

New Farmers, **New Generation**

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Pennsylvania Farm Link

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Noted farm adviser Don Jonovic, Ph.D., talked about balancing the conflicting needs of on- and off-farm heirs in a recent column. In his discussion, a 57-year old farmer was considering how to be fair to his two children when one or both may want to take over the operation.

What hit home for me was his answer, that this farmer's "true legacy was not a farm but an opportunity, a platform from which succeeding generation can build

their future." Pennsylvania Farm Link was founded on just that idea or mission, "creating farming opportunities for the next generation."

To me, and I hope other farmers, creating opportunities means many things. It can mean the opportunity for beginners to:

- Gain on-farm experience in a way that will be productive and profitable.
- · Gradually take over the business one step at a time, without biting off more than you can
 - Grow in their career by ad-

vancing from working on the farm to leasing equipment, buildings, and land.

• Stretch out equipment and land purchases so that the next generation is not overburdened with debt.

For farmers considering retirement it can mean the opportunity

- Slow down and gradually phase out of one's life work.
- Retire and enjoy life's plea-
- · Pass on a legacy and to create wealth and success for the next generation.

For both generations it can mean the opportunity to work together to build harmony on the farm and in the family.

- I believe opportunities are missed when:
- The chance to gain hands-on experience is undervalued or overlooked.
- The older generation abruptly turns over the farm with little guidance or direction.
- The new owners are in a position where it's all or nothing --that is, they have to buy everything at once.

BOLTS

• Only some members of the

family are included in the decision-making process.

- The beginner is strapped with very high debt and insufficient family time.
- The beginner doesn't recognize the value of the older generation's contributions.
- The beginner doesn't appreciate the issues involved in planning for a secure retirement.

Perhaps the most common and damaging missed opportunity is when no one talks about what will happen to the farm.

If we think of our farms as business opportunities and not just real estate, we may be ready to sit down with our families and start the planning process. Every business person needs the chance

to grow and learn about their line of work and their particular niche.

Career advancement occurs gradually from worker to supervisor to chief executive officer. It should happen

that way in farming, too. Building futures together will expand real opportunities and maintain family harmony. We need our brightest and best in farming, armed with good opportunities, to become the next generation of farmers.

To learn more about farm entry or farm transfer, contact Pennsylvania Farm Link at (717) 664-7077 or e-mail us at pafarmlink.net. Or, consider our upcoming workshops: Selling Produce through a CSA, June 25, 2003; Value-Added Marketing on Sept 13, 2003; or Passing on the Farm Workshops this year on November 18, November 20, or December 16, or January 20, 2004.



PUBLIC AUCTION ANTIQUES.

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Lancaster No-Till Field Days Set pate in its programs and activities. If

PEACH BOTTOM (Lancaster Co.) — No-Till Farmer Field Days are scheduled June 27 at the John B. and A.K. Stoltzfus Farm, 216 Peach Bottom Road, Peach Bottom, and on July 8 at the David F. and Gideon Stoltzfus Farm, 461 Whitehorse Road, Gap.

Activities will start at 9 a.m. and continue through lunch. A simple lunch will be provided.

These field days, sponsored by local agricultural industries and organized by Penn State Cooperative Extension, are for farmers using 3-row and 6-row corn

This is the third year for the 3-row to 6-row no-till corn and crop field days on the Gap and Peach Bottom farms. Greg Roth, associate professor of agronomy and extension grain crops specialist, and Sjoerd Duiker, assistant professor of soil management and applied soil physics, will bring their experience and expertise from Penn State. Grant Troop, certified professional agronomist and staff agronomist of Little Britain Agri-Supply, Inc. in Quarryville, will provide local perspectives from his work as an active crop adviser in the county.

"Successful no-till depends on understanding your soil conditions, then not doing the things that will set you up for failure," said Troop, "In Gap we have a deep limestone soil. In Peach Bottom it's a well-drained cherty type soil. We need to match our practices to soil conditions.'

Troop will discuss how coulter selection and planter setup affects successful crop establishment. During the field day, farmers will have a chance to see the results of various planter set-ups on the corn in the field.

"Setting up good conditions for notill requires planning," said Roth. "Create the best window for starting into notill, such as following soybean or small grain with no-till corn. Avoid difficult practices, such as trying to kill an orchardgrass stand in the spring. It can be done but it's a lot easier to no-till into an old sod that was killed in the fall. You've got to understand your soil con-

ditions and be ready to go when conditions are right.'

