

Horticulture Industry Recognized

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — DEP Deputy Secretary for Water Management Christine Martin recently addressed the Pennsylvania Horticultural Trade Alliance at a legislative breakfast on the status of water resources legislative efforts and praised the industry for its leadership and assistance to DEP during the current drought.

"The horticulture industry actively participated with the de-

partment in rewriting Pennsylvania's drought regulations, and already in the current drought, the industry is serving as a resource for developing and suggesting water conservation methods and as a point of contact to the gardening public," Martin said.

The industry has also been active in water resource legislation discussions. The alliance has listed water resources as one of its

legislative priorities for this year. Among the elements the alliance believes needs to be addressed are an update of the State Water Plan, a need for the availability of water for agricultural irrigation during drought periods, representation of the horticulture industry during planning activities, registration and reporting of water uses with no fees; and a need to avoid duplication of efforts performed by river basin commissions.

Pa. Moves Closer To Goal

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Agriculture Secretary Sam Hayes announced that Pennsylvania's State Farmland Preservation Board has approved the preservation of another 23 farms totaling 2,545 acres, bringing the state another step closer to its goal of "2002 farms in 2002."

Farms include:
Adams County:
 • Michael and Nora Keller, Mount Pleasant Township.
 • Win and Winifred Schulteis, Menallen Township.
Berks County:

• James and Delores Adam, Windsor Township.
 • Hetrick Brothers Farm, Jefferson and Tulpehocken townships.
 • Edwin and Evelyn Lichtenstein, Oley Township.
 • Ralph and Crystal Moyer, Bethel Township.
 • William and Anna Norton, Upper Tulpehocken Township.
 • Ray and Barbara Seidel, Windsor Township.

Erie County:
 • Terrill and Jacqueline Dougan, Harborscreek Township.
 • Mobilia Fruit Farm, North East Township.

Lackawanna County:
 • John, Mary Ann and Jeanne Lally, Greenfield Township.

Lancaster County:
 • Earl and Evelyn Landis, East Hempfield Township.

Montgomery County:
 • Arlene Smith Farm, Salford Township.
 • Charles, Jane, and Matthew Wismer, Limerick Township.
 • Walton Yoder Farm, Franconia Township.
 • William Zimmerman, Douglass Township.

Northumberland County:
 • Timothy and Joyce Masser, Upper Mahanoy Township.

Union County:
 • Dennis and Jeanne Hess, Limestone Township.

York County:
 • Eugene and Dorladeen Brown, Lower Windsor Township.
 • Steven and Harlan Harlacker, Dover Township.
 • Kyle and Megan Rigby, Washington Township.

Two farms totaling 84 acres from Montgomery and Union counties were preserved through county preservation programs.

Overview Of NAHMS Swine Operations Report

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In 2000, USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring system (NAHMS) conducted a study of swine operations within the 17 leading pork-producing states. These operations represented nearly 94 percent of the U.S. swine herd on sites with 100 or more pigs on December 1, 1999.

The following highlights were excerpted from a report released in July 2001, "Swine 2000 Part I: Reference of Swine Health and Management in the United States, 2000."

For sites with more than 500 breeding females, 85.3 percent of sows were mated via artificial insemination, compared to about 15 percent of sows on sites with less than 250 breeding females.

Three-fourths (76.4 percent) of sows were mated two or more times per service. For sites with less than 250 breeding females, 64.9 percent of sows and 57.0 percent of gilts were pen-mated.

For the 40.1 percent of sites that isolated or quarantined new breeding females, over 60 percent tested at least some new breeding females. Of the 65.1 percent isolating new boars, 51.8 percent tested all new breeding males.

Generally acclimatization measures were adopted more frequently on sites with an inventory of 250 or more. Besides vaccination (used on 84.1 percent of sites), exposure to cull females was used most often (49.0 percent of sites).

The average litter size was 10.9 pigs, of which 10.0 were born alive and 8.9 survived to weaning. The average preweaning mortality rate was 11.0 percent.

The most common measure taken for diseases prevention for piglets was to administer iron (75.4 percent of sites). For weaned growing pigs, antibiotics in feed and deworming were the primary treatments.

Mycoplasma was the most frequently used vaccine in sites with an inventory of

2,000 or more (approximately 60 percent of sites). More than 28 percent of all sites regularly administered vaccines against porcine reproductive and respiratory virus (PRRS).

During the previous year, 7.6 percent of sites were visited by a state or federal veterinary medical officer (VMO). VMOs visited a higher proportion of larger sites than smaller sites. Over one-third (34.5 percent) of sites had a local practitioner visit at least three times a year.

About two-thirds of sites restricted entry to the premises to employees only. Of those sites that did not restrict entry, only 23.6 percent required a 24-hour "no-swine-contact" period prior to entry.

