

Total Value Of Pennsylvania's Livestock On The Rise After Two-Year Decline

MIDDLETOWN (Dauphin Co.) — The total value of all livestock in Pennsylvania is on the rise after a two-year decline and Lancaster County is leading the way.

The Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg reports the total value of livestock in the Commonwealth, including cattle, hogs and sheep was \$1.38 billion at the end of 1996, an increase from \$1.36 billion at the end of the previous year.

Lancaster County continues to be the center of farming activity in the state, leading in the number of

cattle, milk cows, hog farms and sheep.

"The growing success of Lancaster County farmers is due to the vision of local farmers and their long-term commitment to their agricultural enterprises," said Jim Shirk, Agricultural Services manager for the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce.

Statistics compiled by Data Center show 33,000 Pennsylvania farms reporting cattle inventory in 1996, a number unchanged for the fourth consecutive year.

Cattle inventory in the Com-

monwealth totaled 1.75 million on Jan. 1, 1997. This was a 2.3 percent decrease from the previous year's total of 1.79 million. Among the states, Pennsylvania tied Idaho for 17th in cattle inventory. Lancaster County was the state leader with 241,000 head, followed by Franklin with 103,000 and Bradford with 86,500.

Pennsylvania again ranked fourth in milk cows at the start of 1997. Again, Lancaster County had the most milk cows (96,000) followed by Franklin County (45,000) and Bradford County

(32,000). Pennsylvania cows produced 16,522 pounds of milk per cow for a total of 10,640 pounds. This production, in 1996, was valued at more than \$1.667 million.

There were 950,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms at the end of 1996. Although the inventory decreased 50,000 from 1995 to 1996, the total value of Pennsylvania's hog and pig inventory increased by \$22,100,000 to \$93,000,000.

The state has witnessed a continuing decline in the number of hog and pig farms, with the most

recent yearly decline of 400 farms from 1995 to 1996. Currently, the number of hog and pig operations stands at 5,100 statewide, ranking Pennsylvania 13th nationally. Lancaster County had the most hog farms (695) followed by York (220) and Berks (205). Lancaster County also had the largest pig and hog inventory (315,000 head) followed by Lebanon County (73,000 head) and York County (68,000 head).

The sheep and lamb inventory, as of Jan. 1, 1997, totaled 94,000, down 12 percent from 1996. Pennsylvania's flocks included 81,000 breeding sheep and lambs and 13,000 market sheep and lambs. The total value of this livestock stood at \$10.3 million at the end of 1996. It is estimated that 3,100 farms in Pennsylvania raised sheep and lambs with almost 400 of them in Lancaster County. Among the states, Pennsylvania ranks 19th in sheep and lamb inventory, down from 17th in 1995. Washington County had the largest sheep and lamb inventory, 8,300 head, as of Jan. 1, 1997, with Greene County second at 6,400 and Lancaster County third with 4,700.

The state-sponsored Pennsylvania State Data Center is the Commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics and services. It is based in Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs.

Cloning, Other Biotechnology Applications To Benefit Agriculture

MILWAUKEE, WIS. — Cloning and other biotechnology advances are tools farmers can use to produce more uniform and consistent food products.

That's according to Dr. Denny Funk, director of product development for ABS Global, Inc., a provider of bovine reproductive services and technologies.

Funk recently spoke at the 1997 National Agricultural Bankers Conference in Milwaukee.

"Biotechnology, and specifically cloning, has the real potential of helping producers

improve the efficiency and profitability of their operation while enabling them to produce meat and grain products that better meet the demands of consumers," said Funk. He was one of four speakers on a panel that discussed the current state of biotechnology. Approximately 60 people attended the biotechnology session.

Earlier this year, ABS Global introduced to the world a healthy bull calf named "Gene" produced from its proprietary cloning technology. Gene was the world's first cloned calf.

