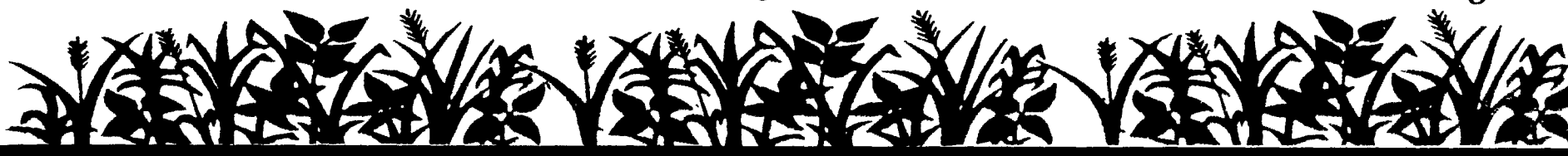




# FORAGING AROUND

'Industry, Farmer, Scientist — Working Together Toward A Sounder Grassland Program'



## Award-Winning Alfalfa Grower Understands Vital Role Of Good Workers



"There's no secret to doing this," Bob Oswald, Nazareth, told *Lancaster Farming* on his farm on a bright, crisp autumn day last year. A couple of months before, Oswald picked up the grand champion ribbon for the alfalfa later cutting division, field-dried only category, from the annual hay show conducted at Ag Progress Days in Rockspring. Photo by Andy Andrews

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

NAZARETH (Northampton Co.)

— Bob Oswald admits there is no secret to growing prize-winning alfalfa.

Simply put, Oswald surrounds himself with good employees, trusts the work of his crop assistant, takes care of his fertile soil, and carefully times the cutting and drying of his crop.

"There's no secret to doing this," he told *Lancaster Farming* during a visit to his farm on a bright, crisp autumn day last year.

A couple of months before, Oswald picked up the grand champion ribbon for the alfalfa later cutting division, field-dried only category, from the annual hay show conducted at Ag Progress Days in Rockspring.

Oswald narrows his management down to a few time-tested strategies that can almost guarantee success: making the most of good, well-drained soils; soil testing regularly; and cutting the alfalfa on time and getting it stored when ready.

"I do it right or I don't do it," he said. "I love what I'm doing and that makes me care."

Oswald manages 700 acres of corn, 400 acres of soybeans, 120 acres of alfalfa hay, and 75 acres of wheat on about 1,295 acres for his dairy enter-

(Turn to Page 8)

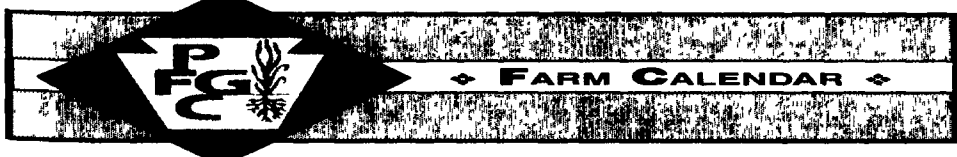


**DUANE E. PYSHER**  
Grassland Management Specialist  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Harrisburg

In the past few weeks I was at home recuperating from some surgery, and as a result I had a lot of time to sit and think.

The thing I thought the most

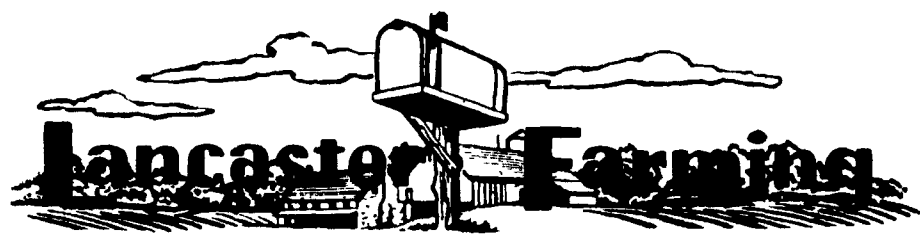
(Turn to Page 6)



Saturday, February 13  
SWCS/Mid-Atlantic No-Till Conference, Embers Inn, Carlisle, 9 a.m.-3:25 p.m.

Thursday, February 18  
Forage Production, Wesley Grange, Barkeville, 7 p.m.

(Turn to Page 5)



**Lancaster Farming**  
Pennsylvania Forage & Grassland Council  
Newsletter Section, February 13, 1999

## Plan To Attend Conference

GRANTVILLE (Dauphin Co.) — The 1999 Pennsylvania Grazing Conference March 3-4 will feature numerous presentations and discussions focusing on pastures. This conference is being co-sponsored by the

Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council and the Grazing Research and Education Center.

If you have interest in extending the grazing season, using TMR on

(Turn to Page 2)



Dr. Matt Sanderson, USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), spoke about estimating forage yields in pasture and demonstrated various grass measurement devices at a Project Grass field day in northern Huntingdon. For more about the field day, see page 15.