

# Lancaster Farming

## OPINION

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consumers for years, only beef can deliver the power punch of zinc, iron, and protein — critical nutrients that are often missing from our diet. Filet mignon anyone?

During the BSE or "Mad Cow" incident in Canada, the beef checkoff helped the industry speak with a unified voice. Despite heavy media attention, 85 percent of consumers remain confident in the safety of the U.S. beef supply.

If you are a regular subscriber to *Lancaster Farming*, you have read and seen beef checkoff programs at work in Pennsylvania.

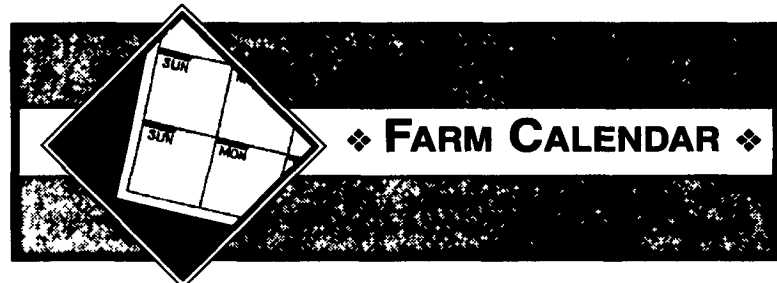
A beef quality assurance program has certified more than 850 producers in best management practices during the last two years. The beef checkoff's next quality assurance audience in the commonwealth? Dairy producers — a large supplier of beef in Pennsylvania. State retailers are unveiling new cuts in their meat case thanks to checkoff-funded research.

There are other benefits as well:

- Beef and veal marketing partnerships with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.
- May Beef Month celebrations.
- "Tween" girls and their parents learning about beef's nutrition message at Philadelphia Charge women's soccer games.
- Culinary students creating new recipes with veal, ensuring that the next generation of foodservice professionals incorporates veal into their menus.

I am proud of the beef checkoff and its accomplishments, nationally and in Pennsylvania. Not only do I direct the state's program, I help fund it. As a beef producer from Bedford County, I routinely sell cattle — and routinely remit my checkoff dollars.

The beef industry believes in the merits of our case and the merits of the checkoff. We are confident that the beef checkoff will ultimately prevail. In the interim, I encourage you to contact our office with any questions about the beef checkoff. We also invite state agricultural groups to nominate producer leaders to our board every year — we are accepting nominations. If you are interested in helping to shape checkoff programs in Pennsylvania, please contact our office at (717) 939-7000.



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Pa. Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Summer Picnic, Andy and Jessica Smeltz home, Gratz, 12:30 p.m., (717) 365-0979.

Clarion County Fair, thru July 26, (814) 275-3929.

Allegheny County Fair and Ag Expo, thru July 27, (301) 729-2173.

Monday, July 21

Ohio Woodland Stewards Class, Clinton County, Ohio, (330) 263-3776.

Kimberton Community Fair, thru July 26, (610) 933-4566.

Swickley Twp. Community Fair, West Newton Fairgrounds, Westmoreland County, thru July 26.

Shippensburg Community Fair, thru July 26, (717) 532-8911.

Troy Fair, Bradford County, thru July 26, (570) 297-3648.

Tuesday, July 22

Jefferson Twp. Fair, Mercer County, thru July 26, (724) 662-3310.

Plainfield Farmers Fair, Northampton County, thru July 26, (610) 588-7041.

Wayne County Twilight Dairy Tour, Kelly Kaufman Farm, Wooster, Ohio, 7 p.m., (330) 264-8722.

Summer Turf and Ornamental School, Southeast Research and Extension Center, Landisville, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., (717) 921-8803.

Capitol Region Summer Turf Ornamental School, Southeast Research and Extension Center, Landisville, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 23

York County Holstein Show, 4-H Center, York, 9:30 a.m.

Northampton County Holstein Show, Fairgrounds, Plainfield, 10 a.m.

Field Day, Horticulture Research Farm, Rockspring, 5 p.m., (570) 726-0022.

Frederick County Farm Bureau Picnic, Frederick County Fairgrounds.

Horticulture Trial Garden, University Park, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m., (717) 921-8803.

Reading Fair Farm Family Banquet, Virginville Grange Hall, 7 p.m.

Wine Makers Workshop, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., (814) 865-4700.

Penn State Bedding Plants Variety Field Day, University Park, (814) 863-2190.

Lancaster County Youth Conservation School Anniversary Dinner, Northern Lancaster County Game and Fish Association grounds, east of Middlecreek Management area, 6:30 p.m., (717) 299-5361.

Thursday, July 24

Penn State Ag Council Summer Research Tour Day, University Park, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., (814) 863-2822.

Field Crops Day, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Northwestern Branch, Custar, Ohio, (419) 257-2060.

Fayette County Fair, thru Aug. 2, (724) 628-3360.

Shippensburg Fair Holstein Show, Fairgrounds, Shippensburg.

Penn State Flower Trial Field Days, Southeast Research and Extension Center, Landisville, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., (717) 921-0135.

Local Discussion on New National Organic Standards, Wayne

County Visitors Center, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., (570) 253-5970, ext. 239.

Friday, July 25

# Jodi Keith, Doug Sattazahn To Represent Pennsylvania Grange Youth in 2003

CHARLENE SHUPP  
Special Correspondent

PETERSBURG (Huntingdon County) — After a day-long competition that included a Grange knowledge test, interviews, and an impromptu question, the judges selected Jodi Keith of Entriiken, Huntingdon County and Doug Sattazahn of Womelsdorf, Berks County as the 2003 Pennsylvania State Grange Youth Ambassadors.

For the next year, Jodi and Doug will travel across Pennsylvania to promote the Pennsylvania State Grange and participate in several state Grange activities including state session in October and at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

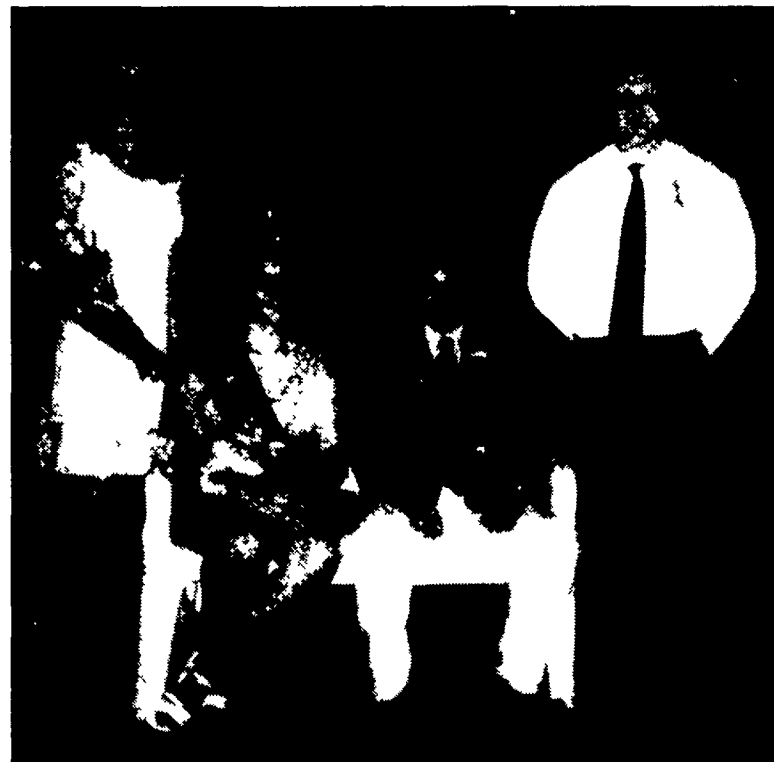
The first runner-ups were Shelly Reppert, Hamburg, Berks County and Bryan Van Tassel, New Castle, Lawrence County. The annual contest was held in conjunction with Grange Youth Camp at Camp Blue Diamond in Petersburg, Huntingdon County.

Youth Ambassador Jodi Keith is a member of Lincoln Grange in Huntingdon County where she currently serves as assistant Junior Leader. A long time Grange member, Jodi has taken on many leadership roles that has resulted in her holding most offices in her local Junior Grange.

Outside of Grange she is active in 4-H, FFA, Band, Chorus, Key Club, and is this year's Huntingdon County Alternate Dairy Princess. Jodi also enjoys playing soccer and showing cows. Her future plans are to enter a hospital based radiology program after graduation from Huntingdon Area High School, where she is currently a senior.

