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Lancaster Farming

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Farm Show 2001: Ag Equipment, Breakfast Sandwiches, The Works

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — About 4,000 head of cows, sheep, swine, horses, beef, goats, and rabbits are entered in competition for this year's Farm Show, which features a little of the return to the "good old days."

Remember when Farm Show

was the state's premier winter ag equipment showcase event?

This time, the annual gala agribusiness show will include a new farm equipment display in the main exhibit hall in the Farm Show Complex.

Each day of the show, morning and afternoon, the display, sponsored by the major farm equipment manufacturers, will

be managed by FFA chapters.

Dennis Grumbine, executive director of the Farm Show, said, "The Farm Show represents the best of Pennsylvania agriculture, and serves as a true showcase of the state's largest industry as well as a place for farmers to purchase their agriculture needs. In addition, the general public gets to experience

agriculture hands-on."

FFA members will be on hand in the display area to give equipment presentations and help sales representatives answer questions.

The display will be featured right in the middle of the main exhibition area (see map pages 24-33 of the Special Show Section 1 this issue).

Another first this year will be a breakfast served by the PennAg Poultry Council. While traditionally the Food Court has served luncheon and supper items, this time an egg breakfast sandwich could signal the start of something new.

According to Jim Shirk, PennAg Poultry Council assistant vice president, sandwiches will be served from Saturday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 a.m., at the poultry stand.

The sandwiches will be egg, cheese, and Canadian bacon;

egg, cheese, and sausage; or simply egg and cheese. All are on French toast bread, he said.

The sandwiches will be available for \$2 a piece.

The poultry industry stand serves about 20 tons of poultry products during Farm Show week, Shirk noted. They also feature red beet eggs and hard-cooked eggs.

The stand generates about \$25,000 during the week, about \$5,000 of which is donated to the Pennsylvania FFA Association.

A tradition at the Farm Show, this year's butter sculpture will be located in the East Lobby.

In the Food Court, 11 Pennsylvania commodity associations offer their specialties for sale in the orange East Building.

Other event information is presented on pages B29 and on pages 23 and 34 of the Special Show Section 1 this issue.

(Turn to Page A43)



Variety in livestock provides the Tice brothers with several opportunities to test their showmanship abilities at the upcoming Farm Show. Brothers Nate, left, and Joseph Tice have sheep, hogs, and beef they show at fairs and competitions. Photo by Michelle Ranck



Brenden, Aaron, Brad, and Audrey join Myra, a Farm Show veteran. The Holstein will return this year to compete as a 4-year-old. Last year Brad, 16, and Aaron, 14, spent the full week with their three animals at the show. This year Brenden, 12, will bring his 4-H heifer to compete. See story page B2. Photo by Michelle Ranck

Dedication, Persistence Part Of Farm Show Preparation

MICHELLE RANCK

Lancaster Farming Staff

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — "It's almost like a sport. When we were younger we did everything — we had animals and did sports — and we got to the time in our lives when we had to decide what we wanted to focus on. This is what we really loved to do," said show ring veteran Joseph Tice, Lebanon.

Tice, 18, and his brother Nate, 16, have dedicated much of their time and focus towards the show ring, and are looking forward to the upcoming competition at Pennsylvania's Farm Show.

The brothers help parents Tom and Debbie Tice operate their veal farm. Veal calves are not the only livestock housed on the farm, however. Hogs, sheep, and a cow-calf herd round out the 30-acre farm.

Joseph, who works on the home farm and buys and sells calves, is looking forward to owning his own veal farm in the future.

The Tices own 10 crossbred, Shorthorn, and Angus cows which they use for breeding their show calves. The family's club lambs come from their 15 crossbred ewes, and six sows produce the homebred litters that are finished out for the fair and Farm Show season.

4-H and FFA involvement launched the brothers' breeding program for show animals.

Nate, a sophomore at Northern Lebanon High School, especially enjoys the challenge of preparing the beef animals for the show ring. "If you're going to win, it takes a lot of dedication," he said. "If you don't do that, you're not even in the hunt."

"A lot of dedication" for Nate means feeding, rinsing and blow drying six animals almost every day. "I usually come home from school and start rinsing and blowing. Then I come in, eat supper, and go back out until 7:30 or 8," he said. "It takes an

(Turn to Page A38)

Company With 'Nicotine-Reduced' Tobacco Wants Growers

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

QUARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — Tobacco growers may have something to smile about — if they don't mind growing a genetically modified tobacco under contract.

A company, Vector Tobacco USA Ltd., from Durham, N.C. conducted a meeting Wednesday evening at the Quarryville Fairgrounds to see how many growers would be interested in growing a genetically modified tobacco.

The company plans to sign up farmers to grow tobacco for specially marketed cigarettes.

The tobacco plant has been modified genetically with an extremely low level of nicotine, according to Rick Coyte, vice president of leaf production for Vector.

"We're looking at various possibilities," said Coyte, who was contacted at a hotel near Lancaster. This week, Coyte and Tim Jackson were trying to line

(Turn to Page A34)