

SPECIAL

SATURDAY, SEPT. 14 ISSUE



Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council

FORAGING AROUND

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



2002 PFGC FALL NEWSLETTER Scheduled: Growing Hay In A Drought



Berks County Grazier Maximizes Soil Returns

MICHELLE KUNJAPPU
Lancaster Farming Staff
BETHEL (Berks Co.) —
Eleven years ago changes
began taking place in the pas-
tures of Papa Farm.

When Brian Mohn began
his pasture based program
it was hard to find informa-
tion 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 Be-
cav 12, Carolyn 10 and
Judy 8 have managed the
farm for 11 years for a Phila-
delphia businessman.

His investigation into graz-
ing came because of a con-
cern for good use 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 pas-
ture walks and grazing dis-
cussions that helped to
educate Mohn.

In the initial days, I trav-
eled 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 busi-
ness, he said. Because of
smaller-framed animals with
improved genetics — and
carefully maintained pas-
tures that the animals do not
have to be fed supplemental
hay or grain for the most
part the operation's costs
have declined.

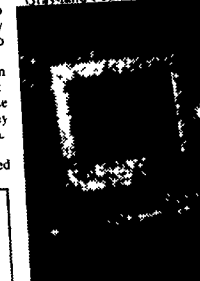
Pennsylvania Spokesman
A year ago Mohn went to
America's Forage and Grass-
land Council's conference in
Springdale, Arkansas as
Pennsylvania's spokesman.



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 Kurjappu.

PFGC Mainstay Charts Progress

DAVE LEEVER
Lancaster Farming Staff
HERSHEY (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 Leever.

For 34 years, Hann has
been a vital part in the orga-
nization, handling the financ-
ing and acting as chief coordi-
nator of events board meetings
and membership matters. He
has served as secretary
treasurer since 1968. In addi-
tion 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
forage management that
have occurred through the
years.

First formed in 1960 as the
Pennsylvania Grassland
Council (PGC), the organiza-
tion became affiliated with
American Grassland Council
in 1961. The name was
changed to Pennsylvania
Forage and Grassland Coun-
cil in 1978 to more fully re-
cognize its role in the state's
forage livestock industry.

Dr. John Baylor then a
Senior State Extension Forage
Specialist was the Council's
first president and Charles
Wolcott, general manager
of the Alton Hershberger
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