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Lancaster Farming

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Seth Richards, from Petersburg in Huntingdon County, works with this group of elk cows born in 1994. They shed their winter coats in spring and have no upper teeth, except for two small tusks, possibly an indication of larger prehistoric tusks. These cows weigh between 500 and 800 pounds. Photo by Gail Strock, Mifflin Co. correspondent.

Elk Farming Gains As Alternate Enterprise In Pennsylvania

GAIL STROCK
 Mifflin Co. Correspondent
PETERSBURG (Huntingdon Co.) — How would you like to raise an animal whose nearly 30-pound antlers can be sold for \$38 to \$110 per pound; whose meat is right in line with today's market demands — low fat and low cholesterol; whose breed pastures more animals per acre than beef; and whose herd makes a great tourist attraction?

Ridge Elk Farm in Huntingdon County, Seth Richards and Nicole Auman welcomed 35 people to the meeting and to a tour of their elk handling facilities. Twelve people became members that night. The growing membership of the Pennsylvania association has reached 37. Membership in the North American Elk Breeders Association stands at 1,400.

These reasons and more are why the number of elk and elk enthusiasts in Pennsylvania is growing. The Pennsylvania Elk Breeders Association met to organize in March of 1996 at the Turkey

Seth Richards first became interested in elk after seeing a booth at Ag Progress Days in 1994. At the stand that day, he gleaned as much information as he could from elk farmers Ron Murphy of Potters Mills, Centre Coun-

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Poultry Fundraiser Features Performance By Mamas And Papas

ANDY ANDREWS
 Lancaster Farming Staff
HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Poultry Federation has seen its share of challenges: the avian influenza (A.I.) outbreak in the past year, food safety concerns, and Salmonella scares in the media. But for one night each year

industry members can celebrate their accomplishments with dinner and entertainment at the annual Pennsylvania Poultry Federation Fundraising Banquet at the Hershey Convention Center. Next Wednesday, April 22, the Federation will host about 1,100 poultry producers and agri-industry representatives, families,

and friends to the annual banquet. The evening begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. The Federation, which is already going through a merger with PennAg Industries, faced some tough decisions this year: not the least of which was who to have

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Maryland Adopts P-Based Nutrient Management

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
 Lancaster Farming Staff
ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The Maryland Legislature, as expected, on Monday approved a compromise legislative package

that mandates phosphorus-based nutrient management. According to Gov. Paris Glendening's press office, the governor is pleased with the adoption of the legislation, which is a result of a

proposal he made that was adopted by the Senate. The House had adopted a similar measure and in order to resolve the differences, the two measures were worked out in a conference committee comprised of members of both bodies of the state Legislature.

The Senate and House approved the recommendations of the conference committee after hashing out differences over the weekend, according to published reports. What the legislation means is that virtually all farms in Maryland are to be required to have nitrogen and phosphorus based nutrient management plans.

According to a summary of the conference committee report, for those farms using commercial fertilizer, nitrogen and phosphorus-based plans are to be created by Dec. 31, 2001, and implemented by Dec. 31, 2002.

For those using manures or sludge, a nitrogen-based plan must be created by Dec. 31, 2001 and implemented by Dec. 31, 2002; and also have a nitrogen and phosphorus-based plan created by July 1, 2004, and the plan implemented by July 1, 2005.

Farms are to be inspected for the (Turn to Page A33)



Ag advisory alumni from Kennard-Dale High School pitch in to help measure and lay out the design of a new teaching greenhouse. From left, Ella Hedrick, Kenneth Moore, Floyd Raffensberger, Marilyn Flaharty, and Paul Knight. Photo by Joyce Bupp, York Co. correspondent.

Alumni Effort Grows Ag Class Greenhouse

JOYCE BUPP
 York Co. Correspondent
FAWN GROVE (York Co.) — Ag science students at Kennard-Dale High School this year were facing a dilemma.

Their brand-new curriculum — with 10 students — focuses on studies including plants and plant growth, soils, pest management, as well as teaching the business principles of operating a greenhouse.

The dilemma: no greenhouse from which to operate. "So our ag advisory committee took it upon themselves to start a

fund-raising program among the alumni and area businesspeople," credits ag science teacher Jennifer Gabryluk.

That drive was successful and a \$5,000 greenhouse now stands in a courtyard in the center of the high school. In addition to raising monies, the ag alumni further pitched in with time and labor to help with the construction of the 20 x 40-foot, plastic-sheathed, quonset-style facility.

Just building the facility created another challenge. The school's courtyard is not accessible

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Titus Martin serves as a founding member and coordinator of the Franklin County Grazers. Read his remarks and a lot of other pertinent information in the special section *Foraging Around* newsletter of the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council in this issue. Photo by Andy Andrews.