According to Funk, Gene was developed from a unique cloning technique using stem cells, a process different than what was used to produce Dolly, the first cloned sheep. "ABS' cloning technology duplicates adult animals much more efficiently than other techniques," said Funk. "Our procedure also allows us to make an infinite number of copies of the animal."

Funk and other panel members noted that biotechnology advances will help "close the loop," leading to more vertical integrated operations that could

benefit smaller operations. Biotechnology will enable average farmers to produce consistent products and products for specific end uses that have often in the past been associated with large integrated operations. Biotechnology may also make it easier to bring value-added products to market.

Funk also noted that consistent dairy and beef products would help stabilize prices farmers receive for their products.

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TUESDAY, JAN. 13, 1998 - 10 A.M.**

**BROTHER'S RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT
6610 HASBROOK RD. - BUILDING #9
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

Meat Mixers & Grinders, Hobart Mixers, Hollymatic Grinders, Frylators, Rotisserie Ovens, Toasters, Electronic Scales, Blodgett Pizza Ovens, Butcher Boy Vertical Band Saws, Coffee Machines & Dispensers, Meat Slicers, New Bread Slicers, Juice Machines, Portable Grill, Chairs, Table Tops, Triple Bowl Sinks, Gleneco, Jordan, Federal Refrigeration Cases, Cleveland Convection Steamer, Rangers, SS Tables, Hot dog Machine, Food Warmers, Snow Cone Machine, Coin Counter, Soup Dispensers, Deli & Bakery Cases, Heated Holding Cabinets, 36 Pocket Divider, Sam Stacker Slicer, SS Pans, Strainers, Moline Bakery Sheeter, Flour Box, Donut Displays, Salad Bars, Bakery Racks, Bagel Former

INSPECTION: MONDAY, JANUARY 12 - 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.
TERMS: CASH OR CERTIFIED FUNDS - 25%
DEPOSIT REQ. (\$100.00 MIN) 10% BUYERS PREMIUM

**RESTURANT EQUIPMENT
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14, 1998 - 11 A.M.**

**DINER ON THE SQUARE
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Manitowoc Ice Cub Machine, 9 Freezers, 2 Refrigerators, 2 Fryers, Grill Convection Oven, Microwave Ovens 2 Toasters, Dessert Display Case, Milk Dispenser, Stainless Steel Tables, Pot Sink, 2 Milk Shake Machines, Omelette Stove, Sandwich Unit w/Lid Tables, Chairs, Pots, Pans, Silverware, Glassware, China, Pictures, 2 Cash Registers, Phone System "Spirit" AT&T, Time Clock Etc

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All contracted tobacco must be delivered by
Monday, January 12th, 1997.

This tobacco should be graded into 3 grades. (Tips, Middles, and Bottoms). Any green leaves, damaged, diseased, or shed burnt leaves should be picked out to be baled separately into outgrade bales. There are no exceptions!

If you do not have a contract with us, call us at either location on Tues., January 13 for any delivery instructions we may have. Please grade your tobacco in 3 grades as well. It will make a difference.

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NEW HOLLAND SALES STABLES

January 21, 1998

30 Cows and 27 Heifers All Registered

Herd Average 21,200 3.8 BF 3.2P

Cows Are Milking 74 Lbs. Per Day Average
13 Milking 2 Yrs...Heifers are 24 Months Old
Down to 1 Month Old Calves....
Top Sire Used in This Herd For Many Years
Herd has been Established Over 35 years...
Cattle are in top condition, and were classified
in Sept. 1997...Milk Weights, Milk Transfers,
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See Next Weeks Ad For More Details...

Owner:
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NEW HOLLAND SALES STABLES

SPECIAL HORSE AND MULE SALE

January 23, 1998

Sale time 10:00 A.M.

Tack Sale 9:00 A.M.

"Many Special Loads Will be Selling"

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Have your Horses and Mules At
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Send your recommendations
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Our Next Sale will be Feb. 6, 1998

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