



Plans for Pennsylvania

HON. DENNIS C. WOLFF
Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture

MAKING PROGRESS WITH OUR PARTNERS

As many of you know, Ag Progress Days will be in Rockspring from Aug. 19-21. This year the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's (PDA's) theme is "Making Progress With Our Partners." This theme allows us to highlight many of the important working relationships that the department has built throughout the community.

In the first seven months of the Rendell Administration, we have worked to foster partnerships. The depth and diversity of Pennsylvania agriculture necessitates strong working relationships with our partners at many levels.

From local government to international partnerships, we are working to build relationships with those who support agriculture. These partnerships are crucial to our mission-to developing new export markets, increasing understanding about agriculture, fostering a business environment where agriculture can thrive, protecting our food system, and ensuring that all Pennsylvanians have access to affordable food. Partnerships allow us to solve problems while encouraging growth in the agricultural industry. This is an essential function of the department.

Our building at Ag Progress Days will feature five program areas: economic development, agriculture education, making Pennsylvania safe, Simply Delicious, and farmland preservation. These areas rank high on our list of priorities and we have worked hard to advance partnerships within these areas.

Along with PDA staff members, our partners will participate in promoting agriculture and in building relationships with the farmers and agribusiness entities

that the Department of Agriculture represents. They will help us tell the wonderful story of agriculture. Our private sector partners help us to foster success in agriculture through pursuing economic growth and agricultural education.

In addition to our commodity and nonprofit partners, representatives of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), and the Department of Environmental Protection will join us in our building at Ag Progress Days. The strength of our state partnerships is testament to the Rendell Administration and its commitment to agriculture.

Along with PDA, the General Assembly and DCED have worked hard to design agriculturally friendly programs like the Small Business First Loan Program and the Machinery and Equipment Loan Fund. The Department of Health has joined with PDA to strengthen homeland security and, together with DEP, we have worked on rabies and West Nile Virus prevention programs. This year, DEP and PDA have successfully sought solutions to satisfy environmental regulations while enabling farmers to stay profitable.

I believe that through partnerships agriculture will maintain its position as a leading economic enterprise in Pennsylvania. By continuing to educate the public about agriculture, we will ensure that communities will welcome agriculture, and by providing agriculture the tools it needs to grow, we can ensure the Pennsylvania agriculture continues its strong economic contribution long into the future.

I hope to see you at Ag Progress Days.

Wolff Announces First Commercial Plum Pox Case Outside Quarantine Zone

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Agriculture Secretary Dennis C. Wolff announced that the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) has its first positive test for the Plum Pox Virus (PPV) this season located outside the Quarantine Zone in Menallen Township, Adams County.

"Despite the detection of the Plum Pox Virus outside a quarantine zone, the Department of Agriculture still feels that eradication is a viable option, and we will continue to pursue our current course of action," Wolff said. "I believe that this detection reinforces the need for ongoing monitoring programs."

Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and York counties make up the quarantine zone.

When a tree tests positive for PPV, PDA establishes a 500-meter buffer zone around the infected tree or block of trees. Wolff noted that two peach trees were found to have Plum Pox and that the three growers affected by this detection have been notified and issued treatment orders. All stone fruit trees within the zone must be removed and

destroyed, including the 15 acres managed by the three impacted growers and any trees on homeowner properties.

In 2002, less than a dozen acres of commercial trees tested positive for PPV. In fact, there has been a drastic decrease in the amount of stone fruit acreage infected with PPV after its initial detection in Pennsylvania in the fall of 1999.

PDA and U.S. Department of Agriculture surveyors will continue to visit commercial stone fruit orchards in the four-county PPV quarantine area and adjacent counties. Visits are also continuing on homeowner properties in and near the quarantine area.

"In addition to finding and eradicating the Plum Pox Virus, the goal of this department is to restore the growers' ability to produce peaches and other stone fruit quickly. It is essential to our economy and to their livelihood that they return to optimal production as quickly and as safely as possible," Wolff said.

Information on Pennsylvania's Plum Pox Eradication Program can be found at <http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us>.

Jackpot Show Posts Results

LINDA WILLIAMS
Bedford Co. Correspondent
BEDFORD (Bedford Co.) — A Bedford County Jackpot show for market lambs, market goats, and market hogs was conducted at the Bedford County Fairgrounds recently with more than 100 4-H and FFA members from

Pennsylvania and Maryland participating.

Youth participated in market type classes, showmanship, and skill-a-thon. Judges were Duane Sickels, Winchester, Indiana, lambs and goats; and Roger Bankert, Hanover, hogs.



Bedford County hog exhibitor champion, Bryan Smith.



Bedford County lamb exhibitor champion, Greta Snider.



Bedford County goat exhibitor champion, Ben Sollenberger.

