

## Cumberland Honors Several At Meeting

HUNTSDALE (Cumberland Co.)—The Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Association conducted its annual meeting recently here at the Penn Township Firehall. Richard Ocker, president, expressed the appreciation of the board to the retiring directors including Beverly Agar and Neal McCulloch,

Newville, Clarence Toigo, Shippenburg, and Samuel Simmons III, Mechanicsburg.

Ocker welcomed the newly elected directors including Suzanne Simmons, Mechanicsburg, Gary Shuey, Carlisle, Jerry Oglie, Carlisle, and Peggy Wynn, Newville.

Extension program highlight

included extension reports by Mandy Lehman on the Master Gardener programs and Sallie Gregory reporting on 4-H programs.

The 1999 Cumberland County outstanding 4-H'ers, Amy Kulick and Abby Zarichansky, shared many of their 4-H experiences with the group.

Fred Dillner, co-chair of the 250th Anniversary Agriculture Committee, shared the many projects the committee is planning for the coming year, including participation in the May 13th parade, traveling exhibits, and Farm City tours in September on the farms of Brymnesser, Thrush, and Stover.

Mandy Lehman and Millard Ilgenfritz, Master Gardener, also recognized the Master Gardeners who have completed the course work and have provided 50 hours of volunteer service. The following were present and recognized—Amy Holland, Mt. Holly Springs; Gail Stoner and Wendy Plowman, Mechanicsburg; Margaret Bowling and George Green, Carlisle; Lorna Gardner, Newville; Carol Caplinger, Boiling Springs; and J. Michael Larkin, Harrisburg.

Gayle Fry, Carlisle and Dr. Robert B. Weber were presented with the 1999 AA Raudabaugh Memorial Award by the association for their outstanding leadership and service to the county. Gayle Fry served on the extension board of directors for more than 14 years. She represented the poultry industry of the county on its agriculture and national resource advisory committee. She has assisted with the Farm-City Breakfast for county leadership for over 25 years. She is recently serving as second vice president of Cumberland County Society of Farm Women.

Dr. Robert Weber has devoted his life to assisting farmers in the county with their livestock. Weber, a native of the Mechanicsburg area, has served the livestock industry since 1947, when he took over Dr. Moyer's practice. 4-H members and farmers alike appreciate the willingness and dedication that Dr. Weber has extended to the people of the county.

Gene Heyman, co-chair for the 250th Anniversary committee, outlined the many activities that are being planned. Ann Kulick, 1999 dairy ambassador, reported on her busy schedule she has had throughout the fall, providing educational programs to various audiences including elementary students in Cumberland Valley School District.

During the business meeting Richard Ocker, Carlisle was re-elected president. Millard Ilgenfritz, Carlisle, was elected vice president. Cheryl Barrick was re-elected secretary.

## Revenue Crop Protection Available In Six Pennsylvania Counties

ALLENTOWN (Lehigh Co.)—Diversified farmers in six Pennsylvania counties are eligible for an innovative whole farm insurance revenue insurance pilot program called the Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) crop insurance program.

This new crop insurance is available in Berks, Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Monroe, and Northampton counties for the 2000 and 2001 insurance years, according to John Berry, agricultural marketing agent.

"The pilot whole farm insurance should work well for Pennsylvania's family farms that grow multiple crops. Many of these diversified producers have few options under traditional crop insurance programs," said Berry.

The adjusted gross revenue insurance plan provides insurance based on the lesser of the individual producer's previous five-year average Schedule F tax information or the expected revenue for the insurance year. This single insurance product covers all agricultural commodities produced by the policyholder. Expanding the whole farm pilot program will provide more experience in insuring whole farm income throughout the United States.

The AGR program was available for 1999 in 82 counties in Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The 2000 sales closing date for AGR in Pennsylvania is March 15, 2000.

A listing of crop insurance agents is available at local Farm Service Agency offices and USDA Service Centers.

**Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)**  
The Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) insurance plan is a non-traditional whole farm risk management tool. The AGR concept uses a producer's historic Schedule F tax form information as a base to provide a level of guaranteed revenue.

AGR:

- Provides an insurance safety net for multiple agricultural commodities in one insurance product.

- Establishes a common denominator for commodity production cash receipts.

- Makes simple and straightforward use of income tax forms.

- Reinforces program creditability by using Internal Revenue Service tax forms and regulations.

