

Lancaster Farming

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Senate Votes \$6 Billion In Drought Relief



Pennsylvania Farmers Union members who attended the event included, from left, Dave Artman, Berwick; Naomi Spahr, Lititz; Craig Powell, Meadville; Larry Breech, Bloomsburg; and Sheryl Vanco, Bear Lake. Not pictured are Jim and Judy Henry, New Bethlehem. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

Vote Comes During Farmers Union Fly-In

MICHELLE KUNJAPPU
Lancaster Farming Staff

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Two days of Congressional visits plus a group meeting with Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman and other USDA officials were part of this week's National Farmers Union Legislative Fly-In.

During the event, the Senate voted for about \$6 billion in drought relief aid for the nation's producers.

The annual event, Sept. 8-11, drew 175 farmers and ranchers from across America. The producers came to the nation's capital to urge Congress and the Bush administration to support emergency disaster assistance.

Other issues the producers addressed included advocating restored competition in agriculture markets and appropriate Farm Bill implementation.

Press Conference Addresses Disaster Assistance
With strains of "America the Beautiful" tolling nearby at the beginning of the event, a bipartisan press conference Monday near the Capitol building featured several senators speaking about the importance of the pas-

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During a tri-state tour sponsored by the Pennsylvania Education Network, members of the Linvill family gathered for a photo. About one week later, fire destroyed the 113-year-old octagon-shaped barn. The family is rebuilding while continuing to farm, sell, educate, and entertain thousands of customers from the Philadelphia area. From left are Paul Linvill with his children who manage the thriving business — Nancy Dole, Susan Jochum, Steve Linvill, and Jean Hannemann. See story page B2.

Photo by Lou Ann Good, food and family features editor

Producers Fight Township Anti-Agriculture Ordinances

ANDY ANDREWS
Editor

MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — For large-scale livestock producers, the news is alarming. More than 40 townships in

Pennsylvania have considered or are considering anti-agricultural ordinances that could ban or severely limit poultry or other large-scale livestock operations.

And local governments find

themselves taking regulation laws practically into their own hands, when many of those decisions should be "left up to the

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U.S. Agriculture Secretary Announces Address

MICHELLE KUNJAPPU
Lancaster Farming Staff

WASHINGTON, D.C. — During Monday morning's USDA briefing at the National Farmers Union annual Legislative Fly-In,

several members of the USDA came to answer questions and address relevant issues.

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman

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David Fink shows off samples of densely packed, double-compressed hay, baled and processed on Heidel Hollow Farm, Lehigh County. Check this week's *Foraging Around* to find out how Fink and his family operation are faring during the drought. Photo by Dave Lefever



In York Fair's open market steer show, Kelly Hain, left, New Freedom, and "Rudy" won grand champion placing. Jamie Welsh, Spring Grove, and "Montgomery" garnered reserve champion placing. They are joined by judge Brian Kreider, Lebanon. See story Page A33. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu