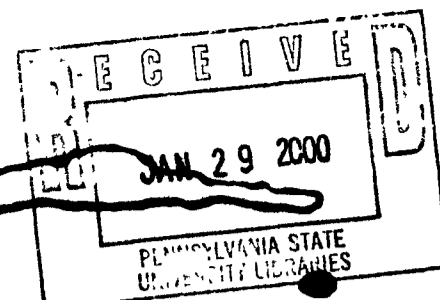


*****5-DIGIT 16802
 848 P1 123100
 056034 17850 050
 PERIODICALS DIVISION
 W209 PATTE LIBRARY
 PENN STATE UNIVERSITY
 UNIV PARK PA 16802



Life

Lancaster Farming

Vol. 46 No. 13

Five Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 27, 2001

\$32.00 Per Year

60¢ Per Copy

About 112 Attend Market, Weather Forecasting Event Conference Provides Producers With Cautious View Of Exports, Scientific View Of Weather

ANDY ANDREWS
 Lancaster Farming Staff

ALLENTOWN (Lehigh Co.) — Economic forecast for soybean growers in Pennsylvania: good, and perhaps improving.

Long-term weather forecast: That's another story.

Both were the center of producer attention Tuesday at the "Decisions: For the Real Beginning of the 21st Century" Conference at the Days Inn and Conference Center near Allentown.

For grain producers who believe ag export markets could improve price for corn and soybeans, there's good, maybe even great, news.

According to Bob Utterback, registered commodity broker, president of Utterback Marketing Services Inc. in New Richmond, Ind., and ag marketing adviser for Farm Journal Magazine, meat consumption in China "is going to grow phenomenally in the next 15 years," he told about 112 crop producers and agri-industry representatives Tuesday morning at the conference.

There will be "a tremendous demand for animal feeds in

China," he said, supplied by corn exports from the U.S. that could bolster domestic markets.

China, though a major trade player with the U.S., however, (Turn to Page A20)



In this issue's *Crowder & Mendenhall* and *Flora* sections, L.A.F., share their expertise in produce and flower-stand owners. Above, Courtney Davis, 5, and sister Julia combine efforts to come up with their own custom-made bouquet. They are the daughters of Michael and Ann Marie Davis, Manheim Township. This is a special section is a helpful producer buyers' resource list.
 Photo by Michelle Ranck

Railroads, Wartime, And Long-Term Careers At The Stockyards

Part 2 of 3

MICHELLE RANCK
 Lancaster Farming Staff

Editor's note: This article is the second in a series exploring historical and present-day Lancaster Stockyards. John M. Hooper, Melvin Horn, and Bill

McCoy share their memories of the business conducted through the Depression, wartime, droughts, a fluctuating market and a growing stockyard business.

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Vestiges of a booming

business still cling to the quiet stockyards in Lancaster. Rail cars still rattle past the stockyards, but no longer stop to deliver cattle from the West.

Pens still stretch far along the property, laced with a labyrinth (Turn to Page A22)



Lebanon Countian Renee Blatt clinched a national title last week when she was named American Honey Queen at the American Beekeeping Federation Convention, San Diego, Calif. Turn to page B6 to read about the pageant and Renee's incredible passion for the bee industry. Photo by Lou Ann Good

Three Generations Work Together On Northumberland County Farm

LOU ANN GOOD
 Lancaster Farming Staff

MILTON (Northumberland Co.) — "It amazes me to see how much the farm has brought us (three families) together, because we must work together to make it work," said Melinda Wolfe, Pennsylvania Dairy Princess.

Teamwork is the name of the game at Wolfe's Powerline Dairy, where three generations operate the recently expanded facilities. Melinda (better known as Mindy), her parents Dean and Rinda Wolfe, her grandparents Jennie and Ernest, and her uncle Ray and his family recently added a freestall barn to increase herd size to 400 and a milking carousel that holds 32 cows.

The family milks three times daily, raises alfalfa and corn on the 300 acres, and fulfills the many behind-the-scenes jobs required for a successful dairy operation.

Melinda has 17-year-old twin siblings for which she grew up being the big sister. Now, roles are becoming somewhat blurred as her brother is in charge of the

morning milking and is "the boss" when Mindy helps with the milking.

The experience in working as a team and helping each other has proven to be an asset in Melinda's new role as the state dairy princess, who with 44 other county princesses promotes the state's number one industry.

"The dairy industry is something I really believe in. It's easy for me to promote the industry, because I see its importance," Melinda said.

"I believe in the value of wearing a tiara because it grabs the attention of people, but I want people to realize that 'dairy princess' is a working title, not a beauty contest," Melinda said. "I believe the dairy princess program does a lot of good for the dairy industry. We have the opportunity to talk with people that we wouldn't have otherwise," Mindy said of the attention garnered by the tiara.

When Melinda was first crowned SUN dairy princess, she represented Northumberland, Snyder, Union, and Mon- (Turn to Page A28)



Three families work together to milk 400 Holsteins and farm 300 acres at Wolfe's Powerline Dairy. Back, from left, are Ray; Dawn; and Kathy Wolfe, holding Jello's halter; Jennie; Ernest; Rinda; and Dean Wolfe. Front, from left, are Melinda, Taylor, Randy, Eric, and Deanna Wolfe.