

Reeds Canarygrass 'Saves' Grazier From Drought

(Continued from Page A26)

were two stabilized stream crossings and a spring development.

Bracken's concern about the damage beef cattle were causing to feeding areas during the winter led to his developing a feeding area stabilized with stone. A water diversion was installed above this feeding area to channel runoff around the site. A buffer area was established between the feeding area and a stream. Limited grazing buffer areas were established along both sides of the entire length of the stream in the pasture.

Bracken had a nutrient management plan developed for this grazing system and submitted the plan for approval under the Nutrient Management Act. He hosted a tour of his farm and the grazing system for Project Grass.

Hall noted, "Bracken's efforts in teaching others about conservation by example and implementing the many conservation practices on his farm makes him

deserving of the PFGC's Conservation Farmer Award."

Outstanding Pasture Producer awards:

- Don Bothell, Indiana County, has worked with the Indiana County Conservation District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to establish a rotational grazing system for dairy heifers and beef feeders. In the pasture system, 41 acres are included, and additional cropland is used for grazing in the fall after crops are harvested. High-tensile perimeter fence (9,590 feet) and 8,900 feet of interior fence have been installed in the system. Two stabilized stream crossings have been installed to allow animals access to drinking water and pasture areas. Stream bank buffers have been established with the installation of stream bank fencing.

Bothell has worked with the Indiana County Conservation District to conduct a pasture management field day at his farm. This field day allowed

others to see how the system worked and to ask Bothell about pasture management.

Bothell also allowed the conservation district to conduct an agricultural conservation practice tour for legislators at his farm. He participated by leading the group on the tour and explaining his pasture system operation.

- Glenn and Robin Gorrell, Bradford County, milk 185 Holsteins on 195 acres of pasture near Milan. They strive to provide all roughages from the pasture during the grazing season by timely use of nitrogen and reseeding of pastures. Glenn was the initiating force behind the Bradford County Grazing Network and continues to facilitate the 11 or so meetings they hold during the grazing season. He has served as a speaker at several local, regional, and statewide grazing/forage-related events.

More information from the conference is scheduled in the next issue of *Foraging Around*, a newsletter set to appear in *Lancaster Farming* April 22.

PA DHIA President's Speech

nars with farmers explaining American-style dairy herd management and the concept of farmer owned and controlled cooperatives. I mentioned earlier our new management software—Barn Owl—is the best in the world. There is a market in Eastern Europe as well as other areas of the world waiting to be filled by this product. Both the data processing and the on farm software sales are possibilities. I will leave it to Dave to explain more details.

I'd like to turn my attention to a related issue. Last month the Board of PA DHIA and Dairy One agreed to create a for profit service company focused on dairy herd management on an international scale. This global venture is called AgStar Technologies and will be owned 50/50 by the two organizations. There remains a lot of details still to be worked out, but it should be up and running in early Spring.

There are four directors from each organization, which form the new board for AgStar Tech-

nologies. The AgStar Directors from Pennsylvania, along with myself, are Bill Itle, Dale Hoover, and Adam Derr. I personally am very excited about not only the formation of AgStar which holds great potential, but also about the prospect of working in this business more closely with Dairy One. I see a relationship developing where a sharing of resources would greatly benefit dairymen—members of both organizations, hopefully in all facts of the business. The AgStar creation brings together the foresight and energies of our General Manager, the size and scope of Dairy One, the marketing power of DairyOne through their involvement with Dairy One and the vision of CEO, Rick Smith, along with the absolute creative genius of our DRPC programming department. AgStar, I believe, is excitement waiting to happen. And yet having expressed all my excitement about the international possibilities, it still may well be that long term, the greatest success of this organizational cooperation will be right here at home.

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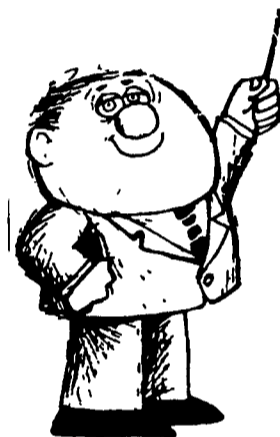
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