Jodi is excited and ready to begin a busy year of promoting Grange. When asked for an idea on how to increase youth participation in Grange, she reflects on her love of soccer noting that she would love to "organize a soccer tournament to bring Grange members together for fun and fellowship."

Joining Jodi in promoting



Outgoing Youth Ambassadors Marci Schaeffer and Brad Van Tassel (standing) congratulate Jodi Keith and Doug Sattazahn.

Grange is Doug Sattazahn. Doug will be attending Penn State-University Park in the fall to major in Animal Science. Although he will be in college, Doug plans to remain active in his local grange, Marion Grange, serving on the Fair Display Committee.

Doug also enjoys participating in 4-H, baseball, his local Junior Holstein Club, and showing dairy cows. After graduation from Penn State, Doug hopes to either own a dairy farm or enter into Ag Business.

In his thoughts on how to increase youth participation in Grange activities, Doug is quick to say, "(We need) programs for youth and older member to work on together at the local level. Youth participation has to start at the local level and then move onto the county and state."

During the coronation, outgoing Youth Ambassadors Marci

Schaeffer of Mertztown, Berks County and Brad Van Tassel of New Castle, Lawrence County reflected on their year as "one of great experiences and fun."

Each also took time to thank the State Youth Directors, Floyd and Andrea Buffington, their parents, family, and friends for their support during their year.

In her remarks to the contestants and audience at the coronation, State Master Betsy Huber congratulated the finalists for their achievements and encouraged each one to stay active in Grange programs.

Other finalists in this year's Youth Ambassador Contest were Rachel Nelson, Warren, Warren County; Whitney Van Ord, Tidouite, Warren County; Brittany Schaeffer, Mertztown, Berks County; Kolby Hollabaugh, Pittsfield, Warren County; Justin Hollabaugh, Pittsfield Warren County; and Troy Winkels, Warren, Warren County.

Sunday, July 27

Potter County Fair, thru Aug. 2, (814) 698-2106.

ASAE Annual International Meeting, Riviera Hotel and Convention Center, Las Vegas, thru July 30, (800) 371-ASAE.

Poultry Group Meeting, Maytown, 3 p.m., (717) 917-7539.

National Farm Transition Conference, Inn at Essex, thru July 30.

Monday, July 28

Schuylkill County Fair, thru Aug. 2, (570) 754-3247.

Clearfield County Fair, thru Aug. 2, (814) 765-4629.

Goshen County Fair, Chester County, thru Aug. 2, (610) 430-1565.

Morrison Cove Dairy Show, thru Aug. 3, (814) 793-4775.

Tuesday, July 29

Info Ag Conference, Adam's Mark Hotel, Indianapolis Airport, Ind., thru Aug. 1.

State 4-H Achievement Days, Penn State University, thru July 31.

Penn Allied Nursery Trade Show, Fort Washington Expo Center, Fort Washington, thru July 31, (717) 238-1673.

Penn State Agronomic Field Diagnostic Clinic, Rockspring, also July 31.

Fourth Eastern Pinot Noir Conference, Arnot Forest Meeting Center, Ithaca, N.Y., thru July 31.

Wednesday, July 30

Project Grass meeting for graziers, forage producers, and horseowners, Spinnerstown, 10 a.m.-noon. (215) 541-7930.

CFI Monthly Board Meeting, Kent County Public Works Complex, Chestertown, Md., 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m.

Livestock Graziers, Forage Producers, Horseowners meeting, Milford Twp. Building, Spinnerstown, (215) 541-7930.

Summer Twilight Meeting, Kutztown Produce Auction, Fleetwood, 4:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m., (814) 865-4700.

Penn Ag Industries Agronomic Products Council Summer Meeting and Tours, Doebler's, Inc., Jersey Shore, 9:30 a.m., (717) 651-5920.

Thursday, July 31

Md. Pasture Walk, Glenn Shirley Farm, Westminster, Md.

Northern Tier Holstein Championship Show, Meshoppen Fairgrounds, 9:30 a.m., (570) 679-2386.

Morrison's Cove Holstein Show, Memorial Park, Martinsburg, 9 a.m.

Grounds, Landscape and Athletic Field Seminar, East Stroudsburg University.

Red and White Dairy Cattle Association National Board Meeting, Comfort Inn, New Holland.

Cumberland County 4-H Dairy Roundup, Shippensburg Fairgrounds, thru Aug. 1.