

LifeSci

Lancaster Farming



Vol. 46 No. 11 Farming.com Four Sections Saturday, June 16, 2001 \$34.00 Per Year 75¢ Per Copy

Ag Symposium: Tools To Make Ag Profitable

MICHELLE RANCK
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Twenty-one research projects funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) took center stage as researchers gave descriptive presentations at the capitol complex on Thursday.
“It’s important that we bring professionals into the public venues to make presentations about their research,” said Sam Hayes, secretary of agriculture.
“They are asked to be sensitive to the things that are of critical

importance to farmers and agribusiness,” he said, adding that the projects should add to the profitability of agricultural production. It should be easy to transfer research from the research site to the user site.
“Our effort ought to be to make agriculture more profitable. We have to help producers remain competitive in a highly competitive world. One way to do this is to do research to put tools in their hands to remain profitable. These 21 presentations are only the tip of the ice-
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PEACCE Initiative Promotes Stewardship, Public Relations

DAVE LEFEVER
Lancaster Farming Staff
LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — As Pennsylvania livestock operations become larger and more prone to public scrutiny, agricultural leaders are taking up the challenge to promote environmental awareness and good relationships between producers

and their surrounding communities.
The Pennsylvania Environmental Agricultural Conservation Certification of Excellence (PEACCE) is a new program to officially recognize producers who implement practices that “minimize risks to the environment and in turn minimize personal liability.”
Prompted by Pennsylvania Senate Resolution 91 and conducted in association with America’s Clean Water Foundation (ACWF), the PEACCE project includes an environmental awareness course and on-farm assessment, followed by on-farm certification for qualified farms.
This year, the program is being offered in Berks, Chester, and Lancaster counties, with the goal of extending the program across the state.
Berks County producers representing swine, dairy, and poul-
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PDA Releases E. coli, FMD Posters

ANDY ANDREWS
Editor
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Thousands of posters to highlight awareness of E. coli and to prevent the entry of the highly dangerous foot and mouth disease (FMD) into Pennsylvania are being distributed free to the fairs — just in time for fair season.
On Tuesday this week, state Agriculture Secretary Samuel E. Hayes Jr. announced that the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) is providing every county and community fair with E.coli and FMD posters.
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From The Staff Of Lancaster Farming

Oregon Dairy Combines Cones And Cows



Brittany Lucas, 2, not only learned about farming, but also experienced the sweeter side of the dairy industry during Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Oregon Dairy’s three-day event. She is the daughter of Richard and Stacy Lucas, who brought their family from Rockland County, New York to vacation in the Lancaster area. See page A38 for a full report. Photo by Michelle Ranck

Veal Farming Has Producer ‘Still Learning’

MICHELLE RANCK
Lancaster Farming Staff
MILTON (Northumberland Co.) — Starting an agricultural operation from the ground up has proven to be a fulfilling challenge for veal producer Mary Jane Schrock.
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When the baby calves arrive, Schrock spends the first feeding helping them to drink from a bucket.

New Lancaster Royalty



Andrea “Anne” Fisher, 17, left, was crowned Lancaster County Dairy Princess last Saturday evening. Heather Brubaker, 20, was selected alternate. Read more about the pageant on page B14. Photo by Andy Andrews, editor

On Call With Dippel

Part 2 of 2
MICHELLE RANCK
Lancaster Farming Staff
Editor’s note: The veterinary profession, an integral part of the agriculture industry, is the focus of Lancaster Farming’s latest series. This article, part two of a two-part series highlighting the occupation, follows Peter Dippel, DVM, as he treats animals during a typical day’s work.
SALUNGA (Lancaster Co.)

— When veterinarian Peter Dippel pulls into a barnyard, the house, yard, and surrounding landscape may be quiet and serene.
The first sign of life may be the approach of a farm dog — an essential element on area farms — which is usually the first to greet Dippel when he arrives on the property.
The veterinarian has already
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