

# Lehigh County Honors Conservation Farmer

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, April 24, 1999-A11

ALLENTOWN (Lehigh Co.) — Each year the Lehigh County Conservation District honors an agricultural

operation that has been diligent in applying conservation practices and has demonstrated community involvement.

The district recently selected David Fink, owner of Heidel Hollow Farm of Heidelberg Township, as its 1998

Conservation Farmer of the Year.

Heidel Hollow, last featured in the Nov. 1, 1997 issue of *Foraging Around*, which appeared in *Lancaster Farming*, is a poultry, hay, and cash grain operation. Owners David and Sonia Fink participate in various conservation cost-share programs.

In the past they have completed a long-term agreement and a Water Quality Incentive Program (WQIP) contract. They have also completed a 1997 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) contract. All those programs demonstrate a long-term commitment

to applying conservation practices to the land.

Cooperators with the district since 1979, the Finks operate 947 acres. Conservation practices include 191 acres in contour farming, 22 acres in cross-slope farming, 0.3 acre in critical area planting, 4,200 feet in waterways, 0.6

acre in obstruction removal, 1 acre in heavy use protection, 260 acres in contour strip-cropping, 123 acres in field strip-cropping, 650 feet of terraces, 6,459 feet of subsurface drainage, and 900 feet of underground outlet.

In addition, management practices include 1,801 acres of conservation crop rotation, 471

acres of conservation tillage, 254 acres in residue management, 344 acres in grasses and legumes in rotation, 1 acre in upland wildlife habitat management, and 18 acres in forest stand improvement.

The Finks have participated in the Kids to Farms Program.

## NOTICE

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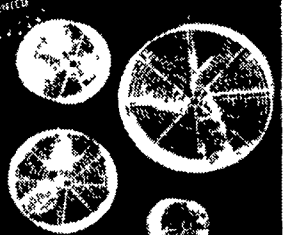
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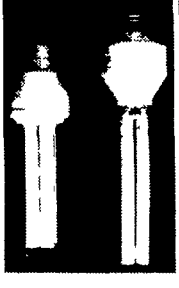
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