Preservation Board Approves Farmland

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) __ Agriculture Secretary Samuel E. Hayes Jr. announced that the Agricultural Land Preservation Board has approved easement purchases for 23 farms across the commonwealth, including the first farm approved in Bedford County.

The addition of these easements demonstrates Gov. Ridge's commitment to the future of Pennsylvania agriculture," said Hayes, who chairs the board.

Created in 1989, the Pennsylvania Agricultural Land Preservation Board is responsible for the oversight of the state Farmland Preservation Program. The program allows the state and counties to purchase development rights,

referred to as easements, to guarantee that farms will remain as agricultural land.

Including four county-owned easements accepted today, the Farmland Preservation Program has protected 977 farms in 41 counties encompassing 123,423 acres

Following is a list of the 23 properties, including owner, township, acreage and purchase cost:

Bedford County

• Anthony L. Wagner Jr. and Anthony L. Wagner III, Colerain Township, 256 acres, \$128,000; **Berks County**

• Morris E. Jr. and Anna H. Brown, Oley Township, 94 acres, \$188,800;

• David W., James M., Samuel G. and Paul N. Schuler, Rilchmond Township, 59 acres, \$117,000;

 David W., James M., Samuel G. and Paul N. Schuler, Richmond Township, 105 acres, \$210,600; **Centre County**

• John W. Jr., Howard W. and Jodi E. Dashem, Potter Township, 171 acres \$188,551;

• Guy E. and Elsie M. Fleck, Ferguson Township, 133 acres, \$173.082:

Dauphin County

 Ken and Patti Adams, Upper Paxton Township, 103 acres, \$127,521;

• Robert and Judith Schwartz.

Lykens Township, 232 acres, \$275,544;

Lackawanna County

· Carl and Bonnie Rosiak, Benton Township, 167 acres, \$204,475;

Lancaster County

· Jere E. and Bonnie M. Swarr, Rapho Township, 115 acres, \$249,000;

Lebanon County

· Henry W. and Elva Martin, North Cornwall Township, 100 acres, \$150,000.

Lehigh County

• Donald E. and Patricia A. Hontz, Lowhill Township, 89 acres, \$194,806;

• Junge Farms, Lynn Township, 117 acres, \$210,762;

· Perry and Elisabeth S. Long, Lynn Township, 133 acres, \$226.351:

• Paul J. and Anna Lou J. Oswald, Lynn Township, 51 acres, \$102,460;

• M. Lisa Schadt, Lower Macungie Township, 70 acres, \$211,050;

Mercer County

• Rollin B. and Mary Alice James, New Vernon Township, 112 acres, \$112,950;

Montgomery County

 Maurice and Vivian Henry, Upper Hanover Township, 123 acres, \$463,013;

· John and Vivian Keebler, Douglass Township, 124 acres, \$464,100;

Northampton County Randy and Kimberly Setzer, Lower Nazareth Township, 70 acres, \$279,691;

Union County · Preston R. and Wanda J.

Boop, Buffalo Township, 46 acres, \$38,735; Washington County

· Martha Heisel and Chris and Curtis Hamilton, Hopewell Township, 75 acres, \$139,267; and

• Eugene G. Jr. and Edythe H. Painter, Independence Township, 162 acres, \$274,827.

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