

Six \$4,000 Scholarships Awarded To Ag, Home Ec Students

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Food And Family
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LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)
— College tuition will be eased for six students who each received a \$4,000 Farm and Home Foundation scholarship Tuesday evening here at the Farm and Home Center.

The Foundation annually selects several qualified county high school seniors pursuing studies in agriculture or home economics fields.

Most of the scholarship recipients have already amassed an astounding amount of knowledge in their chosen fields of study. Although only 18 years old, Kevin Pfautz, through genetic breeding, has established a business with his brother in which they sell 68 head of show stock annually in addition to showing quite a few of his own grand champions.

Kevin placed first in individual nationwide swine judging after his team (Lancaster County 4-H Livestock Judging Team) won at local, regional, and state 4-H competitions.

So it is not surprising that Kevin wants to pursue a degree in animal science.

"I'm most interested in genetics and pharmaceutical fields," Kevin said of his career goal. He will study at Penn State's main campus.

Kevin is the son of Rich and Sue Pfautz, Lititz, and is a student at Warwick High School, where he was a member of the football team.

Stephanie Feister has her sights set on becoming an ag teacher, after being impacted by the teaching skills of her ag teacher at Manheim Central High School.

Stephanie found FFA so enjoyable and educational that she wants to influence others about the importance of agriculture. She is the Lancaster County FFA president and has held several other leadership positions in her chapter and in the county. She is contemplating running for a state FFA office.

Stephanie lives on a horse farm and helps her parents, Mike and Diane Feister, with their many horses.

Stephanie, the Manheim Community Farm Show queen, will study agriculture sciences and education at Penn State Berks Campus.

Amanda Lloyd's roots also

play a role in her pursuit of landscape horticulture.

"I grew up on a small farm and always liked growing things," the 17-year-old said. The daughter of Rus and Esther Lloyd, Quarryville, will attend the University of Delaware.

At Solanco High School, Amanda is active in concert, marching band, color guard, field hockey, and soccer. She also is active in community youth soccer and her church youth group.

Amy Myers wanted to be a teacher since she was in fourth grade. Knowing that she wants to return to the county and that

elementary school teaching jobs are scarce, she considered her options. She realized she really enjoyed classes in family and consumer sciences. So she's off to Immaculata College, Paoli, to pursue a degree in home economics education.

"In that field, I can combine both teaching and children," Amy said of her career choice.

At Manheim Central High School, Amy is a member of National Honor Society, section editor of the yearbook, and member of field hockey and prom and baccalaureate committees.

Amy is actively involved at

Ruhl's United Methodist Church and works part-time at a hardware store. Amy is the daughter of Ron and Linda Myers, Manheim.

Emily Buehrle, New Holland, plans to study interior design at Moore College of Art and Design. Emily is the daughter of Nancy Buehrle and a senior at Garden Spot High School.

Kristy Rhinier also plans to study interior design, but at Pennsylvania School of Art and Design. The 18-year-old is the daughter of Susan Rhinier, Lancaster, and a senior at McCaskey High School.

Maryland-Virginia 2000 Member Returns Top \$30 Million

RESTON, Va. — In its first full year of operation after consolidating with Carolina Virginia Milk Producers and becoming a partner with Valley Milk Products LLC, Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers returned more than \$30 million in profits and over-order premiums to members.

Profits increased \$1.2 million to nearly \$6 million, a 24 percent increase that means about 18.5 cents per hundredweight for its nearly 1,600 members. Over-order premiums increased \$10.7 million to more than \$24 million, a 76 percent increase.

Over-order premiums include Maryland & Virginia's 23-year 13th check for its Federal Order 1 producers. Totalling more than \$3.7 million, or 24 cents per hundredweight, the distribution is 9 cents higher than last year and 5 cents higher than average.

Federal Order 1 members received additional over-order premiums totaling 33 cents per hundredweight, up from 1999's 15 cents. Members marketing their milk to Federal Orders 5 and 7 received average over-order premiums of 88 cents per hundredweight, up from 1999's 59 cents. These premiums were generated through pricing organizations in-

cluding Middle Atlantic Cooperative Milk Marketing Association, Dairy Cooperative Marketing Association, and the new Northeast Milk Marketing Agency.

Total sales increased \$87 million to \$713 million. Equity was distributed to current and former members nearing \$4 million. Return on equity was 20.5 percent, up from 1999's 17.8 percent.


