

# Lancaster Farming

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## Blizzard Cripples East Coast, But Show Goes On

# 1996 Pennsylvania Farm Show In Review

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — "For many years many of us will be talking about the 1996 Farm Show," state Secretary of

Agriculture Charles Brosius told the audience of the livestock sale Thursday in the Small Arena of the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg.

Brosius was talking about the

effects of two feet or more of snow that smothered central, southcentral and southeastern Pennsylvania Sunday into Monday in one of the heaviest winter storms on record. Gov. Tom Ridge, who opened

the Farm Show in ceremonies on Saturday and who returned Tuesday to tour and help present the supreme dairy cow honors (perhaps setting a recent history record for attendance by a state governor), declared a state of emergency Sunday evening that eventually stretched until 6 a.m. Tuesday.

No vehicles — except for those used for emergency or snow removal services — were permitted on state roads during the state

of emergency.

Most of the areas affected were still not shoveled out by Tuesday, as two feet or more locked communities in a tight grip.

Airlines were shut down along the East Coast. And in Harrisburg, many were stranded at the airport.

While state crews worked to clear state roads across the affected counties, snow removal equipment of local municipalities was pressed

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Presenting the supreme champion award in the Farm Show dairy to Steve Wagner, Quarryville, in Lancaster County, are from left, Charles Brosius, Pennsylvania agriculture secretary, Wagner with SV Toptin Lopy, Gov. Tom Ridge, and Rhonda Kieklak, Pennsylvania Dairy Princess.

## Wagner's Jersey Supreme Champion

**EVERETT NEWSWANGER**  
Managing Editor  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The stylish grand champion of the Jersey breed walked into the blue-green winner's circle to become the supreme champion of the dairy show at the 1996 Pennsylvania Farm Show Wednesday afternoon. SV Toptin Lopy, VG-89 headed the three year-old

class and went on to the top for Steve Wagner, Quarryville, Lancaster County.

For the first time anyone could remember, a Pennsylvania governor returned to the Farm Show later in the week after the opening ceremonies. Gov. Tom Ridge was on hand to make the presentation, along with Charles Brosius, Pennsylvania agriculture secretary,

and Rhonda Kieklak, Pennsylvania Dairy Princess.

This was the first time at the Farm Show for Lopy, but she had placed well as a heifer at the Jersey All-American. Her 2y record reads, 17,600m 870m 658p. The winner's sire is Hoosier Valley Just Topin, and her dam is Beacon Lecann of SV.

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Melanie Bow-Horchler won supreme champion wool breeds at the Farm Show with the Corriedale spring ewe lamb. Christian Herr, Pennsylvania deputy secretary made the award presentation. See story page A27.



A \$26,000 record price paid for a grand champion steer in the Farm Show Junior Livestock Sale of Champions is established. From the left, Casey High holds the halter of his grand champion market steer Ziggy, standing with Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brosius, Miss Pennsylvania Lynette Mertz, and buyer Bill Campbell, CEO of Hoss's Steak and Sea House. See story on page A28.



Gov. Ridge officially opens the 1996 (80th) Farm Show. See story page A32.