# Penn State Agents Honored

ANNEX WELLSBORO (Tioga Co.) — Several members of Penn State University's Cooperative Extension staff are amont 84 agents in the United States who received distinguished service awards recently at the annual meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in Nashville, Tenn.

This is the 58th year that the National Association of County Agricultural Agents has awarded the distinguished service honor and, in that time, 5,764 agents have received this award.

Those honored were William Kleiner, Adams, Franklin and York extension agent, and Carol Schurman, Indiana County extension agent.

According to J. Craig Williams, Tioga County extension agent and state recognition and awards committee chair, the two agents were cited for "outstanding educational contributions accomplishments."

The awards program high-

lighted the annual meeting where more than 1,800 extension agents and guests convened in September to review their responsibilities as educators and attend professional improvement workshops.

Kleiner has been a member of the extension staff for almost 15 years. He was instrumental in the development of a consumer educational program on fruit production in southcentral Pennsylvania, which included his video, "The All American Apple." He also developed an extensive program on the proper and safe use of ag chemicals to protect the environment and applicator. He has provided leadership to the fruit industry in intensive orcharding, integrated pest management, fruit cultivar evaluation, orchard expert systems, and government regulations.

Schurman has been a member of the extension staff for 18 years. She has developed innovative 4-H programs, with 4-H enrollment increasing 104 percent. She intro-

duced 4-H embryology to schools with enrollment of 700 in 30 classrooms. Her programs have enabled 140 members and leaders to participate in national 4-H events. She formed coalitions with other youth groups, and initiated day camps in agricultural science ad environmental awareness. Schurman's communications programs have taught hundreds of youth about presentations, speaking, and making good impressions.

Also honored were Alan Strock, Lancaster and Chester extension agent, and Jeffrey Fowler, Venango County extension agent.

The award recognizes agents with less than 10 years of service to cooperative extension.

Srock has been a member of the extension staff for eight years. He provides farm management leadership in Chester, Lancaster, and southern Berks counties. He led and organized three of the four top-rated Dairy MAP programs in 1995. His mission is to increase farmers' profitability and efficiency and make the transition of farm assets and management skills to little cost. Strock's activities include FINPACK, estate planning, farm transfer, farm taxation, business structure selection, risk management and profit maximization.

Fowler has been a member of the extension staff for 71/2 years. He was instrumental in the development of the northwest Pennsylvania 4-H livestock program. He

### Pet Food Joint

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Agway Inc. announced that it has formed a joint venture, together with five other prominent agricultural cooperative organizations, to manufacture pet food and related

The joint venture participants, along with Agway, are Countrymark Cooperative, Inc.; Growmark, Inc.; Land O'Lakes, Inc.; Southern States Cooperative, Inc.; and Tennessee Farmers Cooperative. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

The joint venture will purchase the assets of the pet food manufacturing and distribution business of has developed a strong program advisory committee in the region that has initiated educational programs to increase knowledge of basic livestock production and introduce youth to the diversity of careers available to them in the field of agriculture.

In addition, his program area includes adult agriculture in Venango County, where he is the county extension director.

#### Venture Forms

Agway which consists primarily of a pet food manufacturing facility in St. Marys, Ohio.

The joint venture will operate as a limited liability company under the name Pro-Pet, L.L.C. Its products will include the well known brands currently manufactured and distributed by Agway including Big Red® dog food, Li'l Red® cat food, and the Pro-Pet® premium line of dog and cat

Each of the joint venture members has agreed to bring a volume of business to the venture to support its operations.



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