According to Mike Asbury, Maryland and Virginia's chief financial officer, "Increased revenues (as a result of our consolidation with Carolina Virginia and joint venture with Valley Milk) coupled with better net returns from market premiums are the major factors in generating this year's profits and premiums."

General Manager Robert Shore said, "We're pleased that change for Maryland and Virginia has meant increased efficiencies and increased returns for our members. That's our mission and one that we are constantly focused on."

The reports are available to everyone at the PASS Website at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/. Use the Search button to find "Acreage" report, June 29 (8:30 a.m.); "Crop Production," July 11 (8:30 a.m.) with potatoes; "Grain Stocks," June 29 (8:30 a.m.); "Quarterly Hogs And Pigs,"

June 29 (3 p.m.); or "Farms and Land In Farms," 2/23/01 and 2/12/02.

If you are contacted personally or by telephone, please remember that your response is important so that we can publish the most accurate statistics possible. After all, agriculture counts!



NASS
Agriculture Counts
By Marc Tosiano
Pa. State Statistician

FARM BILL OPINIONS COUNT

About 3,500 Pennsylvania growers are being asked for their opinions about the 2002 Farm Bill. This study has historically been conducted in midwestern states for the last few Farm Bills.

Penn State and other land grant universities in the Northeast want to offer Congress another perspective for the next Farm Bill. The survey is a cooperative effort between Penn State and the Pennsylvania Ag Statistics Service.

Opinions are only being asked on two mailed surveys sent in early and mid-May. We will not be calling on the telephone. If you receive a survey, please send it back in so we get a good mail response to properly represent the views of Pennsylvania and northeastern operators.

Floriculture Survey Results

A big "thank you" is due to the Pennsylvania producers who helped in this annual effort. The 2000 survey measured many more specific crops than in earlier years. The report can be used by growers to evaluate crops raised and average prices in Pennsylvania and surrounding states.

Pennsylvania is the seventh largest floriculture state with \$136.5 million in sales in 2000. This only measures one part of the greenhouse and nursery industry, which is the third largest sector of Pennsylvania agriculture, after milk and cattle.

Later this summer, a new nursery production report will be published to complete the horticultural picture.

Crop Acreage, Livestock Measured

In general, we have seen cool and wet conditions in early

spring but dry conditions have been the topic of recent discussions. The weather always impacts agriculture, so we are asking for your help to measure field crop plantings for this year as part of the annual June Agricultural Survey under way from late May through mid-June. The survey also measures grain stocks, livestock, farm numbers, and land values. The quarterly hog survey is conducted at the same time and coordinated to reduce additional contacts for hog farmers.

The survey includes different phases to keep costs low and quality high.

Our interviewers will visit 140 areas around the state that are about one square mile each. They will contact all operators to draw operation boundaries on aerial photographs and account for all land use within the selected area. In addition, we've sampled about 1,400 crop farmers and 225 hog growers that will get letters to explain the surveys. They will be contacted during the survey period to answer acreage and livestock questions that don't require using the more complex aerial photos.

These USDA surveys are done at the same time nationwide. So it is important that Pennsylvania producers be properly represented among the other states.

Crop statistics provide producers with vital information for cash crop farmers and current and potential feed supplies for milk and livestock producers. Hog growers can review national trends to help with production decisions.

As with all our surveys, by federal law, your name and address and data about your operation are completely confidential. The same law also protects your data from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. By law, no one can gain early access to the results of any survey.

Keep by the Phone

Prevent a Foot and Mouth Catastrophe Watch for Signs of Foot and Mouth Disease

Clinical signs of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD):

Early Signs may include:

- Fever
- Off feed
- Reluctant to move
- Excessive squealing when forced to move

Followed by blisters:

- Just above the hoof and on the heels
- Between the cloven hoofs
- On the snout

If you suspect Foot and Mouth Disease FMD in your herd:

1. Do NOT under any circumstances move any animals off the farm
2. Immediately report suspected case to either the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Contacts:

PDA - Dr. Phil Debok at 717-783-8300

USDA - Dr. Lynne Siegfried at 717-782-3442

3. A veterinarian especially trained to diagnose foreign animal diseases will come to your farm to make the diagnosis.
4. Government programs are in place to reimburse farmers for the value of their animals sacrificed in the control program.

Provided by the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council