- MARKET LAMB SKILL-A-THON RESULTS**
 Senior division: 1. Cody Waltemire; 2. Heather Will, 3. Greg Beatty.
- MARKET LAMB SHOWMANSHIP RESULTS**
 1. Tanner Waltemire. 2. Adam Wright 3. Kon Morgan.
- MARKET LAMB RESULTS**
 Class One: 1. Megan Winnet. 2. Greg Beatty. 3. Michelle Holler.
 Class 2: 1. Forrest Ohler. 2. Adam Wright. 3. Precious Wynn.
 Class 3: 1. Karlie Shriver. 2. Kyler Myers. 3. Darla Phillips.
- LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION**
 Forrest Ohler
- LIGHTWEIGHT RESERVE CHAMPION**
 Karlie Shriver
- Class 4: 1. Lacey Murray. 2. Abby Miles. 3. Sebastian Debnar.
 Class 5: 1. Tanner Waltemire. 2. Darla Phillips. 3. Cody Waltemire.
 Class 6: 1. Lacy Murray. 2. Adam Wright. 3. Lacey Murray.
- MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPION**
 Lacey Murray
- MIDDLEWEIGHT RESERVE CHAMPION**
 Lacy Murray
- Class 7: 1. Greta Snider. 2. David Neagley. 3. David Neagley.
 Class 8: 1. Deidra Smith. 2. Shannon Miles. 3. Callie Chapman.
 Class 9: 1. Forrest Ohler. 2. Kelsie Smith. 3. Deidra Smith.
- HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**
 Deidra Smith
- HEAVYWEIGHT RESERVE CHAMPION**
 Forrest Ohler
- GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB**
 Deidra Smith
- RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB**
 Lacey Murray
- BEDFORD COUNTY EXHIBITOR CHAMPION**
 Greta Snider
- MARKET GOAT SKILL-A-THON RESULTS**
 Senior Division: 1. Cody Waltemire. 2. Kaylea Ashby. 3. Lindsay McConnell.
 Intermediate Division: 1. Kyler Myers. 2. Ben Sollenberger. Allyson Entz and Courtney Cowden (tie)
- MARKET GOAT SHOWMANSHIP RESULTS**
SENIOR DIVISION CHAMPION
 Lindsay McConnell
- INTERMEDIATE DIVISION CHAMPION**
 Courtney Cowden
- JUNIOR DIVISION CHAMPION**
 Samantha Adams
- MARKET GOAT RESULTS**
 Class 1: 1. Samantha Adams. 2. Kelsie Smith. 3. Reed Morgan.
 Class 2: 1. Megan Winnett. 2. Allyson Entz. 3. Cody Waltemire.
 Class 3: 1. Ben Sollenberger. 2. Chad Menges. 3. Courtney Cowden.
- GRAND CHAMPION MARKET GOAT**
 Ben Sollenberger
- RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET GOAT**
 Chad Menges
- BEDFORD COUNTY EXHIBITOR CHAMPION**
 Cody Waltemire
- MARKET HOG SKILL-A-THON RESULTS**
 Senior Division: 1. Bryan Smith. 2. Mike Weyant. 3. Lauren Smith.
 Intermediate Division: 1. John Ebersole. 2. Allyson Entz. 3. Ben Sollenberger and Courtney Cowden (tie).
- MARKET HOG SHOWMANSHIP RESULTS**
SENIOR DIVISION CHAMPION
 Bryan Smith
- INTERMEDIATE DIVISION CHAMPION**
 John Ebersole
- JUNIOR DIVISION CHAMPION**
 Jeremy Mock
- MARKET HOG RESULTS**
 Class 1: 1. Jason Decker. 2. Wade Pearson. 3. Jeanna Dunmire.
 Class 2: 1. Wade Pearson. 2. Bryan Imler. 3. Michael Weyant.
 Class 3: 1. John Ebersole. 2. Lacey Murray. 3. Enn Geyer.
- LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION**
 John Ebersole
- LIGHTWEIGHT RESERVE CHAMPION**
 Lacey Murray
- Class 4: 1. Shawn Debnar. 2. Matt Gary. 3. Jake Wheeler.
 Class 5: 1. Jacob Logan. 2. Allyson Entz. 3. Lauren Smith.
 Class 6: Nicole Fogleman. 2. Sebastian Debnar. 3. John Ebersole.
- MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPION**
 Jacob Logan
- MIDDLEWEIGHT RESERVE CHAMPION**
 Nicole Fogleman
- Class 7: 1. Bryan Smith. 2. Jeremy Mock. 3. Shane Conway.
 Class 8: 1. Reed Morgan. 2. Reed Morgan. 3. Bryan Smith.
 Class 9: 1. Alexis Tabaj. 2. Shane Conway. 3. Valere Svonavec.
- HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**
 Alexis Tabaj
- HEAVYWEIGHT RESERVE CHAMPION**
 Reed Morgan
- GRAND CHAMPION**
 Alexis Tabaj
- RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION**
 Reed Morgan
- BEDFORD COUNTY EXHIBITOR CHAMPION**
 Bryan Smith