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Some View Past Year As One Of Opportunity; For Others, It Was 1999 Nightmare

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) —
For some, 1999 may go down in

history as a year of records and of hope. The year began with a record price paid for a Farm Show animal and ended with a renewed commit-

ment by the states and counties for farmland preservation.

But for most, the year will be remembered mostly for its disappointment and despair.

How did we survive 1999? Partnering. With help from our family, friends, legislators, and the

organizations that represent farmers.

Hog producers, still reeling from the lowest prices ever, saw little if any real recovery. Late 1998 saw hog prices drop lower than they were after World War II. Grain producers were looking at

some of the most dismal prices ever for corn and soybeans.

The winter, another mild one, meant to producers a drought that began in 1998 would continue for some until flooding from a hurri-

(Turn to Page A26)



Curtis Day of Shippensburg will be one of three to judge the first-ever dairy show of the new millennium at the 2000 Pennsylvania Farm Show. Photo by Jayne Sebright

Farm Show Dairy Judge Enjoys Both Sides Of The Ring

JAYNE SEBRIGHT
Lancaster Farming Staff

SHIPPENSBURG (Franklin Co.) — When Curtis Day of Shippensburg first exhibited in the dairy show at Pennsylvania Farm Show, he recalls thinking, "Wow, wouldn't it be exciting to judge this show sometime."

Now, 42 years later, he is getting that chance. Day will be judging more than 160 Holsteins and 34 Milking Shorthorns on Tuesday at the Farm Show.

While this is the first time he has judged this show, judging is a part of Day's life. In 1960, he won the national 4-H dairy judging contest in Madison, WI. The next year he traveled to England, met Queen Elizabeth's mother, and won the International 4-H Judging Contest.

Since then, he has judged at shows in 17 different states, including the Eastern National Holstein Show and All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg.

Day will be joining judges William Schnebly and Michael Health, both from Maryland, to judge the dairy show, which includes 520 head this year. He is looking forward to judging the show and doesn't feel at all pres-

sured by the fact that many of the exhibitors will be his friends and colleagues.

"I promised myself as a kid that if I ever got the opportunity to

(Turn to Page A20)



All-Maryland Holstein Winners

Ehrhardt Astro Jody-ET, the All-Maryland 100,000lb. cow for Kevin Ehrhardt, Baldwin, Maryland, provides the front-page introduction to the photos of all the All-Maryland winners. These photos can be found in the Keystone Farm Show Section this week starting on Page 4.

Century Of Farming

Editor's Note: This summary of agriculture in the 20th Century is adapted from the new pictorial book by the same title published by Lancaster Farming in late 1999. The first printing has already sold out and become a collector's edition. The second printing is scheduled to arrive in the Lancaster Farming office in early February.

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Editor

As the 20th century began, a new and prosperous era was about to follow. Often called American agriculture's "Golden Age," a period of economic growth

continued through World War I—quite a contrast from the depressive years that followed the Civil War and even as late as 1893. But now one-bottom walking plows were turned in for

(Turn to Page A33)



Cathy Levan holds the halter of her Piedmontese heifer, named Cheyenne, which won reserve junior heifer over all at the North American International Livestock Exposition. Cathy, her brother Jason, and Mom, Shirley, are excited about the potential of the Piedmontese that they raise on their Berks County Meadow Hills Farm. The breed, which originates in Italy, is genetically lower in fat and consistently more tender than other breeds according to USDA tests. Turn to page B16 to read more about the Levans and the unusual Piedmontese breed. Photo by Lou Ann Good.

2000
Happy New Year
From The Lancaster Farming Staff

Keystone Farm Show Section This Issue

You will find the building layout with the corresponding list of exhibitors on Pages 24, 29, 30, and 32, in the special Keystone Farm Show Section this week.

Pennsylvania Farm Show Issue Next Week

The annual Pennsylvania Farm Show issue of Lancaster Farming comes to you next week. More than 250 Keystone Farmer youths have been named this year (the most ever in the memory of our staff) and we have a whole section of profiles and pictures. Also the usual building layouts, exhibitors list, meeting and judging schedules and other stories are included. Lancaster Farming will publish early to get the papers to you on time for the start of the show. Publication deadlines are as follows:

Jan. 8 Issue (Farm Show)

Public Sale Ads: Monday, Jan. 3, 10 a.m.
Sections E and F and Keystone: Friday, Dec. 3.
Section D Classifieds: Tuesday, Jan. 4, 5 p.m.
Farm Equipment Ads: Wednesday, Jan. 5, 9 a.m.
All Other Display Ads: Monday, Jan. 3, 5 p.m.