



Lancaster Farming

Vol. 45 No. 3

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, November 20, 1999

\$31.00 Per Year

60¢ Per Copy

Rumler Is Farm Bureau's Ag Service Honoree

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) presented its Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award to Robert Rumler of Chambersburg. Rumler is the former chief

administrator of the National Holstein Association. During his nearly 30 years as its CEO, the Holstein association gained recognition as a major force in the improvement of the dairy breed worldwide.

PFB also honored Lehigh County Farm Bureau with the All Star Award for the third consecutive year. This award is PFB's most prestigious program award, going to the county with the highest score in the recognition and awards program.

The awards were presented during PFB's 49th Annual Meeting, this week at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Several hundred farmers, including 172 voting delegates, met to elect leaders and set policies for the organization for the coming year. PFB is a voluntary, statewide organization which represents more than 27,300 farm and rural families.

Rumler received the award during PFB's member recognition banquet, Tuesday evening.

Rumler, a Franklin County native, served as chief executive officer of the Holstein-Friesian Association, now known as Holstein U.S.A., from 1953 to 1982. Upon retirement, he was named chairman emeritus of the organization, the first such designation in its history.

As chief administrator of the organization headquartered in Brattleboro, Vt., Rumler was eminently successful in envisioning future developments affecting the dairy industry, and then designing, implementing and carrying forward programs and services to serve the best interests of Holstein dairymen across the nation.

During his leadership of the national association, the Holstein breed increased in

number from 45 percent of the dairy herd in the U.S. to more than 85 percent, and the number of registered Holsteins grew to make up 90 percent of all registered dairy cows. Holsteins became the dominant dairy breed in the world and U.S. Holsteins became the most sought-after genetic material worldwide.

Under his direction, the Holstein Association became in the mid-1950s an early cooperator in USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service Program to develop agricultural markets overseas. In response to the rising export market for Holstein genetic material, Rumler led the organization to establish a subsidiary, Holstein Friesian
(Turn to Page A26)



LeAnne Kile and her father, Jeff, hold an 11½-week-old turkey outside the growout barn in New Providence.
Photo by Andy Andrews

'Winter Woes' Don't Distract Kile Turkey Farm

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
NEW PROVIDENCE (Lancaster Co.) — Oh, those winter woes.

For the Jeff and Diane Kile family, the famous phrase from the Dickens' novel, the best of times and the worst, can be rolled into the years 1994-1996.

When the Kiles decided they wanted to start a turkey growout operation in New Providence, work they had planned for years had to be put on hold. In the winter of 1994, the area experienced the coldest temperatures ever, com-

bined with about a foot of ice and snow.

Work in the spring was delayed. Then came the incredible snowstorm of early January 1996, literally shutting down the state, canceling Farm Show events, and keeping everyone at home.

But work didn't stop for the Kile family.

On the 600-foot long by 50-foot wide brooder and finishing barns, snow had piled high — dangerously high — that January Sunday.

"The snow weight was too much per square foot," said Diane.

Jeff, who works full-time for Roy Ressler and Son, Inc., Mountville, asked for lots of fuel and some portable heaters. The gas heaters were installed in the attics. The Kiles tried to melt as much as they could from the roofs.

"That was a year, I'll tell you," said Jeff, remembering working to clear the snow from the sides.

It stopped snowing Sunday and, by Tuesday, laneways were cleared between the houses.

Ever since, the weather hasn't posed a big challenge, fortunately.

(Turn to Page A22)

Heinnickel Family Receives Conservation Farmer Of The Year Honors

GAY BROWNLEE
Bedford Co. Correspondent

CHAMPION (Somerset Co.) — Alquin and Dolores Heinnickel, Greensburg, were honored with the Conservation Farmer of the Year Award Nov. 10 at the 52nd Annual Joint Conference of the State Conservation Commission and the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc.

Conducted at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort, the event was hosted by the Somerset County Conservation District Nov. 7-10.

Heinnickel's award was sponsored by the Agricultural Coalition of Pennsylvania and PennAg Industries Association.

For four decades the Heinnickel Farm, located along Route 119, has been a model of conservation and management

practices, employing contour strip farming, conservation tillage and intensive grazing projects.

"We do a lot of contour farming and fenced out our waterways," Heinnickel reported, adding that he merely is continuing the methods used a generation earlier by his dad, who was serious about stewardship of the land.

Some 200 of the 1,000 acres Heinnickel owns, support two separate intensive grazing systems for the beef cattle aspect of dual beef and grain operation.

Heinnickel said he is satisfied with the design Wes Gordon from the Westmoreland County Conservation District drew for the layout of ditching and placement of drain tile.

With a staff of three full timers on the job there are suffi-

(Turn to Page A36)



LaVerne Moser, sitting on the tractor, and his son Mark farm 480 acres and milk 160 Holsteins on their Bally farm, situated on both Berks and Montgomery counties. The farm is also the place where Lyn derives inspiration for her world-renowned porcelain painting. Turn to page B2 to read more about LaLisa Holsteins' sparkling facilities, the farm, and Lyn's artwork. Photo by Lou Ann Good.