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PDA Announces Pseudorabies Eradication Program, Sets Goals

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The state Department of Agriculture on Thursday announced the start of a program to eradicate pseudorabies in swine in Pennsylvania by mid 2000.

The announcement and introduction of the eradication program was made during a regular meeting of the state Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission at the state Agriculture Building in Harrisburg.

Pseudorabies is not related to the disease of rabies. It does not directly affect humans.

According to the PDA, pseudorabies is a viral infection of swine

that primarily affects their central nervous system and reproductive organs. It causes the industry great losses through the loss of feed efficiency and production.

State Agriculture Secretary Samuel Hayes Jr. introduced the program during the commission meeting which was attended by a variety of individuals and rep-

resentatives of groups with an interest in swine production and regulation.

Essentially, the bottom line of what Hayes said was that the eradication program goal is to move Pennsylvania's swine industry into a position to gain all market advantages and values inherent in Pennsylvania swine stock, from breeding swine to market animals.

The eradication program is a cooperative effort between the USDA and the states and the industry.

Using an aggressive testing and monitoring program, along with possible condemnation and indemnity funding, the goal is to eradicate the disease, step-by-step.

Pennsylvania isn't in bad shape, with only one herd known to have active pseudorabies virus. As of Thursday, it was reported that herd was to have finished, or be close to finishing, depopulating.

Statewide, as of Thursday, there were only 11 herds in two counties under quarantine for pseudorabies, (Turn to Page A 22)



The Pennsylvania Holstein Association summer picnic was held in Clarion County at Edenbrook Farm. During the event, the farm family hosts, Keith, Debbie, and Gretchen Decker, took time out for this photo in front of the farm sign. See story page A23 Photo by Marsha Chess, Mercer Co. correspondent.

Records Broken As \$1,500 Paid For Gallon Of Milk

CAROLYN N. MOYER
Bradford Co. Correspondent

TROY (Bradford Co.) - All records were broken as Ron Cope of Double Aught Lumber pledged his support of the Bradford County 4-H program by placing the top bid in the Bradford County Livestock and Milk Auction.

As the gavel came down, \$1500 was the final bid for one gallon of milk from Heather Yurkanin's supreme champion.

Taking second place in the auction was milk from Craig Sheeley's grand champion Holstein, whose milk sold for \$725 and was purchased by Judson's Inc.

Milk from the other champions and three baskets filled with Bradford County Products, were also sold bringing that sale average to \$487 on 12 lots.

According to the rules of the milk auction, one half of the money that is generated through

the sale of the milk will go to the owner of the animal while the other half is divided between the county 4-H or FFA program and the member's club or chapter.

Volunteer Auctioneer Bob Shayior opened the bidding on the market lambs, steers and hogs as well.

Stephen Laudermilch's champion steer tipped the scales at 1296 and was purchased for \$ 70 per pound by Columbia Cross Roads Equipment. The reserve champion steer weighed in at 974 pounds and was purchased by the Laurel Hill Veterinary Clinic for \$ 95. The average on five steers was \$ 76.

Thirteen lambs crossed the auction block with the price per pound ranging from a low of 1.45 and a high of \$ 3. Eight of the lambs were donated back to the 4-H program and were resold. The money from the second sale of the

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Gettysburg High School Implements Ag Ed Plan

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — Gettysburg Area High School is one of many "test sites" for a new agricultural education partnership. Already some of the results of this test site for next-century ag education look positive. Months ago, a program called Vision for Pennsylvania Agricultural Education was funded with a \$55,000 grant from the Pennsylvania

Department of Education. The project is being conducted in partnership with Penn State University, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and the Pennsylvania Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

Administered through the Solanco School District, the program has reached out to Chambersburg, Gettysburg, Shippensburg, Berlin Brothersvalley, Crawford Central School District (Cochranton

Junior and Senior High Schools), and Conewago Valley school (Turn to Page A21)

Cornell Researchers Find Bread-Based Diet Good For Beef Cattle

ITHACA, N.Y. -- For beef producers looking for new ways to economically and efficiently feed their cattle, Cornell University animal researchers have shown the effectiveness of an unusual diet. Let them eat bread -- and other commercial bakery leftovers and scraps.

The Cornell researchers say that the steers' ruminant stomachs can digest feed that includes stale bakery products more efficiently than high-energy, corn-based diets

because the baked goods have already been processed.

"It surprised us that bakery waste was more efficient than corn. We found there was no difference in the meat quality," says Pablo J. Guiroy, [pronounced GAROY] a Cornell graduate student from Argentina, who will complete his master's degree in the animal science department at Cornell in October.

Guiroy presented his findings (Turn to Page A11)



Young cooperators from four states attend Council of Cooperative's leadership conference. Recognized for their leadership and involvement are from left, Marsha and Sam Minor, Jr., Eighty Four; Amanda and Timothy Lehman, Lewisberry; and Rhonda and Dan Cutts, Tabernacle, NJ. See story page A26.