

Chester Extension Banquet

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cities began to emerge at the turn of the century. Not only that, but in 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed the first Country Life Commission to study two things: farm wives and challenges, and "keeping the children on the farm," said Hanna.

In 1909, another survey showed 49,000 acres of corn, 23,000 acres of oats, 10,000 acres of potatoes, with a total population of 109,000 people. In December 1912, the Chester County Farm Bureau was formed. In 1914, Congress established the cooperative extension system, now in place.

In 1926, there were 350 members of the Mushroom Growers Association of Pennsylvania. Today, national mushroom consumption per person is four pounds per person per year. Fresh mushrooms make up 53 percent of total production, the rest is processed.

Pennsylvania's share in national mushroom production is 44 percent. Chester County is capitol of mushroom production in the state, noted Hanna.

The 1970s saw a technological boom with the introduction of artificial insemination. In the 1990s, farmers are facing marketing challenges and pressures of environmental controls.

There has been more development of the land in the last 25 years than in the previous 300 years.

In 1975, there were 1,800 farms in the county. In the 1990s, that number has dropped to 1,200 farms. But agriculture production is number two to Lancaster County in the state.

In 1975, half the land was devoted to agricultural production. Now it is less than 40 percent.

Since reassessment in the county, more farmers, including those from Lancaster and other nearby counties, are seeing how viable

and in some cases less expensive it is to farm Chester County land.

At the banquet, several extension employees were honored for years of service.

Special recognition was given to Trudy Dougherty, county extension director, for 25 years with cooperative extension.

Those achieving 10-year milestones included Pat Taws and Judy Fromm, staff assistants at the extension office. Also, Sarah Wallace, adviser to the EFNEP program, was recognized.

Charles Wollaston, Maple Lawn Farm, was honored for more than 50 years of service to Extension. In addition, new board members of the association, serving a three-year term, are Jane Pepple, Oxford, owner and operator of Pep-L-Lea Holsteins; Eric Miller, Chadds Ford, president of Chadds Ford Winery; and Sara L. Munoz, part and community coordinator/home and school visitor for Southeast Delco School District.

Dairy Scholarships Winners


Autumn "De" Guyton and Katie M. Dixon were recently named the winners of the Maryland dairy scholarships. Each was the recipient of a \$4,000 scholarship. The awards were presented at the dairy awards program at the Maryland State Fair.

The scholarships are available to all Maryland dairy youth who are currently enrolled or have been enrolled in a dairy project. The student must be pursuing a four year degree in any agricultural program in the college of their choice. Entering freshmen through entering seniors are eligible.

Guyton is the daughter of Wilmer & Joann Guyton of Jefferson and is a junior Dairy Science/PreVet major at Virginia Tech. She has been very active in school, community and 4-H and FFA activities. She has also

been involved with Holstein, Brown Swiss and Guernsey activities and is currently active in the Virginia Tech dairy club, judging team and Sigman Alpha Sorority. She hopes to enter vet school following graduation.

Dixon, a 1997 graduate of Kent County High School, is currently attending the University of Maryland where she is an animal science major. An active 4-H'er, she is a member of Holstein, Guernsey and Jersey associations and has received many honors with her animals showing at local, state, and national shows. She was the alternate Maryland dairy princess for 1997-98, and the 1997 Maryland Guernsey queen. the daughter of Keith Dixon and Lee Hill Tolson, Katie's future plans include a career in a dairy related field such as promotion or a breed association.



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Countrymark	30	126.8	16.3	0.9	\$29	1.9
DeKalb	1,937	150.3	8.3	0.0	\$15	1.3
Doebler's	491	160.8	13.1	0.6	\$26	2.1
Eastland	135	153.1	13.4	0.5	\$26	0.9
Fielders Ch.	361	145.7	13.1	0.9	\$26	1.5
Hytex	109	171.1	13.2	-0.6	\$22	0.9
Mid-Atlantic	16	145.2	16.7	-1.5	\$27	1.6
Mycogen	163	158.6	9.4	1.1	\$21	1.1
NC+	275	165.2	8.5	0.2	\$16	1.8
NK Brand	2,284	148.9	5.6	-0.5	\$9	0.6
South. States	11	153.5	18.8	2.3	\$40	3.1

3-year averages, 1996, 1997, 1998. Data from New York, New England, Pennsylvania, northeastern Ohio, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. Income/acre calculated with the price of corn at \$2.00/bu., and drying costs of \$0.02 per point of moisture over 15%.



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