Overall, 56.8 percent of sites allowed trucks to enter site perimeters. Smaller sites were less restrictive than larger sites.

Baits or poisons were the most frequently used method of rodent control (88.5 percent of sites). Although cats are associated with disease spread, they were nevertheless used for rodent control on 68.0 percent of smaller sites (less than 2,000 total pigs).

Respiratory disease was the greatest cause of mortality, accounting for 28.9 percent of nursery deaths and 39.1 percent of deaths in grower/finisher pigs.

Based on death loss data from December 1, 1999, through May 31, 2000, the annualized average sow and gilt death loss ranged from 5.0 to 7.4 percent, increasing with herd size.

From December 1, 1999, through May 31, 2000, nearly 18 percent of sows and gilts were removed from herds. The primary reason breeding females were culled was age (41.9 percent), followed by reproductive failure (21.3 percent) and lameness (16.0 percent).

A large percentage of sows were farrowed in total confinement facilities (83.4 percent), and 81.8 percent of pigs were placed in total confinement nurseries.

Less than 15 percent of pigs were finished in continuous flow facilities.








The average age of piglets at weaning was 19.3 days. Approximately two-thirds of piglets were weaned from 16 to 20 days of age.

ATTENTION DAIRY FARMERS

LANCO Dairy Farmers Co-Op Inc.

1373 Beaver Dam Road, Honey Brook, PA 19344

Lanco Wants You To Check Out Our Our Numbers

-  60 Cent Somatic Cell Premium. Broken in 5 segments down to 400,000.
-  65 Cent Over Order Premium
-  50 Cent Hauling - No Stop Charges On 4 Milking Pick-Up
-  Over 800 Members In PA & MD
-  7-Fieldmen To Cover All Your Needs
-  11-Local Haulers
-  No Equity Deductions, Marketing Fees, Market Administrator Test Fees or Membership Fees.

We are a farmer run and controlled grass roots co-op and milk marketing division of Allied Federated Co-op, Canton, New York. Call us today! We are truly farmers coming and working together.

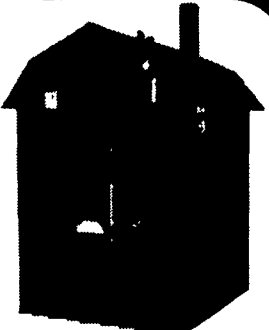
410-658-7532 - 610-273-2536 - 717-993-6808

Safe Wood Heat

CLASSIC

Outdoor Wood Furnace

- Heat multiple buildings, pool, greenhouse and domestic water.
- Clean, safe, thermostatically controlled wood heat.
- Adapts to existing radiant and forced air heating systems.



BUY EARLY!

Save up to \$350 till May 31

SAVE BIG!

"I have not used a drop of fuel oil and my electric water heater has been shut off since I installed my Classic 6 years ago. I've saved over \$10,000! And I sleep better knowing our home is safer and more comfortable!"

www.centralboiler.com

Palace Creek Enterprises
 Kenneth Stauffer

RR1 Box 307
 Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA 17853

Phone 570/539-4806
 Toll Free 888/539-4806
 Fax 570/539-4703



SANDBLASTING - SPRAY PAINTING - AERIAL LADDER EQUIPMENT



HENRY K. FISHER & SONS, INC.

667 Hartman Station Road
 Lancaster, PA 17601
 (717) 393-6530

BOSTITCH



1234 South College St., Myerstown, PA 17067
 Located just off Rt. 501 between Schaefferstown and Myerstown along Elco Dr.
717-866-9224

DEWALT

See us for all your Tool Repair needs including:
 Bostitch • Paslode • DeWalt • Makita, etc...

• Authorized Repair Center for
 Emglo Air Compressors

Competitive Pricing On New Tools
 Air Hoses and Accessories

Nails and Staples in Stock for
 Most Pneumatic Tools

We Service What We Sell and Lots More
 Mon.-Thurs. 6:30-5; Fri. 6:30-7; Sat. 7-12





For Extreme Cow Comfort
Ulti-Mat™ All Rubber
Cow Mattress Installation

Continuous Cow Comfort —
THE ONLY All Rubber Mattress
 that recovers to original shape after
 cow movement.



Absolutely The Ultimate in Cow Comfort



- Designed by farmers
- Inert — does not promote fungus or bacterial growth
- 3" nominal thickness
- Water and acid resistant polyurethane binder
- Comfort doesn't change after 5 years in barn and running
- Mattress pads are guaranteed provided the top cover doesn't have holes in it with the original installation

★ Call For References ★

Installation & Financing Available
ZARTMAN FARMS
 820 Hilltop Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522 **717-733-1050**
 E-mail: zartmanfarms@dejazzd.com

New Ulti-Mat® Dealers:
 Melvin Martin - Martinsburg, PA • 814-793-4199
 Creekside Builders - Weyers Cave, VA • 540-234-0172