

# Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

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Farm Bureau at (888) 322-1323 to participate in the national campaign for establishing the use of sound science into the regulations that fulfill the intent of the FQPA.

The phone call will generate a letter from the Farm Bureau member to their respective federal legislator, he said.

In other news, Donaldson talked about the E. Chester Heim scholarship made possible through the PFB Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation, and that \$11,400 was raised at Ag Progress Days this year to help support the scholarship, and that another \$22,000 was raised at a golf outing for the foundation.

During the evening banquet, Donaldson read a letter from Heim, whose health prevented him from attending, stating his gratitude and honor in allowing his name to be used to support a scholarship.

According to Donaldson, if it wouldn't have been for "Chet's" initial work promoting the concerns and arguments of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and meeting with editorial boards across the state, that the organization would not be what it is now, nor have the name recognition that it enjoys.

During the luncheon, the organization announced the selection of its Young Farmer and Rancher Award — an honor bestowed to the winner of a leadership abilities and skills contest in which a young farmer rancher individual or couple is selected to represent the PFB at the American Farm Bureau contest.

The contest is open to members aged 18 to 35 years, with a state prize of \$500 and a trip to the American Farm Bureau convention in Albuquerque in January, where they are to compete in the national contest with a first-place prize of a 1999 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup truck and an Artic Cat all-terrain vehicle.

The winner is decided based upon the farm operation, its growth and financial progress, and leadership in the Farm Bureau and elsewhere.

In recognition of the program, Donaldson talked about the development of the program during the past four years, and how well it has progressed in becoming a program that offers opportunities for members to develop leadership skills.

Brian Dietrich, outgoing chairman of the committee, received a standing ovation during the award ceremony program.

Dietrich was honored for inspiring others to become involved in the program, and for helping to organize additional programs and opportunities for involvement.

This year's winning couple of the YF&R award was Donald and Joanne Stoltzfus of Morgantown.

They started farming in 1990 with 18 cows from 4-H and FFA projects. They entered into a partnership a year later. As the business grew into a five-way partnership, it added more cows and additional enterprises.

Herd management changes — such as totally mixed ration feeding, using bovine somatotropin, and installing close-up pens for freshening cows — helped increase average milk production of the herd from 18,000 pounds to more than 23,000 pounds.

More recently, the free-stall barn was remodeled for cow comfort, and heifers are being custom-raised at another farm.

Cropping includes 200 acres of corn, 110 acres of alfalfa and the rest in grass hay. Some corn is double-cropped with rye. A number of pieces of equipment has been purchased also.

They have been active farm leaders.

Joanne served on the Berks County Farm Bureau board of directors for two years and on its legislative committee for six years.

Both Donald and Joanne have served on PFB's Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee for four years, and traveled to Europe as part of the YF&R Committee's International Study Tour in 1994.

Both have served as superintendents for Sunday School and vacation Bible School at their church, and Donald has served on the board of directors of his county Holstein club.

The Stoltzfuses have two young children. They are planning to relocate in Somerset County next summer.

The other finalists included Edward and Lorraine Thiele, who operated a 145-acre dairy farm in

## Turkey Growing

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include staying in the top position under a competitive contract to make top dollar.

How he finishes on the Wampler scale of feed conversion at least cost is "how you get paid," he said.

Wampler makes a wide range of turkey products, including whole fresh turkeys, turkey breast meat, turkey ham, regular and smoked breast, even turkey hot dogs. "If you want it, they can make it out of turkey," he said.

In the future, when his children come of age, he would like them to become more involved with his

Butler County; and Patrick Greaser, who operates a 185-acre tree farm and crop shares 45 acres of reed canary hay and timothy alfalfa hay in Beaver County.

The PFB also ran a new contest this past year concerning response to calls for legislative action.

The contest offered a weekend at the Hershey Hotel for two couples.

The winners from PFB Regions 1, 2 and 6 were Paul and Coleen Hoffman. The winners from Regions 3, 4 and 5 were Russell and Nancy Orner.

On Tuesday, the PFB held the finals for its annual Discussion Meet contest.

growout operation. Right now, he does a lot of the work himself — so the number of birds he can finish remains limited.

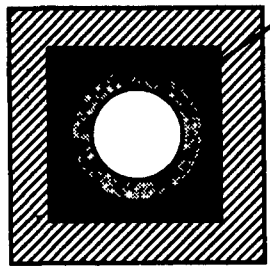
But that's why he entered the business in the first place — there is more flexibility with the growout compared to a seven day a week job in the dairy business. Also, it's easier for young farmers to start out in the turkey business, compared to dairy, Horst noted.

Starla Horst bakes cakes under the Horst Home Bakery business and sells cakes and pies to Hanover Farmers Market. She includes

recipes from Elsie, Lynn's mother. Lynn's favorite is the fresh peach pie. Actually, Lynn's grandmother on his mother's side, Ruth Ogburn, operated a bakery. Even Ruth's mother, Katie Geigley, operated a bakery.

The Horst family belongs to the Mummasburg Mennonite Church.

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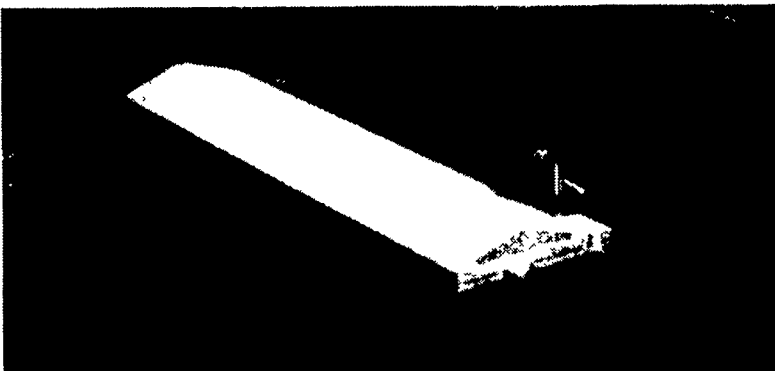
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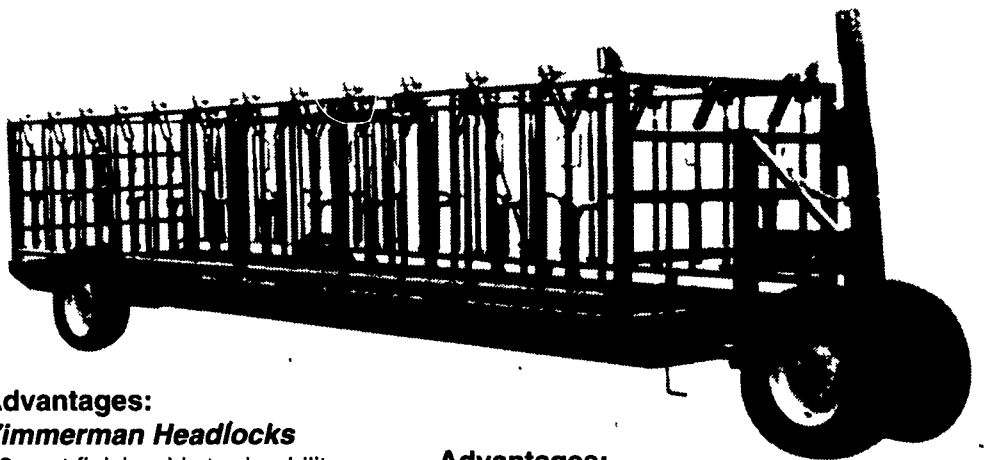


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