

Lancaster Farming

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Preventing Foodborne Illness While Protecting Bird, Human Health At Forefront Of Poultry Industry

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MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.)
— Each year, U.S. human disease experts estimate there are about 76 million cases and 5,000 deaths associated with foodborne illness.

A real mystery: the cause of 68 percent of those illnesses is "undetermined." It's difficult to pinpoint what the culprit is, though many believe some types of viruses. Only 32 percent of the illnesses can be attributed to some kind of bacteria in improperly prepared food.

Ways in which scientists are coming to terms with identifying and treating human and animal health threats were reviewed Monday afternoon to about two dozen poultry producers and agri-industry representatives.

Dr. David C. Kradel, PennAg Industries Poultry Council consultant, spoke at the Penn State-sponsored Poultry Management and Health Seminar in Manheim at Kreider's Restaurant.

"Many of those foodborne illnesses could be of virus origin," said Kradel. "Viruses are difficult to isolate, and enteroviruses of human origin could be involved. The Norwalk virus and the virus causing in-

fectious hepatitis may be of foodborne origin."

As a result, nine sites throughout the nation have been chosen to obtain better data on foodborne illness. The program, called Foodnet, will analyze ways to identify causes to allow scientists and the industry to develop control programs.

Though the estimates — based on Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports over a 10-year period — are considered high by some, actual outbreaks could vary.

The most frequent foodborne illness product recalls are based on finding E. coli O157, listeria, and salmonella in food products. The product recalls mostly are voluntary, noted Kradel, done by company without being ordered to do so by the USDA.

Kradel mentioned the recent regional packer recall of about 120 tons of ground beef when USDA identified E. coli O157 in a sample.

As for poultry, E. coli and listeria aren't as much of a concern as salmonella, including Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) in eggs and campylobacter in broilers.

The FDA estimates there are

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Barry and Jeannette Hillborn call their favorite horses to the pasture fence of Whispering Winds Farm for a photo opportunity. Eighteen years ago Barry wrote a letter to this paper expressing his dream to return to farming. Today the Hillborns are thrilled with the horse and hay farm they developed from dormant land in Pipersville, Bucks County. Turn to page B2 to read about the Hillborns and their lovely Whispering Winds Farm. Photo by Lou Ann Good

Scholarship Winners Announced By PennAg Industries

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — PennAg Industries Association has announced the winners of its 2000 annual scholarship awards.

This year, PennAg judged 39 applications, of which 20 were from college students and 19 were from graduating high school seniors. Twenty scholarships were awarded this year — 10 in each category. The top two high school seniors received \$1,000 and the others received \$500.

To date, the scholarship fund has awarded 90 scholarships totaling \$57,500.

Following is a list of all the 2000 scholarship winners.

High School

• Janie K. Addleman, daughter of C. Stephen and Sharon R. Addleman, Curwensville. Curwensville Feed Store, Inc., Curwensville, employs C. Stephen Addleman. Janie is enrolled at Lock Haven University, Clearfield campus, with a registered nurse major.

• Amanda M. Angelichio, daughter of Joseph M. and Susan Angelichio, North Wales. Moyer Packing Co., Souderton, employs Joseph Angelichio. Amanda is enrolled at Millersville University with a special education major.

• Anthony J. Buhay, son of Debra Bowen, Elizabethtown. Esbshade Farms, Mount Joy, employs Debra Bowen. Anthony is enrolled at Elizabethtown College with an electrical engineering major.

• Megan E. Dourte, daughter of Nevin and Doneen Dourte, Manheim. Jacob H. Ruhl, Inc., Manheim, employs Nevin Dourte. Megan is enrolled at

Messiah College with a nursing major.

• Lauren B. Gerhart, daughter of Dwight and Joni Gerhart, Ephrata. Ephrata National Bank, Ephrata, employs Joni

Gerhart. Lauren is enrolled at Pennsylvania State University and is undecided about a major.

• April F. Kelsey, daughter of Donald and Faith Kelsey, Lancaster. (Turn to Page A11)

Cow Cam Named By Alta Vista

Lancaster Farming's Cow Cam on Kreider's Dairy Farm near Manheim is drawing favorable reviews. Internet viewers with ties to agriculture are especially pleased with this effort to bridge the gap between farmers and their urban neighbors. On Wednesday, the cows received wide exposure to the public when Alta Vista, one of the most used Internet search engines, named Lancaster Farming's Cow Cam "Cam of the Day," and continues to feature it under recent winners. If you want to see how the cows are doing, go to www.lancasterfarming.com and click on "Cow Cam."



Tony Striedieck completed extensive pasture renovations at a diversified farm. Tony and wife Martha also manage Christmas tree sales at Arasapha Farm in Gradyville, Delaware County. Tony's work on pasture renovations is detailed in this week's issue of Foraging Around in Lancaster Farming. Photo by Andy Andrews



These members of the York County Beef Club took top honors in fitting and showing at the York Fair. From left is Cassandra Hake, champion fitter; Richard Heineman, reserve champion, fitting and showing; and Hope Long, showmanship champion. See more York Fair coverage in this and subsequent issues of Lancaster Farming. Photo by Everett Newswanger, editor