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York Countians Pursue Ethanol Initiative Informational Meeting Slated

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Lancaster Farming Staff
YORK (York Co.) — In an
effort to "preserve the farmer"
and boost the local economy, agricultural and economic development leaders from York
County and the surrounding

area are teaming up to explore the possibility of bringing an ethanol production plant to the region.

Penn State cooperative extension, the York County Economic Development Corporation (YCEDC), and a new agricultural steering committee have announced that an informational meeting for the York County Ethanol Project will be conducted here next Wednesday.

Spokesman for the project and former extension agent Tony Dobrosky said that the ethanol initiative grew out of a countywide coalition of farmers and business people.

The effort aims to join economic developments in York County with agriculture — the "largest industry in the county" — to help farmers stay in business.

"We have been preserving farms, but what about preserving the farmer?" Dobrosky said.

The possibility of an ethanol plant in York County was first suggested in January this year at a joint meeting of the YCEDC and the county's Agricultural Economic Development Alliance, according to Dobrosky.

David Carver, president of YCEDC, responded to the suggestion by setting out to explore (Turn to Page A35)

Producers And Ag Businesses: It's Time To Get On The Map

DAVE LEFEVER
Lancaster Farming Staff
UNIVERSITY PARK
(Centre Co.) — A new Website
called AgMap has been created
to help the agricultural community connect with consumers
and suppliers across Pennsylvania.

The Website, now online at agmap.cas.psu.edu, will become fully operational this fall. At that time, producers and businesses will be able to enter their name, location, and product information onto the system by following a few simple steps, said Rick Day of Penn State

Land Analysis Lab.

Extension personnel from across the state are being trained to assist people who want to enter their farm or business on the system. Those without computers will simply be able to visit their local extension office to get on the map, Day said.

Consumers can use the map to search for local commodities and get information on the products as well as the farms and businesses that produce and sell them.

Day called the map "a tremendous marketing tool" that

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Paul Hostetter of Lancaster Mennonite High's Hans Herr FFA Chapter heads the state FFA organization with 170 chapters and 8,000 members. Turn to page B12 to read about how the farm, his family, and school has prepared him for this new responsibility. *Photo by Lou Ann Good*

Flower Trials Draw Visitors To Landisville



LANDISVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — "Quite White" trailing petunia, in front, followed by "Famous Pink" and "Famous Lilac Vein" varieties greet about 300 greenhouse growers and floriculture industry representatives from Pennsylvania and surrounding states Tuesday here at the Penn State Southeast Research and Extension Center. Rooted trial cuttings of petunias, impatiens, geraniums, strawflowers, and new plants such as "Bacopa" were on display. The 900 varieties provided by 16 different suppliers were examined for their commercial properties to appear on retail shelves next season. Guided tours of the trials were conducted by cooperative extension service representatives Alan Michael and Rob Berghage, and a plant disease update was provided by Gary Moorman, Penn State plant pathologist. Pesticide credits were available at the meeting, in addition to trade industry information.

Photo by Andy Andrews, editor

Great Animals, Tough Choices At Holstein Show

DAVE LEFEVER

Lancaster Farming Staff
SUMMIT STATION (Schuylkill Co.) — Judge David Castrogiovanni summed up the overall
quality of dairy animals at the
Southeast Pennsylvania Cham-

pionship Holstein Show here Tuesday in one word: "phenomenal."

About 90 animals were exhibited by owners from Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Northamp-

ton, and York counties.

Because of the consistent high quality of the Holsteins in the ring, Castrogiovanni at times had to deliberate for longer than usual before calling the places.

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Gathered with the grand champion and reserve champion cows at the Southeast Holstein Show are, from left, Lebanon Co. Dairy Princess Amy Moyer; Dairy Miss Kassandra Moyer; Bobby Dunn, with reserve champion; Kristina Knight, grand champion; Berks Co. Dairy Princess Kristen Gross; Li'l Dairy Miss Caitlyn Pool; and David Castrogiovanni, judge. About 90 animals were exhibited by owners from Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Northampton, and York counties. *Photo by Dave Lefever*