

# Lancaster Farming

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## Pennsylvania Farm Show Receives National Special Events Honor

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — As one of many livestock events across the North American continent, the Pennsylvania Farm Show stands out among the best.

In fact, a magazine and organization devoted to the \$4 billion-per-year, special-events industry across the United States and Canada has recently named the Pennsylvania Farm Show its top rodeo/livestock event of the year.

Further, according to the publisher of the magazine, *Events Business News*, it has announced plans to feature the Pennsylvania Farm Show in its upcoming special events directory issue, virtually guaranteeing wide publicity of the Pennsylvania Farm Show within the special events industry.

On Friday, the entire staff of the Pennsylvania Farm Show celebrated the award, and were to have been treated to a mid-day barbeque event, held after newspaper deadline.

Dennis Grumbine, state Farm Show director, said prior to the event that he wanted to hold the barbeque in order to announce the award to the staff personally, and also because he wanted to provide an informal, fun gathering for all employees, because it has been their work and dedication that made receiving the award possible.

In a letter to all Farm Show staff, Grumbine wrote:

"Congratulations! Recently we have received notification from Marshal G. Davis, publisher of *Events Business News* that the PA Farm Show has been selected top rodeo/livestock event of the year. This award is undoubtedly the

most prestigious recognition the Farm Show has ever received.

"I take great pride in informing all of you of your award. Yes, your award. If it were not for the pride and dedication of each and every member of the Farm Show staff, this honor would never have occurred."

Davis said this week that the

Pennsylvania Farm Show was one of many such shows nominated for the award.

Also, he said that the Farm Show is considered mostly as a livestock show. Despite the award title, only minor consideration was given to the fact that the state Farm Show has included a rodeo event in recent years.

In fact, Davis said that the Farm Show was in direct competition with such shows as the Houston Rodeo and Livestock Show, the Calgary Stampede, national finals for the rodeo in Las Vegas, a large livestock show in Colorado, the North American International Livestock Exposition, and many others of prominence.

Davis said that the holding organization of the special events magazine and directory is Events Alliance — an 800-member organization of the special events industry — which took part in the evaluations of nominated shows for the award.

(Turn to Page A11)



"I'm not thinking of retiring," said Carl Myer. Neither is he thinking of slowing down. The 56-year-old and his wife Dot plan to expand their milking herd to 500-head. Because the

couple enjoy sharing Walnut Run Farm with others, the expansion will include an area for visitors to observe the milking operation. Photo by Lou Ann Good.

### Office Closed July 3

To celebrate Independence Day, the office of *Lancaster Farming* is closed Friday, July 3. The office will reopen Monday, July 6.

Deadlines are as follows:  
• Public Sale, Auction Report ads — 5 p.m., Monday, June 29.  
• Classified, Section D ads — 5 p.m., Tuesday, June 30.  
• Classified, Section C, Farm Equipment ads, 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 1.  
• General News — noon, Wednesday, July 1.

## Walnut Run Is Farming At Its Best

**LOU ANN GOOD**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — With 700 acres to farm and 280 cows to milk three times daily, most people think Carl and Dot Myer have enough work to do. But plans are drawn to increase the herd size to 500 milking cows within the next two years.

"About 90 percent of the people might think that we are making a bad financial decision to expand at our age, but it seems like the right

thing for us to do," the 56-year-old Myer said.

He loves jumping out of bed in the morning to start the day. He loves challenges and the sensation of joy that wells up within him when seeing a well-groomed field.

"I'm not thinking of retiring—I guess I'm too aggressive. But we want to do whatever makes the operation profitable," Myer said.

Looking over the rolling acreage of the Myer farm along Elm Road, the couple's joy is con-

tagious. The expansive well-manicured lawn, greening potato acreage, and the cows in view, give one the sense that this is farming at its best.

"Dairying is good to us. We struggled to produce many years, but in the last 10-15 years, a lot fell together. Back then, we never dreamed that we'd be averaging 25,200 pounds a cow," Myer said.

His passion for farming has never dimmed since the moment he was a little boy, helping his dad on

the farm.

His dad died unexpectedly from a heart attack when Myer was only 13 years old. As the oldest in the family that included a younger brother and sister, continuing the farming operation looked fairly impossible to most folks. But Myer's mother (Nora Myer) knew her son's passion for farming and determined that they would continue to farm the 145 acres, which, at that time, included 20 milking

(Turn to Page A34)

## Farms Requiring Nutrient Management Plans Need To Come Forward

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Pennsylvania farmers who need nutrient management plans in order to comply with the state's Nutrient Management Act (Act 6) need to come forward before the Oct. 1, 1998 deadline to submit plans.

Those who need plans are those

with 2,000 pounds or more of livestock per acre of operator-controlled land suitable to receive manure.

According to information presented last week to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board (NMAB) of the State Conservation Commission (SCC), there have been only 92 nutrient management plans submitted within the first six

months since final regulations went into effect.

Half of those plans submitted have been by farmers not requiring plans, but who voluntarily have drafted and submitted plans.

That means that only about 45 plans have been submitted by those with farms legally defined by Pennsylvania as concentrated animal operations (CAOs).

What that indicates to state officials, and others at the federal level watching how the Pennsylvania farm community complies with its own state law, is that there are a lot of farmers either intending to wait until the last minute to submit a plan, hoping that no one figures out that they need a plan, or that there are many who haven't received word of the law and the

deadline for submitting a plan.

Whatever is true, anything that can be used as evidence that farmers are failing to comply with the environmental protection law provides an opening for attack from agricultural opponents, who may well attempt to use it to sway the general public into believing that farmers are trying to get away with

(Turn to Page A31)