

Pennsylvania Farm Show Facts

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Farm Show is the largest indoor agricultural event in America.

The 1998 Pennsylvania Farm Show was named America's Top Rodeo/Livestock Event of the Year by Events Business News.

In 2001, the Pennsylvania Farm Show was the winner of three International Agricultural Awards presented by the International Association of Fairs And Expositions. The three awards included Outstanding Overall Program for Competitive Exhibitors, Outstanding Overall Program for Commercial Exhibitors, and Outstanding Nonfair Agricultural Event or Program. Traditionally families come from all over the Northeast and around the world to visit the Farm Show as a family vacation.

Attendance at the Farm Show averages more than 350,000 visitors a year. People pack the aisles to see farm equipment, educational exhibits, and livestock. For the last two years, favorable weather has been a major factor for the record numbers attending the Farm Show. The 2002 Pennsylvania Farm Show offered more than \$315,000 in premiums.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show had more than 50 hours of television coverage by the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN). This coverage allows the Farm Show to bring the event to more than 12 million viewers who enjoy the

Farm Show, but who, for one reason or another, are unable to attend in person. PCN covers a majority of the events that take place in the Large Arena and other events throughout the complex.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show charges no admission fee. Therefore, it is a great event to take the entire family to for the whole day, to enjoy an educational show free of charge. Visitors come from all different backgrounds and countries worldwide.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show has something for everyone, farmers and nonfarmers. It provides an atmosphere for everyone to walk through, observe, and educate themselves about different areas of agriculture, the commonwealth's largest industry and what the industry provides them. The Farm Show provides a showplace for farmers to come and see the most up-to-date farm equipment and farming needs, while at the same time providing the nonfarmers with an educational showcase to learn about agriculture and how the products they consume are harvested.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show has more than 300 commercial exhibitors and more than 8,000 competitive exhibitors, including everything from horses, cattle, sheep and swine to eggs, fruit, and Christmas trees. In the northwest building, live buffalo,

peacocks, and deer are on exhibit.

On the last day of the Farm Show a sale of champions is conducted. At the 2002 Show, the grand champion steer sold for \$16,000, the grand champion swine sold for \$3,400, the grand champion lamb sold for \$2,700, and the grand champion goat sold for \$1,100.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show Scholarship Foundation awards \$2,000 scholarships prior to the sale. In 2002, nine students received these scholarships.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show opens every year with a visit from the Governor and two performances of a Pennsylvania High School Rodeo Association sanctioned rodeo on opening day.

Several of the main arena events are the Champion Horse Pulling Contest, The Annual Sheep-to-Shawl Contest (the shawls are then auctioned off), and a Folk Dance Festival and Contest. All are free admission.

A unique feature attraction at the Farm Show every year is a life-size Butter Sculpture, on display in the Main Lobby. It has a different theme every year. The subject of the 12th annual butter sculpture displayed at the 2002 Farm Show paid tribute to the many people who became American heroes after tragedy hit our great nation on September 11. It was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program,

the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association, and the American Dairy Association And Dairy Council Mid East. The sculpture was crafted from 800 pounds of butter donated by Land O'Lakes, Inc.

Each year the Pennsylvania Farm Show offers a limited edition of collector trucks. The 2002 collector truck was a Winross vintage White style flatbed truck is pulling a tandem axle trailer that's loaded with a skid loader. The custom tandem axle trailer was designed and cast in Pennsylvania and includes flip-up ramps and a wooden deck. Included with each truck and trailer set will be either a New Holland Bobcat, or John Deere skid loader.

In 2001, the Pennsylvania Farm Show and the Farm Show Commission decided to have a commemorative pin and patch designed for the first time. There are 800 pins — each is made of pewter and measures 1 inch in diameter. There are 1,000 patches—each is multicolored and measures 4 inches in diameter. The royalty from the pins and patches benefit the Pennsylvania Farm Show Scholarship Foundation.

The Pennsylvania Food Court can be found in the East Building. In the Food Court, visitors find some of the best food served in Pennsylvania. Many people come to the Farm Show just to visit the Food Court. The Food

Court is comprised of 11 Pennsylvania commodity groups, including the Pennsylvania Livestock Association, the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers, The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers, the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association, the Pennsylvania Aquaculture Association, the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation, the Pennsylvania Maple Syrup Producers, the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association, the Pennsylvania Mushroom Growers Association, the Pennsylvania Bakers Association, and the State Horticulture Association.

The Food Court generates millions of dollars to support the nonprofit Pennsylvania Agricultural Organizations.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show has a Family Living and Agricultural Learning Center. Some of the main features were NASA and the Penn State University National Space Grant Program, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, Cooking Demonstrations, FFA Demonstrations, and Family Living Demonstrations. There are also several contests in the Family Living and Agricultural Learning Center, including the Blue Ribbon Apple Pie Contest, the Greatest Cocoa Cake and Cookie Contest, the Shoofly Pie Contest, Pineapple Upside Down Cake Contest and the Vegetable Bread Contest. All of these are televised.

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Champion Results Posted For Red Angus Show At 2002 KILE

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — For 46 years, the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) has included many breeds in their cattle competition. In 2002, the exposition has grown, with the introduction of Red Angus cattle. The first annual 2002 Red Angus Show took place on Friday, Oct. 4 at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.

Truman Zepp, Westminster, Md., stole the show with a sweep in almost all categories at the Red Angus championship. The Zepp family resides on their Country Acres Farm and raises both Red Angus and Shorthorn cattle.

Zepp has had a successful season winning titles at both the Eastern National Show at Timonium, Md. and the junior show at the Maryland State Fair. After his win at KILE in Harrisburg, the Zepps will travel to Raleigh, N.C. and Louisville, Ky. for further competition.

Red Cedar Tracey 118, owned by Tabatha Hahn and the Cow Creek Cattle Co., Md., took home the grand champion female title. The reserve champion female honor went to Truman Zepp and his Country Acres Farm with their winning female, Caf Little Beef. Finally, Zepp's Red Angus bull, Caf King Mystic, was selected as grand champion bull. Caf Monu Bay 40, owned by Truman Zepp, was crowned reserve champion bull.

Truman Zepp was selected as the premier breeder and premier exhibitor.



As 2002 closes, we wish to thank our many loyal members for their support this past year.

2002 has been another banner year for Mount Joy, adding many new farms through out the 10 county area we serve.

If you are not a member, 2003 should be your year to check us out.

Happy New Year!

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