'Mulch on the surface of the soil is a key to successful notill," said Duiker. "Cover crops may be needed to obtain a good mulch cover. Not only does notill dramatically reduce soil erosion but it increases the buildup of organic matter as well as earthworm and nightcrawler activity. That increases infiltration and water holding capacity during drought."

Farmers attending the field day will earn pesticide education credits toward the applicator licenses with the state. Bob Anderson, Lancaster County extension agent, will be on hand to answer questions about personal protective equipment and other core-related topics.

Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to partici-

Greencastle Livestock

Greencastle, Pa. Report Supplied By PDA June 9, 2003 SALE NOT REPORTED JUNE 9.

Greencastle Hav

Greencastle, Pa.

Report Supplied By Auction Thursday, June 12, 2003 HAY: 19 loads. STRAW: 1 load.

ALFALFA: 90.00-97.50, ld., 35.00. MIX HAY: 75.00-152.50, few



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PUBLIC ESTATE AUCTION SAT., JULY 12, 2003 TIME - 9AM

Located in Huntington Co., Mt. Foot Spur Rd, Blairs Mills. From Franklin or Juniata Co. take Rt. 75 east or west to turn off to Blairs Mills. Go 6/10 mi on Blairs Mills Rd to Mt. Foot Rd. Turn left & go 2/10 mi to Mt. Foot Spur Rd & proceed 2/10 mi to auction on left. On day of auction, directional signs will be posted from Rt. 75 to

REAL ESTATE (12 noon)

Located on a small lot is a 2 1/2 story 3 BR framed house w/full bath, lg liv rm, tv rm, eat-in kitchen, pantry, partial cemented basement, open stairway leading to a lg frt porch, oil/hotwater heat. Out buildings incl an early framed 2-story barn (18' x 30") & smoke house. This property offers rural living in a very quiet area. Good fishing & hunting nearby! Would make a wonderful summer get-a-way. Open house dates - Sun., June 22 & 29, 1-4pm. Other times by appointment. Call 349-2482 or 734-3048. Terms - 10% down the day of the auction, the balance due at settlement. See www.fahnestocksauction.com for

Special note - Truck & car, guns & personal property sold same day beginning at 9am.

The Oschell J. Scott Estate Leona Coons & Ginger Best, Executors Fahnestock's Auction Svc. AU-2553-L 582-8565

FAHNES OCK'S



Located at 119 Cindalyn Dr., New Holland (Dir. Rte 23 in New Holland, turn on Brimmer, approx 3 mi. turn R on Cindalyn)

Furniture: Entertainment center; End tables; Contemporary folk art painted blanket chests; Brass king bed; Bookcases; Desk & chairs; Plant stands; Victorian style side chairs; Leather top drum table; Mahogany occasional tables; Curio cabinet; 4 pc. Broyhill set; Uphl. sectional sofa; Oak dresser; Antique oak sideboard; Oak circular table & chairs; Oak side by side; File cab.; Patio furniture; Maple dresser.

Electronics & Appliances: Mitsubishi & Toshiba televisions; Sony stereo; Dehumidifier; Hotpoint refrigerator; Pinball machine.

Glass & China: Good collection of pink, blue, and green Depression glass; Misc. blown; Ruby & Ruby Flashed; Diamond Quilted; Depression canister set; Milk glass; Bowl; Ironstone; H.P. Nippon hatpin holder; Copper luster teapot & creamer; Lefton rose; German decorated china; Parksburg glass lamps.

Antique & Collectible: 1800's ink well set; Old pay phone; Streetlight; Barware; Early eye glasses; C/I mechanical bank (repro); Marvel comics; Sports cards; Longaberger basket; Sterling shakers; Wallace sterling porringer; Cat's Meow decorative; Mr. Peanuts jar (no lid); Lead glass window; Washbowl set; Stoneware jugs; Ant. photo album; Hamilton case clock.

Misc.: Treadmill; Ping-pong table; Kitchenware; Bikes; Tools; Pictures & frames; Joann Hensel -Star Barn print; Myrtle Tremblay print; Books; Silver plate serving pieces.

Sale for Dr. & Mrs. Ira Wolfe

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