

York Farm Families Honored

JOYCE BUPP

York Co. Correspondent

YORK (York Co.)—In one of his final appearances as Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Sam Hayes saluted agriculture in general and two York County farm families in particular.

Hayes was a special guest speaker at the York Chamber of Commerce's annual agricultural banquet, hosted Jan. 23 at the Wisheaven Banquet and Expo Center.

During his brief remarks, the secretary emphasized that profitability is the key to maintaining agriculture as a viable Pennsylvania industry.

"You must nurture this industry, so it is not discouraged to the point of leaving this county," said Hayes to the gathering of farmers and agribusiness representatives. "We must do everything in our power to nurture and care for our

agriculture, because everyone depends on it."

The agriculture secretary reminded his audience of agriculture's importance in defending the nation's freedom and warned of the danger in becoming dependent on others to feed and clothe our people. He further encouraged those in and supportive of production agriculture to carry the message of agriculture vulnerability to local municipalities, government and to the public.

York County Sen. Mike Waugh, who introduced Hayes, acknowledged the changes in state governmental administration, noting that "as in the case with Sam Hayes, sometimes a transfer is bittersweet."

In memory of the late Dr. John Swartz, a long-time agriculture extension agent who died two years ago, a \$50,000 scholarship

endowment fund is now in place at Penn State/York. The first scholarship recipient will be selected later this year. Swartz had served as a Lancaster "county agent" for many years, transferring to join the extension office in his home York County only a few months before his death.

Honored as the Chamber's farm family of the year was the Richlawn dairy and crops farm, operated by the families of brothers Rodney and Robert Smyser, East Berlin Road.

The Smyser operation includes 85 milking head of high-production and type registered Holstein cattle and more than 1200 acres of forage and grain crops. Rodney and his wife, Joyce, have two sons, Jed and Brian, both employed full-time on the farm. Robert and his wife, Lisa, are the parents of Lindsay, 13, and Paul, 11. The Smyser family is a long-



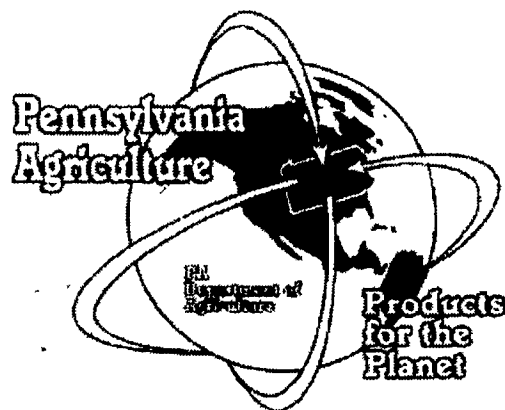
York County agribusiness of the year was Brown's Orchards and Retail Market. With the Brown family, from left, is former Secretary of Agriculture Sam Hayes congratulating Brenda, Travis, Scott, Mandy, Nona, and Stan Brown.

time participant in farm improvement and conservation measures and has received numerous conservation honors, including the 1998 Chesapeake Bay Clean Water award.

Named outstanding industry

award winners was Brown's Orchard and Farm Market, operated by the Stan and Nona Brown family, Loganville. In the mid-1950s, Stan Brown's father, Earl, moved his family from York to

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Pennsylvania Crop Insurance Program

The PA Crop Insurance Assistance Program has been extended for crop year 2003. Benefits include:

FREE "CAT" Coverage

**Discounted Premiums & Fees
(Paid for "Buy-Up" Coverage)**

To receive these benefits, contact a crop insurance agent today. List available at www.rma.usda.gov

Enrollment Deadline:

March 15 - Spring Planted Crops

D. Wolff

Dennis C Wolff
Secretary of Agriculture



Pennsylvania encourages growers to have crop insurance protection as part of their farming risk management plan. All policy fees and approximately 20 percent of net premium costs are paid for growers.

Sponsored by the PA Department of Agriculture with cost share support from RMA/USDA.

Farm Show Posts Results

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)—Following are the results of competition at the recent Farm Show.

SWINE-SUPREME CHAMPION GILT

Class: 0633 Supreme Champion Gilt: Ken Wetzel and family.

SWINE-PROGENY TEST

Class: 0651 Lightweight Barrows, On-Foot: 1. Greg and Beth Innerst. 2. Doug W. Koontz. 3. Doug W. Koontz.

Class: 0652 Heavyweight Barrows, On-Foot: 1. Wayne Brothers. 2. Penn State University. 3. Penn State University.

Class: 0653 Lightweight Gilts, On-Foot: 1. Greg and Beth Innerst. 2. Dan Heckman. 3. James T. Parlett and Son.

