

# Amish In Lancaster County Buying Farms

(Continued from Page B2)

every farm transaction in Lancaster County involving an Amish party represented a gain or retention for the Amish. The Amish lost no farms during these two years.

- Of Amish to Amish transactions, 47% were family sales. Of Mennonite to Mennonite transactions, only 12% were family sales.

- Of all farm sales in Lancaster County since 1984, 8% were family sales among the Amish.

- The Amish are buying larger farms (average of 76 acres) and selling smaller farms (average of 70 acres). Progressive Plain Groups and the English are buying farms smaller than those they are selling.

- Corporations are paying the highest price for farmland at \$11,379 per acre. The average for Traditional Plain Groups is \$5,288, for Progressive Plain Groups \$5,477, and for Unidentified \$6,498.

**Table 2**  
Acres gained and lost, 1984-1994.

Group	Acres
<b>Traditional Plain Groups</b>	
Amish	+10,564
Weaverland	+2,133
Groffdale	+214
<b>Total</b>	<b>+12,911</b>
<b>Progressive Plain Groups</b>	
Mennonite	-2,215
Brethren	-1,406
<b>Total</b>	<b>-3,621</b>
English	-405
Corporations	+1,660
Unidentified	-10,575

**Table 3**  
Value (in \$) of land gained and lost, 1984-1994

Group	Value
<b>Traditional Plain Groups</b>	
Amish	+\$64,546,040
Weaverland	+\$13,032,630
Groffdale	+\$1,307,540
<b>Total</b>	<b>+\$78,886,210</b>
<b>Progressive Plain Groups</b>	
Mennonites	-\$13,533,650
Brethren	-\$8,590,660
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,124,310</b>
English	-\$2,474,550
Corporations	+\$18,889,140

For more information, call (717) 361-1301, FAX 361-1487, or E-mail KANAGYCL@VAX.ETOWN.EDU.

**Table 1**  
Farms gained and lost, 1984-1994.

Group	Farms
<b>Traditional Plain Groups</b>	
Amish	+124
Weaverland	+25
Groffdale	+5
<b>Total</b>	<b>+154</b>
<b>Progressive Plain Groups</b>	
Mennonite	-25
Brethren	-13
<b>Total</b>	<b>-30</b>
English	+4
Corporations	+26
Unidentified	-146

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# Curb The Urge To Splurge

**LANCASTER** (Lancaster Co.)—Many of us splurge during the holidays, not just on gifts, but on parties, decorations, cards, and food. The result is not only empty pockets, but often exhaustion and frustration. We need to re-evaluate what the holidays mean to us.

Families need to sit down together and set priorities for holiday activities. Do you need to mail all those cards or bake three extra batches of cookies? Complete only as many things as you can do comfortably. Congratulate yourself for what you've accomplished rather than agonizing about what you haven't done.

Families also need to set realistic expectations about gifts. Stores, television commercials and magazine advertisements start the Christmas push earlier and earlier each year. Do you need to buy gifts for everyone? Maybe you could draw names with

friends and relatives. Set a price limit for gifts and have everyone agree in advance.

If you shop with your children, don't try to accomplish as much as you could do alone. Take your children shopping with you once or twice as a family activity to see the decorations and shop for one or two things. If you plan to do a lot of shopping, it may be worthwhile to hire a baby-sitter or exchange baby-sitting services with a neighbor.

Buy gifts thoughtfully. Will the gift last? Can it be recycled or repaired? Use your creativity to make gifts. Make use of your own talents such as baking, jelly making, weaving, sewing or wreath making. Give a coupon book of favors to be redeemed throughout the year. This can reduce cost as well as make for a more meaningful gift. Another good gift is a donation in the person's name to a local charity or church group.



## Bobcat 7753 Long-Wheelbase Skid-Steer Loader

### It's What's Inside That Counts!



**Swingout Tailgate** - one side engine and engine components service. Easy access to oil cooler and radiator (which are well protected). No need to raise lift arms.

**Operator Friendly.** You'll find the 7753 offers easy operator entry/exit into a roomy cab.

**Easy-to-use foot pedals** control loader hydraulic functions, while two steering levers allow precise maneuverability.

**Durable axles!** Bobcat 7753 axles are solidly built then specially heat treated. Axle Bearings NEVER need greasing because a sealed oil bath keeps them lubricated. New axle hub design protects axle seal from damage from wire or twine. Hub is easily removed if service is required.

**Dependable drive chains** that NEVER need adjusting. The "bow tie" design uses prestressed, heavy-duty drive chains in two short continuous loops per side. That means long-life in the most rugged use and NO periodic, time-consuming drive chain adjustments.

#### Experience America's Best.

Melroe company has over 30 years of skid-steer loader experience - longer than anyone else. That's one of the reasons *Fortune Magazine* has twice recognized the Bobcat loader as one of the 100 products "America Builds Best."

#### Reliable Components.

Other than a few daily checks and fills, you can rely on the PERFORMANCE of the 7753 Bobcat. It has been designed and built with durability and low maintenance in mind.

#### Great Serviceability!

The Bobcat 7753 has been designed to be serviced quickly. For example, there's single-side access to the transversely-mounted engine, a lift-out oil cooler for easy cleaning and a tip-up cab to expose hydraulic and hydrostatic components. For repairs, the exclusive BOSS® System can help quickly diagnose system problems. These features, along with a factory-trained service technicians and "top-shelf" parts availability, mean your loader can be back on the job in no time.



#### TOTAL HAND CONTROL! Dealer-Installed Option!

- Easy Wrist-Action Control.
- Push-Button Auxiliary Hydraulics For Total Hand Control. (Available only on 50 Series loaders. 40 Series loaders utilize foot pedal to activate auxiliary hydraulics.)
- Easy-Grip Handle.

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