

\$1.66 Top Price Both Auctions Wednesday

Auctions Open As Sellers Look For High Tobacco Prices



In Paradise, Eric Probst stopped the sale after attempts to coax a selling price of at least \$1.75 per pound of Maryland 609 type tobacco out of the buyers proved futile. Mitch "Snake" Ashby from Burlington, N.C., in center in white jacket, was auctioneer.

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
PARADISE (Lancaster Co.) — "We have to stick together," Eric Probst told 400 tobacco sellers and six buyers about 10 minutes into the auction here Monday, when Probst stopped the bidding.

Probst stopped the sale after attempts to coax a selling price of at least \$1.75 per pound of Maryland 609 type tobacco out of the buyers proved futile. Mitch "Snake" Ashby from Burlington, N.C. was auctioneer.
At the start of Monday's sale in

Paradise, a portion of a row sold to the Paradise Auction for \$1.80 per pound. There were about 340,000 pounds on the floor at the beginning of the auction, according to Probst.

In recent weeks, many tobacco
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At Kirkwood on Monday afternoon, Mac Burnette, auctioneer from Clarksville, Va. (in center with black baseball cap) began selling 150,000 pounds of Maryland Type 609. There were about 100 growers ready to sell and about five buyers present, according to Mike Bailey, owner/operator and sales manager of Farmer's Tobacco Warehouse at the Kirkwood Auction, in white baseball cap.



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Paul Shipper
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Elizabeth Anderson
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Mike Dixon
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Fred Dixon
412-346-3455



Lisa Francisco Sonnen
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Frank Hunter
716-595-3954



Mike Fullam
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