The AGR product provides

the producer protection against low farm revenue because of unavoidable causes. Covered farm revenue is income from agricultural commodities reported on the Schedule F tax form, including incidental amounts of income from animals and animal products and aquaculture reared in a controlled environment. Incidental livestock income represents the crop production value fed to livestock.

Coverage is available at three levels. 1) 65 percent coverage and 75 percent payment; 2) 75 percent coverage and 75 percent payment; 3) 80 percent coverage and 75 percent payment

The basic coverage is 65/75 and is available to all producers. To qualify for 75/75 coverage three different agricultural commodities must be grown. To qualify for 80/75 coverage eight different agricultural commodities must be grown. Each commodity must meet minimum revenue requirements.

AGR protection is calculated by multiplying the approved gross revenue times the percent coverage level and payment rate selected by the producer. The approved gross revenue is the smaller of:

- The average of the producer's prior five years of Schedule F tax information. The average gross revenue can be adjusted for expanded operations; or

- Expected revenue for the insurance year.

For example, a producer with a \$100,000 approved gross reve-

nue who chose 80/75 coverage would have \$60,000 protection (\$100,000 X 80 percent coverage X 75 percent payment)

Loss payments are triggered when the adjusted gross income for the insured year is less than the loss inception point. The loss inception point is calculated by multiplying the approved gross revenue by the chosen percent coverage (65, 75, or 80). Once a loss is triggered, the payment rate is 75 percent of the revenue shortfall. Loss payment for this example would trigger when the income for the insurance year is below \$80,000 (\$100,000 X 80 percent coverage).

Producer eligibility requirements include:

- Filed five consecutive years of Schedule F tax forms. For 2000, the 1994-1998 tax years.

- Produces eligible commodities.

- U.S. citizen or resident.

- Files calendar year farm tax return.

- No more than 50 percent of allowable income is earned from purchase and resale of agricultural commodities.

- No more than 35 percent of allowable income is from animals and animal products.

- Must have Multi Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) when more than 50 percent of allowable income is from insurable crops.

This summary is for general illustration only. Contact a private insurance agent to learn more details about AGR and other crop insurance products.

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## Sale Reports

### KING SALE

A Public Auction of mules and farm machinery was held March 8 by John L and Rebecca King, 1 mile north of Oregon in Millport, Lanc Co., Pa.

Some prices were pair of 12 yr. old mules, \$800, pairs of 8 year old mules, \$4,400 & \$4,600, draft horse, \$1,800; J.D. 7000 planter, \$2,100, N.H. rake, \$900; White Horse plow, \$1,750; N.I. corn picker 2-row, \$5,500; McCormick binder, \$1,400, flat bed wagon, \$775, and bin wagon, \$425.

Steve Petersheim was the auctioneer.

### DORMAN SALE

A Public Auction of farm equipment was held March 10 by George and Norma Dorman, 3 miles west of Mill Hall, Pa. at Lamar

in Clinton County

Some items sold were JD 4020 tractor, \$13,500, Case 1494 tractor, \$6,600, JD 4230 tractor, \$11,000, 1977 Ford dump truck, \$4,000, 2 Gehl 970 unloading wagons, \$5,400 & \$5,000, JD 335 round baler, \$6,600, JD 336 baler, \$3,500, and Houle 32 ft manure pump, \$3,000

Fralely Auction Co conducted the sale.

### WITTER SALE

A Public Auction of farm equipment was held March 11 by Mr and Mrs Merle E Witter, 2177 Loop Rd., Chambersburg, Pa.

Some prices received were N.H. rake, \$650, M.F. 180 D tractor, \$4,000, Hashin round baler, \$650, 10 ton wagon, \$425, Lincoln welder, \$155, apple peeler, \$20, #12

Favorite cast iron skillet, \$40, pitcher pump, \$32.50, iron kettle & 3 foot, \$140, and hog scrapers, \$5 each

John F Kohler, Jr and Dennis D Walker were the auctioneers

### MAURER SALE

A Public Auction of old toy tram parts was held March 11 at the Ridge Fire Company, along Rt. 23, between Phoenixville, Pa and Rt 100

Some prices received were Lionel 38 loco, \$240, Lionel 226E loco & tender, \$800, 3 pre-war Manhattan cars, \$350, 390 loco & tender (rough), \$375, box for Hudson loco only, \$500, 2810 crane, \$130, 226E loco & tender, \$700, 2820 flood car with cast lamps, \$370 and 2 early Marx gondolas, \$275

Ted Maurer was the auctioneer