

**All Gardens  
Great & Small**  
by  
York Co.  
Horticultural Agent  
**Tom Becker**



**Disease Resistant Apples**

*Apple scab showed up on my apple trees this month. Is there a non-chemical solution?*

Delicious and York Imperial are Pennsylvania's two leading apples in commercial orchards. In the backyard, disease resistant cultivars, new strains and varieties make growing apples even more attractive. Look for apples with names like Williams Pride, Red-free, Freedom and NovaMac.

First buy a dwarf apple tree that takes up little space in the yard. They can be trained to a fence or stand on their own. You can prune them, pick them, and spray them without leaving the ground.

Many newer apple varieties have resistance to the most serious disease that plagues apple growers. That disease is apple scab. Apple scab starts when the first buds break in the spring and continues to disfigure leaves and fruit all year-long. Apple scab makes corky spots on the fruit, makes

leaves drop prematurely and really discourages the backyard orchardist.

Repeated fungicide spraying can control apple scab, but even this often fails to prevent scab from getting on apples.

Several fine apple varieties don't need a fungicide sprayed for scab. In fact, most of these varieties also resist fire blight, powdery mildew and cedar apple rust as well. You'll still have to combat a few insect problems, but with the major diseases out of the way, growing apples becomes much easier.

Many of these varieties have familiar parents like McIntosh so you can buy them with the confidence that they'll taste good. Many mail order nurseries or garden centers now carry these disease-resistant apple trees. Look for the fruit at farmer's markets and roadside stands

•Dayton: fruit is large and glossy red. Tree is vigorous with upright growing habit.

•Enterprise: produces red to orangish fruit on a high-vigor tree. Fruit is large and lop-sided with a cream-colored flesh. It is the latest-maturing scab-resistant apple.

•Freedom: fruit are large and red but ripens unevenly. Does not store well. Ripens in late September.

•Gold Rush: a late-maturing, scab-resistant Golden delicious-type apple. Fruit is medium size with a rich, spicy flavor.

•Jona Free: resembles Jonathan in size, shape and color. Flesh is pale yellow and hard. Good dessert quality. Ripen in early October.

•Liberty: a good late summer of fall dessert apple; also for sauce or juice. Medium sized dark red fruit with bright red stripe.

•Nova Mac: Tastes and looks like a McIntosh. Fruit is firm, crisp, and juicy. Ripen in early October.

•Prima: Good to fair fruit quality; juicy white flesh. Ripen in September.

•Priscilla: Good to fair fruit quality; medium sized, conical apple with bright red blush over yellow background. Ripens in early October.

•Redfree: early ripening; medium sized bright red apple; ripens in late August. Tree wood is very brittle and weak.

•Sir Prize: a yellow, golden apple with very good flavor, extremely susceptible to bruising due to thin skin.

•Williams Pride: an early maturing apple with good to

## Tonight Is Lancaster County Dairy Princess Pageant

LANCASTER (Lanc. Co.) — The Lancaster County Dairy Princess Pageant will be held Saturday evening, June 14 at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center. The event includes a reception at 7:00 p.m., followed by the pageant at 7:30 p.m.

Two young ladies will be vying for the crown: Elizabeth Anna Smith, daughter of Thomas and Dale Smith of Denver, and Megan Good, daughter of Leon and Linda Good of Marietta. Elizabeth is studying communications at the Penn State Berks Campus. Megan attends Donegal High School and aspires to major in zoology.

Each contestant will present a short promotional skit and respond to impromptu questions. They will be judged on their personality, their knowledge of dairy and their ability to express themselves on their feet. Throughout the year, the dairy princess and alternate will represent the county's dairy industry at various functions and promotional events as well as informing youth about the merits of eating a balanced diet.

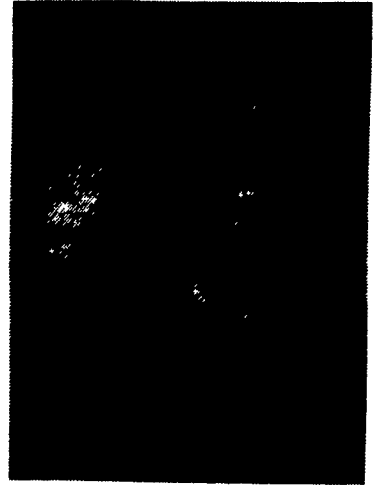
The evening will conclude with the recognition of this year's Dairies of Distinction.



Elizabeth Smith

excellent flavor. May ripen unevenly.

Any questions regarding the above article can be addressed to Tom Becker, Penn State Cooperative Extension at (717) 840-7408.



Megan Good

June <sup>REAL</sup> Dairy month

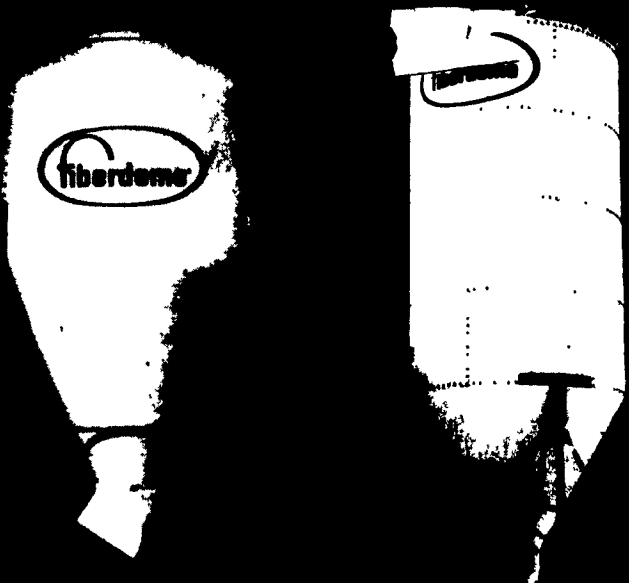


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