



# SPECIAL

**SATURDAY, JULY 13 ISSUE**



*Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council*

## FORAGING AROUND

*'Industry, Farmer, Scientist – Working Together Toward a Sounder Grassland Program'*



# 2002 PFGC SUMMER NEWSLETTER

## - features Project Grass -



### Berks County Grazer Maximizes Soil Returns

**MICHELLE KUNJAPPU**  
*Lancaster Farming Staff*  
**BETHEL (Berks Co.)** — Eleven years ago, changes began taking place in the pastures of Papa Farm. When Brian Mohn began his pasture-based program, it was hard to find information on rotational grazing, he said. I read *Lancaster Farming* articles and got ideas that migrated from Lancaster.

Mohn, along with his wife, Karen, and daughters Beth, 12, Carolyn, 10, and Judy, 8, have managed the farm for 11 years for a Philadelphia businessman.

His investigation into grazing came because of a concern for good usage of the ground, he said. "I wanted to get the most out of this moderately productive ground."

"A lot of it was trial and error initially," he said. County agents helped in his education by conducting pasture walks and grazer discussions that helped to educate Mohn.

In the initial days, I traveled to Lancaster for pasture information to learn about water quality projects," he said. Besides adding stream bank fencing, Mohn has put in his own concrete stream crossings.

Now to get a profitable operation I don't see any other way you can be in the cow/calf business without being in the grazing business," he said. Because of smaller framed animals with improved genetics — and carefully maintained pastures that the animals do not have to be fed supplemental hay or grain, for the most part, the operation's costs have declined.



Brian Mohn, manager of Papa Farm, moves the fences each day on the farm's rotational grazing system for the 60 Angus cows and their calves. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

### PFGC Mainstay Charts Progress

**DAVE LIFEVER**  
*Lancaster Farming Staff*  
**HERSHBY (Dauphin Co.)** — Richard Hann knows the history and workings of the Pennsylvania Forage & Grassland Council.



Dick Hann has been the PFGC's chief coordinator for 34 years. Photo by Dave Lifer.

For 34 years Hann has been a vital part in the organization, handling the finances and acting as chief coordinator of events, board meetings, and membership matters. He has served as secretary, treasurer since 1968. In addition to those responsibilities, he assumed a new executive director post in 2000.

Hann recently reflected on PFGC's history, along with changes in agriculture and storage management that have occurred through the years.

First formed in 1960 as the Pennsylvania Grassland Council (PGC), the organization became affiliated with American Grassland Council in 1963. The name was changed to Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council in 1978 to more fully recognize its role in the state's forage livestock industry.

Dr. John Taylor, then acting state secretary of Agriculture, was the Council's first president. Dick Hann was the second president.

(Turn to Page 5)

- Grass-fed Beef
- Northern PA Grazer
- Northeast Grazing Network/Project Grass
- Research Reports
- President's Corner

## ADVERTISER

PLAN NOW TO RESERVE YOUR AD SPACE FOR THIS SPECIAL SECTION OF LANCASTER FARMING

**CALL 717-626-1164 TODAY!**

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 3**