Class: 0654 Heavyweight Gilts, On-Foot: 1. Wayne Brothers. 2. Wayne Brothers. 3. James T. Parlett and Son.

Class: 0655 Champion on Foot: Greg and Beth Innerst.

Class: 0656 Reserve Champion On Foot: Wayne Brothers.

Class: 0657 Progeny Test, Carcass Class: 1. Penn State University. 2. Penn State University. 3. Doug W. Koontz.

Class: 0658 Lean Gain Per Day: 1. Penn State University. 2. Penn State University. 3. Greg and Beth Innerst.

JR. LIVESTOCK-OUTSTANDING

YOUNG SHEPHERD

Class: 6491 Young Shepherd Skillathon (Born '83-'85): 1. Lynn Brandt. 2. Cathryn Levan. 3. Amanda Lynn Miller.

Class: 6492 Young Shepherd Skillathon (Born '86-'87): 1. Denise Hardisky. 2. Dana Hardisky. 3. Travis Crouse.

Class: 6493 Young Shepherd Skillathon (Born '88-'89): 1. Amy Brandt. 2. Paula Lengle. 3. Carl Rudy.

Class: 6494 Young Shepherd Skillathon (Born '90-'93): 1. Abbey Benninghoff. 2. Lauren Flemming. 3. Jessica Sheruda.

Class: 6495 Outstanding Young Shepherd I (Born '83-'85): 1. Kon Morgan. 2. Cathryn Levan. 3. Lynn Brandt.

Class: 6496 Outstanding Young Shepherd II (Born '86-'87): 1. Dana Hardisky. 2. Travis Crouse. 3. Denise Hardisky.

Class: 6497 Outstanding Young Shepherd III (Born '88-'89): 1. Molly Enos. 2. Allyson R. Entz. 3. Carl Rudy.

Class: 6498 Outstanding Young Shepherd IV (Born '90-'93): 1. Abbey Benninghoff. 2. Lauren Flemming. 3. Jessica Sheruda.

Class: 6499 Outstanding Young Shepherd I (Born '83-'85): 1. Amanda Lynn Miller. 2. Cathryn Levan. 3. Susan E. Leed.

Class: 6500 Outstanding Young Shepherd II (Born '86-'87): 1. Dana Hardisky. 2. Denise Hardisky. 3. Angela Aiderman.

Class: 6501 Outstanding Young Shepherd III (Born '88-'89): 1. Caitlyn Fairbairn. 2. Katrina Joan Frey. 3. Elizabeth Kuebler.

Class: 6502 Outstanding Young Shepherd II (Born '90-'93): 1. Mary E. Martz. 2. Lonssa Lazarus. 3. Cory Shockey.

RABBITS-MEAT CLASSES

Class: 0001 Open Stewer: 1. Art Sweinhart. 2. Ed Hildebrand. 3. Ed Hildebrand.

Class: 0002 Open Roaster: 1. R. Gary Shollenberger. 2. Ed Hildebrand. 3. Ed Hildebrand.

Class: 0003 Open Single Fryer: 1. Art Sweinhart. 2. Hannah Kiscaddem.

Class: 0005 Youth Stewer: 1. Hannah Kiscaddem. 2. Alex Werner. 3. Chns Werner.

Class: 0006 Youth Roaster: 1. Hannah Kiscaddem. 2. Carrie Bush. 3. Carrie Bush.

Class: 0007 Youth Single Fryer: 1. Ben Shoener. 2. Hannah Kiscaddem. 3. Lonssa Lazarus.

Class: 0008 Youth Meat Pen: 1. Ben Shoener. 2. Lonssa Lazarus. 3. Hannah Kiscaddem.

Class: 0021 American Fuzzy Lop, Broken: Heather Walton.

Class: 0022 American Fuzzy Lop, Colored: Heather Walton.

Large dairies often require a huge labor force. How do dairies deal with communication management issues involving Hispanic labor? What are the challenges other producers have faced and what are their suggestions? See the next issue of *Lancaster Farming's Dairy Plus*, geared toward large-scale dairy operations in the Feb. 15 issue. Also scheduled news from the Penn State Hispanic Workforce Management Conference and what's required for the survival of the Northeast dairy industry.



AQUA COUNTRY IS PART OF MARCH 8 GROWER & MARKETER

We introduce a brand new component of the *Lancaster Farming Grower & Marketer* section for the March 8 issue. It's called *Aqua Country*. Pages are scheduled to include reports on farming fish, including a large hatchery in Franklin County, trout hatcheries in Monroe County, a research update on the industry from select universities, and a listing and advertising from major aquacultural suppliers. Watch for it!