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# Lancaster Farming

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## Farmers Who Care For Own Animals Not Affected If Passed, State Bills Could Have Large, Long-Term Effects On Animal Boarders, Farriers

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)  
— Two separate bills from Pennsylvania and New Jersey state assemblies, if passed, could have long-term, dramatic effects on the ability to administer health care to animals.

The separate bills, incomplete because they are undergoing legislative review and public commentary, further regulate animal care to such an extent that to do something as simple as administer Vitamin C to a horse, boarders would have to buy the nutritional product from a vet or get a veterinary prescription, according to some.

Right now, even with the bill, people can administer health care to their own animals. But if the legislation is enacted as it is written, those who keep others' 4-H project animals or operate kennels or boarding houses could be limited on what kind of animal care,

without a veterinarian's approval, they could give to animals they don't own.

New Jersey Assembly Bill 3344 and Senate Bill 2048, in addition to Pennsylvania Assembly Bill 1418, provide amendments that could restrict the prescription and administration of "any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique on any animal including, but not limited to, acupuncture and ac-

pressure, dentistry, animal psychology, animal chiropractic, thermogenology, alternative or complementary veterinary medicine or surgery, including cosmetic surgery," according to N.J.A3344. The law could even regulate who could implant, subcutaneously or intramuscularly, an animal transponder.

According to Pa. H.B. 1418, sponsored by Rep. Art Hershey (R-13th) et. al. and referred to the

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## Dairy Farmers Approve Overhaul Of Milk Pricing

**EVERETT NEWSWANGER**  
Editor

WASHINGTON, DC - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announced Tuesday that dairy farmers overwhelmingly approved an overhaul of the way milk is priced around the country. In the referendum held Aug. 2-6, eligible dairy farmers voted in favor of consolidating the current 31 federal milk marketing orders into 11. In addition, several other important reforms were supported that included the minimum pricing of Class I (drinking) milk.

An individual referendum was held for each of the consolidated orders. (See chart with this story.) More than the required two-thirds

of participating producers approved the reforms. In fact the lowest percentage of approval among voting producers was 90.5 percent in the Northeast, and all other regions were higher. The milk marketing order program ensures the fair marketing and pricing of milk. It is not a dairy support program. The current dairy support program expires on December 31, 1999, unless Congress chooses to extend it. Milk marketing orders classify milk by use, set minimum prices that handlers must pay for each class of milk, and provide for paying average prices to all dairy farmers who supply a marketing order. In the 1996

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Friends of Swan Hollow Vanguard Maude, the supreme champion dairy cow at the Allentown Fair, gather for a picture. They are from left, Katie Steiner, Shane Betz, Robert Weidenhammer, and Donald Harwood, judge. Photo by Everett Newswanger, editor.

## Del Val Has Supreme Cow At Allentown Fair

**EVERETT NEWSWANGER**  
Editor

ALLENTOWN (Lehigh Co.) - Delaware Valley College at Doylestown brought a string of show cattle to the Allentown Fair Wednesday that gave them wins to include the supreme champion dairy cow.

Swan Hollow Vanguard Maude, the stylish cow that was the grand champion Holstein, was named supreme champion over all breeds. They also had the grand champion Ayrshire, the reserve grand champion Holstein, the reserve grand champion Jersey,

and the reserve junior champion Holstein.

Timothy Betz from Doylestown had the junior champion Holstein.

Katie Harwick, Kempton, had the grand champion Jersey. Jennifer Neiman had the junior champion Jersey, and Jill Neiman had the reserve junior champion. The Neimans are from Fleetwood.

Jill Vail, Myerstown, had the reserve grand champion Ayrshire. Amber Knoll Farm, Bechtelsville, had both the junior and reserve junior champions in the Ayrshire

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At the Elizabethtown Fair Petting Zoo last week, a curious pygmy goat nibbles straw offered by five-month-old Sarah, daughter of Todd and Marie Good, Manheim. Articles wrapping up Elizabethtown Fair coverage appear on pages B10, B12, and B14. Photo by Lou Ann Good.

## Alfalfa Yield Improvements, Drought Strategies Focus Of Next Foraging Around

The next Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council (PFGC) newsletter, *Foraging Around*, is scheduled to appear as a special section of *Lancaster Farming* next Saturday. The issue contains information about alfalfa nitrogen stubble treatment to improve yields and survival strategies used by producers during drought. Also included are special reports from the Council and other useful information to the grazer.