculture was recognized by the presentation of the Delp award.

John Schwartz, director, Lancaster County extension service, introduced the 125th and 126th century farms in the county.

The Woerth farm, located at Nickel Mines in Bart Twp. is owned by Hazel Woerth. This 46.6 acre farm was purchased by George Woerth, Mrs. Woerth's father-in-law, in 1895. The log and stone house on the farm was built in

1758. The Nissley farm, located near Mount Joy, was purchased by Samuel Nissley in 1795, making it a bicentennial farm. The current owners, Darwin and Bernard Nissley, purchased the 150 acre cattle farm from their father John in 1993. Two-hundred years ago records show that the farm was purchased for \$41.92 per acre.

Dr. David Kohl, professor of ag finance and small business and entrepreneurship at Virginia Polytech, gave the keynote address.

spends only 10 to 12 percent of their income for food. That's down from 19 percent in 1979."

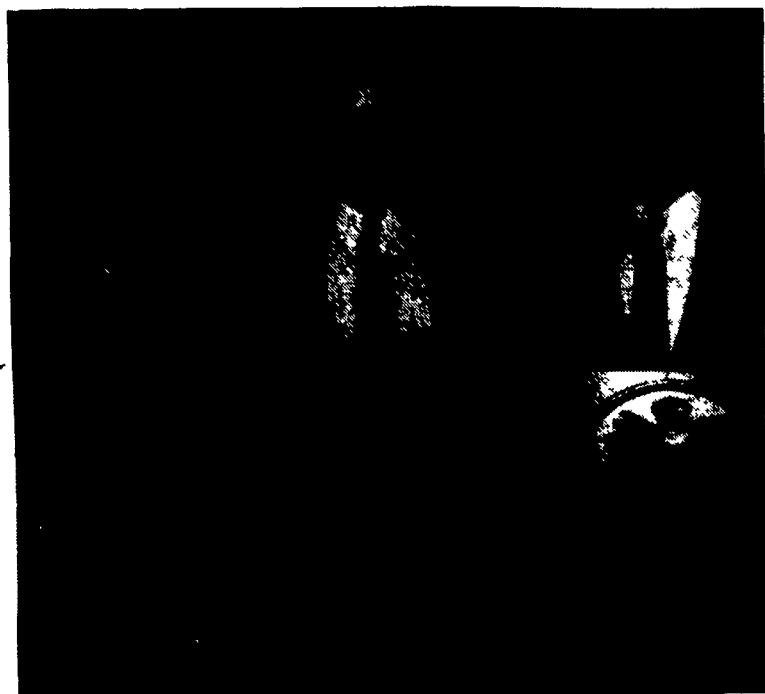
As a university professor, Kohl said that one-third of his students did not need to be in college. "We are pushing our kids into college too fast," he said. "We need to encourage vocational and technical schools because if you look at the next century, only 28 percent of all jobs will need a college degree. You will need to look for a lifetime education to be competitive and to succeed."

**"We do a lot of bellyaching in this country. And we have some of the largest bellies to bellyache, with the least to bellyache about in the world."—Dr. David Kohl**

He said that to manage the changes in agriculture, farmers needed to not only look for profit, they need to also manage prosperity.

"We need to market the benefits of agriculture," Kohl said. "The people would not have all the other things if they had to spend more for food. In reality, the average family

"Make sure you share and teach as part of your business or you will end up destroying your business. Bring young people in earlier. Manage your time. Don't spend too much time on the job, or your health will go, both physical and mental health; your business will go down and your family will go



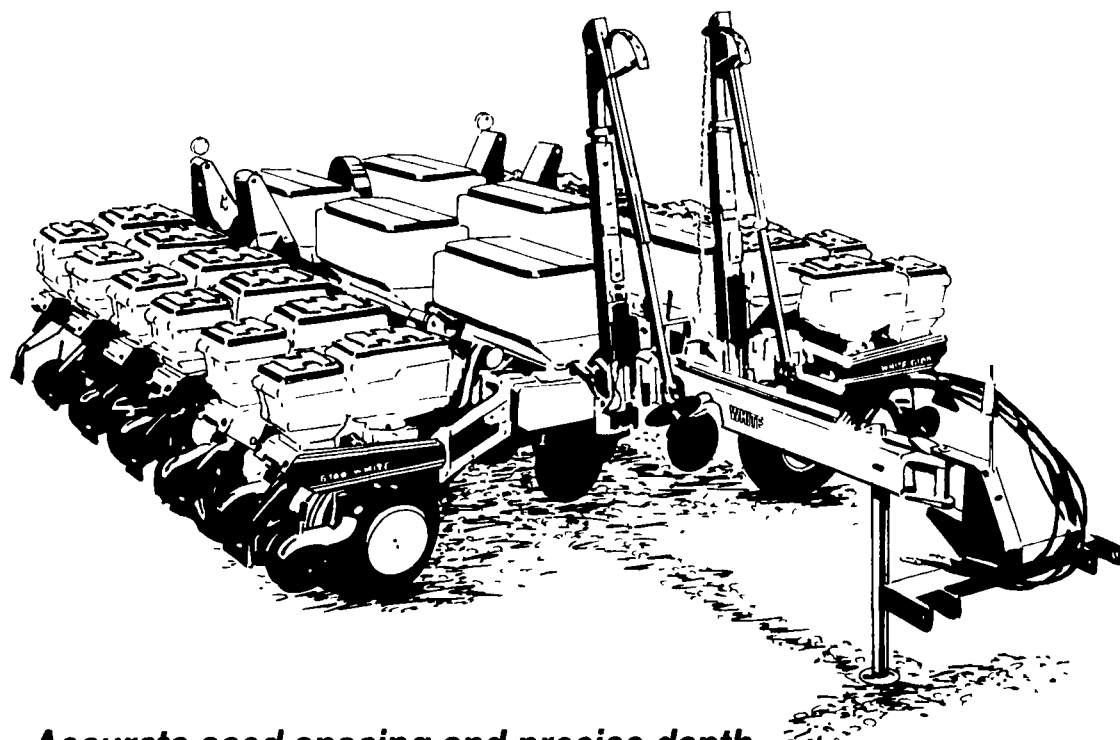
Lancaster Century farm award winners, from left, Hazel Woerth, Nickel Mines; and Darwin and Bernard Nissley, Mt Joy.

down. There is nothing like seeing a family succeed. You can measure your success through your family.

"We honor the people who supply us with the bounty of food and with the bounty of employment. We do a lot of bellyaching in this

country. And we have some of the largest bellies to bellyache, with the least to bellyache about in the world. The message we need to tell is: we have a very efficient agriculture."

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