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1999 Herd Management Award winners who attended PA DHIA's annual banquet included (from left) Tom and Cindy Rutter Johnson representing Rutters Farm, Don and Pam Gable, Albin Wester representing Wester Jersey Farm, Terry and Kevin Shuey representing Little-Hill Farm, and Ray and Karen Moyer representing Junge Farms, Inc. Photo by Jayne Sebright

Pennsylvania DHIA Honors 1999 Award Winners During Annual Banquet

JAYNE SEBRIGHT
Lancaster Farming Staff
 STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — The Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association honored member herds with outstanding records during Tuesday evening's annual meeting banquet. Herd management award winners, along with the 1999 lowest somatic cell herd, were announced during the meeting.

D. Ellis Dix, a Wayne County dairy producer, was recognized as the Clyde Robison Leader-

ship Award winner. This award is given by the association to a DHIA member who has volunteered unselfishly to DHIA and to the dairy industry.

According to John Castrogiovanni, DHIA Board member, Dix has been very active in just about every dairy and agriculture organization imaginable, from promotion to farm preservation to DHIA. He was named a Pennsylvania Master Farmer in 1989 and encouraged other farmers from Wayne County to

(Turn to Page A30)

Miller, Jackson Are 2000 Holstein Hall-Of-Famers

JAYNE SEBRIGHT
Lancaster Farming Staff
 CARLISLE (Cumberland Co.) — The words "Salt of the Earth" come to mind when considering Pennsylvania Holstein Hall of Fame inductees honored during this year's annual banquet late last week.

Ben Jackson and Paul Miller were honored as the 2000 inductees. Jefferson Yoder was recognized for being a 1999 inductee.

The honor came as a complete surprise to both Jackson and Miller, who found out that they were this year's inductees during slide presentations about their farming experiences and family history. The slideshows

also highlighted the roles they played in advancing the Holstein breed in Pennsylvania.

Though Yoder already knew he received the award, he was still equally humbled by the tribute to his life and his involvement in the Holstein breed.

When Jackson was born in 1932, farming immediately became a part of his life. He still lives on the farm where he grew up in Wetona.

According to Patty McMurray, chairperson of the Hall of Fame committee, "Jackson is a product of his environment, and the ripples sent out from this small community at the base of

(Turn to Page A22)



Ben Jackson from Jefferson County was described as "down-to-earth, rock solid, modest, and a good friend" during the presentation honoring him as one of two 2000 inductees into the Pennsylvania Holstein Association Hall of Fame. Ben is pictured with his wife Regina, their four children, and their families. Photo by Jayne Sebright

Plum Pox, New Materials Under Scrutiny At Meeting

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
 LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — One positive effect of last year's drought was that fruit tree diseases were slight to nonexistent. As a result, sometimes growers forget the problems associated with fruit trees in a wet year, including scab, apple rust, and others, according to Jim Travis, a Penn State plant pathologist.

And growers must cooperate with state and federal agencies to stop the plum pox virus or there could be serious consequences to the industry, according to another Penn State pathologist, John Hulbrendt.

The plant pathologists spoke to about 60 growers and agri-industry representatives Wednesday at the Penn State-

sponsored York and Lancaster County Tree Fruit Growers' Educational Meeting at the Farm and Home Center.

Though the plum pox virus (PPV) was identified only about four months ago in Adams County orchards, it remains "one of the hottest topics of fruit meetings" Hulbrendt attends, he said.

The PPV virus Strain D can add up to big losses for growers, reaching as high as 80-100 percent. The virus, he explained, first showed up in Macedonia and Eastern Europe in about 1910-1913 and has spread all over the world.

The virus was introduced to the United States a few years ago, brought in by infected ma-

(Turn to Page A33)



Paul Miller of Dauphin County knows how to breed excellent cows, overcome adversity, and capture an audience with his singing talents. Miller was honored, along with Jackson, by the Holstein Association during last Thursday evening's annual banquet. Here he appears with his wife Patricia, their three children, and their families. Photo by Jayne Sebright