

Lancaster Farming

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Part II: Nutrient Management Proposals Challenge Farming

(This is the second installment in a report on proposed changes to national rules to protect the nation's water supplies through the Clean Water Act, and the issues and programs in Pennsylvania that may be affected by those proposals.)

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The ability for any farmer to spread animal manure on his

land is at risk, according to reports presented last week to the Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission Nutrient Management Advisory Board at a regular meeting in Harrisburg, and summaries of information available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The threat to traditional and even modern agricultural land applications of animal manure is coming from the Clinton Administration as a reaction to three

things: the phenomenon of integrated, high-density livestock production in the United States; a guessed connection between excessive soil and water phosphorus levels and a potentially danger-

ous, brackish water organism, *Pfiesteria piscicida*; and the belief that the highly visible agricultural sector is an uncontrolled and major contributor to long standing national problems with water

quality.

Last week's report on the presentations to the Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission's Nutrient Management Advisory

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Susquehanna County Dairy Day Draws More Than 800

CAROLYN N. MOYER
Bradford Co. Correspondent
ELK LAKE (Susquehanna Co.) — Both exhibitors and farmers agree that attending Susquehanna County Dairy Day is a positive experience and that positive feeling is reflected in the number of farmers and agribusiness people the event draws.

more than 800 farmers and agribusiness people attended the annual Susquehanna County Dairy Day held at Elk Lake High School recently.

He attributes much of their success to the fact that it is a group effort.

"It's a committee effort," said Place. "The committee puts a lot of work into it and a lot of effort. Ownership of Dairy Day goes to the committee."

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For his work as a salesman for no-till and conservation practices in the area, the Dauphin County Conservation District will honor David Woland as the Conservation Farmer of the Year at the district's banquet on April 2. Photo by Andy Andrews

Dauphin Conservation Farmer Sells No-Till

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
HALIFAX (Dauphin Co.) — Steep hills. Easily erodible land. Those two elements can work heartache into any conservation plan.

Often, great steps need to be taken — terracing, waterways,

contour cropping — to ensure soil doesn't end up down river.

But Dauphin County conservation farmer David Woland was sold on another idea years ago. No-till.

That simple practice of seeding and maintaining crops without cultivation has worked wonders on

soil conservation on farmland that he rents and as custom operator for several other farms in the Halifax and Enders regions of Dauphin County.

For his work as a salesman for no-till and conservation practices in the area, the Dauphin County

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Winners at the Maryland Holstein Convention, from left, Darren Remsburg, 1998 Maryland DJM winner; April Hall, overall record book trophy winner; and Amy Miller, 1998 Maryland DJM winner.

Maryland Holstein Convention Held In Timonium

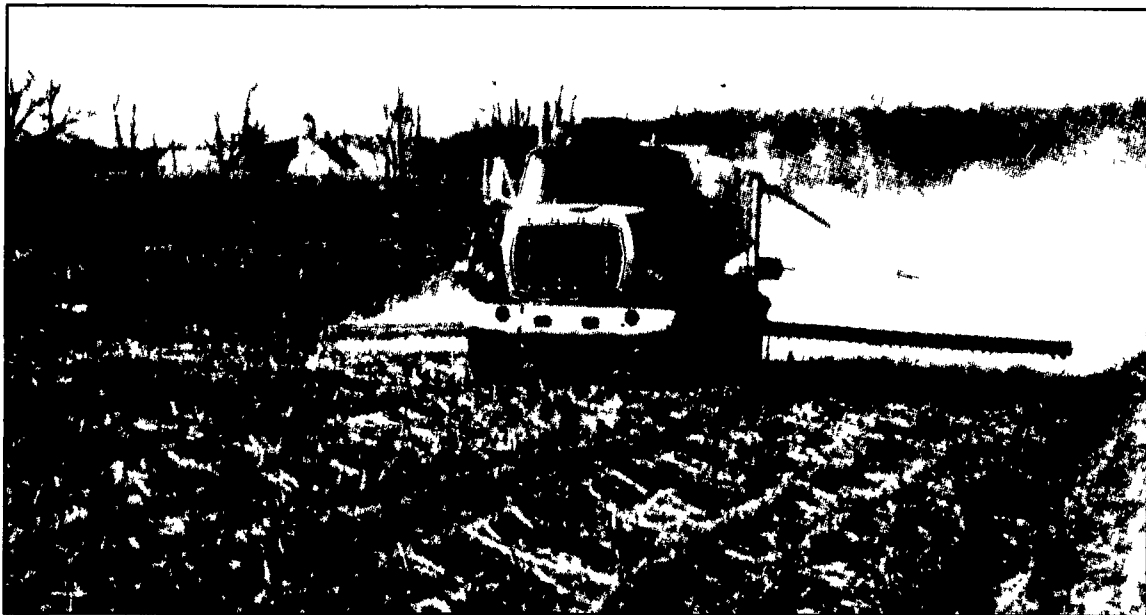
KAREN BUTLER
Maryland Correspondent

TIMONIUM, Md. — The Upper Chesapeake Holstein Club hosted this year's annual Maryland Holstein meeting and banquet. The meeting, held at the state fairgrounds in Timonium, marked a change in format from previous years, when the meeting was held in conjunction with the state sale.

This year the sale will be held the evening of April 9 at the fairgrounds.

Keynote speaker at the meeting was Dr. David Kohl, professor of agricultural finance and small business management and entrepreneurship at Virginia Tech. Dr. Kohl talked on megatrends in agriculture and family business transitions. He addressed the current state

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Early this week before the low pressure weather systems moved into the area from the west, farmers were busy getting a head start on spring work. Hauling manure and spreading lime and fertilizer were common operations in the fields. The cool weather has slowed pasture growth but the open winter helped bring on early rye pastures. In the photo, Paul Zimmerman spreads fertilizer in Isajah Millers' fields located along Forest Hill Road south of Brownstown off Route 772 in Lancaster County. The photographer caught up with this spreading operation late Tuesday afternoon just before the clouds completely covered the sun for the rest of the week. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.