

Farming A Lifetime Pursuit For No-Till Corn Class Winner



James Hershey won the no-till, nonirrigated division of 2000's state shelled grain class with 216.4 bushels per acre and a plant population of 29,272 per acre using Pioneer 33A14. A four-year entrant in both corn and soybean divisions in both the state and national contests, Hershey actually has several wins behind his name. A soybean yield of 80 bushels per acre netted him top honors in the soybean contest two years ago. *Photo by Michelle Kunjappu*

Let Shelled Corn Heat Your Home, Furnace Maker Says

MICHELLE KUNJAPPU Lancaster Farming Staff

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — To James Hershey, farming has been a lifelong pursuit — and has provided lifelong learning opportunities.

Hershey is the winner of the no-till, nonirrigated division of 2000's state shelled grain class with 216.4 bushels per acre and a plant population of 29,272 per acre using Pioneer 33A14.

A four-year entrant in both corn and soybean divisions in both the state and national contests, he actually has several wins behind his name. A soybean yield of 80 bushels per acre netted him top honors in the soybean contest two years ago.

Additionally, he was third in the state in 1997 for the corn contest, and last year third in the state for the national corn contest. He plans to continue to enter future competitions.

Farming has always been the career choice for Hershey and his wife, Shirley. Hershey grew up in New Holland and farmed on his parents' operation for a year before he moved to the Elizabethtown farm, where Shirley grew up, in 1977. Her father, Raymond Miller, continues to help out with the fieldwork.

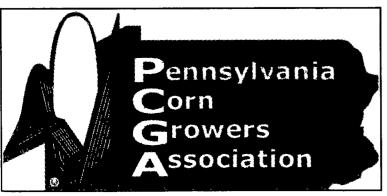
They own 250 acres and farm a total of 350 acres. The corn, wheat, soybeans, and barley the Hersheys grow are all sold.

The couple also owns an

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DAVE LEFEVER Lancaster Farming Staff LOCK HAVEN (Clinton

Co.) — While the possibility of ethanol production from local corn is being studied by



some Pennsylvania ag and economic development leaders, one manufacturer here is making furnaces that convert shelled corn into heat.

Producing 100,000 British Thermal Units (BTUs) per hour, the shelled corn furnaces provide a clean, inexpensive alternative to traditional fuels such as oil and coal, according to Pete Spangler of LMF Manufacturing in Lock Haven.

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Tuesday, January 22 Southeast Pennsylvania Crops Conference, Leesport Farmers' Market, Leesport. Franklin County Corn

Clinic, Kauffman Community Center, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 23 Southeast Pennsylvania Crops Conference, Days Inn, Allentown. Maryland Crop Insurance Workshop, Howard Johnson's, Millington, Md., 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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