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Vol. 45 No. 35 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, July 1, 2000 \$32.00 Per Year 60¢ Per Copy



Bob and Sharon Hess farm with their family near Marietta. This year, the no-till corn is doing well. Bob is holding Ethan, 3. In front is Travis, 7, and Philip, 4. Photo by Andy Andrews

No-Till Corn Did Well In Drought; This Year, Promises Good Yields

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
MARIETTA (Lancaster Co.)
— Last year about this time, Bob Hess remembers watching corn on fields throughout Lancaster County begin the slow, agonizing process of drying up.

A promising, wet spring turned into a drought disaster, with millions of dollars in crop loss.

But he was surprised. Hess, who finishes about 5,200 hogs on

a wean-to-finish format for Hershey Ag, used 100 percent no-till on rented ground.

As a result, he was able to fill both silos with corn silage and high-moisture shelled corn readily. Sometimes, he saw 138 bushels of corn per acre — way above the average for most farms.

The key? Simply no-tilling the ground kept the soil from heating and readily evaporating the precious moisture. The residue

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As Pennsylvania FFA president, Jimmy Mullen oversees the state's 147 chapters with 80,000 members. Turn to page B6 to read how this college sophomore overcame a disappointing loss last year and how agriculture has influenced his career choice. Photo by Lou Ann Good

Tour Of Weaber Mill Reveals Importance Of Timber To Pennsylvania Economy

MICHELLE RANCK
Lancaster Farming Staff
ANNVILLE (Lebanon Co.)
— "The only way you can pass the forest on is to use it. You can't keep it," said Galen Weaber.

Weaber, president and CEO of Weaber Inc., welcomed several members of the news media to a tour designed to showcase Pennsylvania's hardwood and timber industry. The tour was not meant to showcase Weaber but highlight hardwood production, forest resources, the importance of hardwood renewability, and how the wood resources are utilized.

Weaber, Inc., founded in 1941, is a two-generation, family-owned business. Weaber Inc. employs more than 500 people and covers 170 acres. The day included a summary of the timbering business from industry representatives, a tour of the mill, and a visit to two local harvesting sites.

The Industry

Representatives from several industry organizations also joined the tour. For example, Paul Lyskava represented the Hardwoods Development Council, a bureau within the Pennsylvania Department of

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Recently Weaber Inc., a large-scale wood harvester and manufacturer, hosted a tour of the mill and nearby timbering sites. Here Chief Forester Dennis Brehm points out the wedge method used to directionally fell the trees. The stumps are cut as close to the ground as possible to utilize the best lumber on the tree. Photo by Michelle Ranck



This is the moment readers who entered our dairy recipe drawing have been waiting for. Pictured are Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Lori Connelly, right, and State Alternate Rebecca Kilgore drawing the names for the prizes. Turn to page B7 for a listing of the 27 winners. Photo by Lou Ann Good

Money Made Available For Plum Pox

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture is providing up to \$13.2 million to compensate Pennsylvania fruit growers who must destroy

trees infected or exposed to the plum pox virus. This news came Thursday, from a release that originated in the office of vice president Al Gore. The only way to control the disease is to destroy trees infected or exposed to

the virus.

"Plum pox potentially could devastate the United States' 1.8 billion stone fruit industry," Gore said. "These growers deserve support because they have

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