

# Lancaster Farming

*J. H. Shi*

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## Dr. John Enck Heads PDA Animal Health, Diagnostic Bureau

**HARRISBURG** (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has announced several staffing changes, including the director of the state Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services, one of the most important programs to the productivity and safety of the state's livestock and pet industry, as well as human health.

John Enck Jr. VMD, of Dillsburg, has been named director of the Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services, replacing the retired Max Van Buskirk. Enck is to supervise the bureau and the state diagnostic laboratory, located adjacent to the state Agriculture Building in Harrisburg.

Enck is to also serve as executive director of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission, on which

he has served since the commission started up in 1988. Over the years, he has served as vice chairman and chairman of the AHDC's Laboratory Design Committee, which was formed to address the building needs for the new diagnostic laboratory in Harrisburg.

The diagnostic laboratory and updated equipment was needed in order for Pennsylvania to earn national testing accreditation to be able to conduct instate testing associated with the exporting and importing of agricultural animals, and diagnose and help control animal diseases.

State Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes said, "Animal agriculture is the cornerstone of Pennsylvania's No. 1 industry. Dr. Enck brings a wealth of experience as a veterinarian and as a leader in

the agricultural community, both on a state and national level. His familiarity with current animal health issues will be valuable as he begins his new position."

Hayes said that part of the goals

set for the Bureau and the diagnostic laboratory are expansion of efforts to provide efficient, effective service to all Pennsylvanians and to animal health professionals.

"I am interest in developing

even stronger relationships within the unique tripartite Pennsylvania Animal Diagnostic Laboratory System (PADLS), working cooperatively with the University

(Turn to Page A22)



Three generations of the Fritz family are active on the farm in New Windsor, Carroll County. Shown standing at the farm sign, from left to right, are Sharon and Daniel, George, and Jessica Fritz. In front is Jeffrey Fritz with "Rusty." Story page A32.

## Riding Program Provides Therapy For Disabled

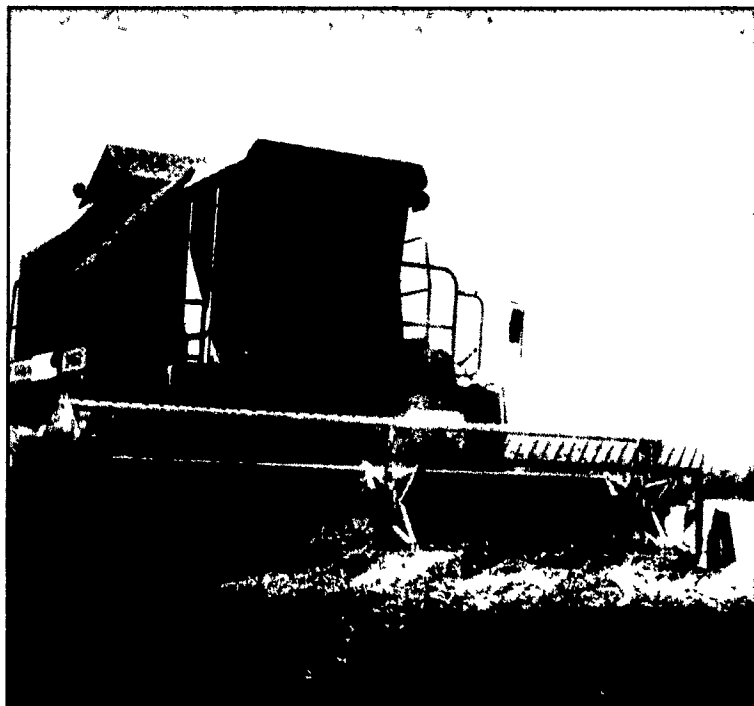
**ANDY ANDREWS**

Lancaster Farming Staff  
**LEACOCK** (Lancaster Co.) — For folks with handicaps, riding a horse can teach them many things. When the horse moves, children

riders with disabilities learn to evoke better control of their muscles. Warmth from the animal allows them a sense of comfort and puts them in touch with nature. A riding instructor, who walks

with the handicapped on one side, helps them learn to interact in new and profound ways with the horse itself, the sidewalker, and the leader.

(Turn to Page A28)



Farmers are having field days—days suitable to be in the fields—right on their own farms this week. After the storms of last week, field work progressed rapidly. According to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service, corn planting was near completion by the beginning of this week. That's slightly ahead of last year and the five-year average. Soybean planting was still behind the average. Adequate soil moisture and sunshine aided emergence of both the corn and soybean crops. Average corn height was six inches throughout the state.

Apple and peach conditions were rated mostly good to excellent. Reports indicate that a number of growers are experiencing an unusually heavy fruit crop.

The quality of hay cut was 83 percent good to excellent, 13 percent fair,



and four percent poor. Lack of rain and cool weather slowed growth of pastures. Overall, the condition of pastures has gradually declined over the past few weeks.

As shown in the photos, barley harvest has progressed nicely with many fields completed and grain-runs good to excellent except where storms affected the stands. Monday afternoon, Mervin Leid was running Frank Weaver's custom combine for Allen Newswanger (no relation to the editor) along Hoover Avenue just south of Huyard Road between Ephrata and New Holland. Leid said this field was producing about 100 bushels per acre, better than most fields he had done. By the time rains came in mid-week, an estimated 70 percent of the barley had been harvested in southeastern counties. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.