

# Lancaster Farming

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## Wachovia To Drop Ag Lending Fate Of Many Farm Loans Unclear

DAVE LEFEVER  
Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Wachovia, one of the biggest ag lenders in the area, recently announced it will be getting out of the farm loan business in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

“We’re going to be exiting what we call our agrifinance

portfolio,” said Jan Armfield, Wachovia regional president.

Low farm commodity prices and the high risk of agriculture loans are the main reasons Armfield gave for the divestment.

According to Armfield, the bulk of the bank’s ag lending business in the area is made up of clients who generate \$3 million to

\$15 million in annual revenues. That portfolio will be open to bids from other lending institutions to purchase either whole or piecemeal within the year.

“I would hope that we’re out of (the portfolio) in six to 12 months,” Armfield said.

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## Corn Harvest Aid Comes Through

DAVE LEFEVER  
Lancaster Farming Staff

GORDONVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — The majority of the silage corn crop has been harvested in Lancaster and Chester counties, thanks to a coordinated aid effort put on by disaster workers and Penn State extension.

Tropical Storm Isabel had created a major dilemma for farmers when winds flattened cornfields throughout the area. Amish and other horse farmers were especially in need because “it was impossible to harvest a lot of the corn with a corn binder,” said David Hoover, Corn Harvest Aid coordinator based in Gordonville.

Amish bishops decided to permit custom operators to harvest corn on Amish farms. The Corn Harvest Aid office set about mak-

ing sure farmers in need were connected with custom harvest-

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## PDA Hosts Second Ag Ed Workshop, Issues Forum

CHARLENE M. SHUPP  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — More than 230 people gathered here at the Farm Show Complex Thursday to participate in the second quarterly Agriculture Issues Forum.

With the many concerns facing Pennsylvania agriculture, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) sponsors this forum to bring information about issues to the general public, but

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## Agriculture, Environmental Leaders Launch Water Planning Act

DAVE LEFEVER  
Lancaster Farming Staff

LOGANVILLE (York Co.) — Stan Brown believes in smart water planning. He wants to be sure there will be enough of the essential commodity to go around in the future.

“For those of us in productive agriculture, there’s one certainty and that’s the uncertainty of

weather,” said the longtime orchardist and owner of Brown’s Orchard and Farm Market in Loganville.

Throughout the past 10 years, droughts have been coming to the region on an almost regular basis. Increasing competition for water in many areas, including this part of southern York County, makes the need for water resource plan-

ning even more urgent.

And as Brown pointed out, “You can’t manufacture artificial water.”

Brown hosted top officials from the Pennsylvania departments of agriculture (PDA) and environmental protection (DEP) at his farm market Monday to address the topic of water and what a recently updated water plan will mean to farmers and other business operators.

Dennis Wolff, secretary of agriculture, and Kathleen McGinty, secretary of environmental pro-

tection, said the Water Resources Planning Act (Act 220 of 2002) will help farmers and others safeguard their water supply and protect the environment.

Under the Act, operations using more than 10,000 gallons of water per day, averaged over a 30-day period, are required to register their water withdrawal rates with DEP. For one example, a 200-cow dairy with replacement stock uses roughly 10,000 gallons a day, according to Wolff.

Preregistration forms, specifying whether users are required to

register and whether they prefer registering by paper or on the DEP Website, are to be sub-

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Sheep and their exhibitors model classy wool fashion at KILE Lead Line competition. Winners in the senior division, from left, are Katye Nolte, first, and Melana Lovell, second. Turn to page B2 to find out more about this and the Make-It-With-Wool event.

Photo by Lou Ann Good, food and family features editor



Manheim Farm Show caps a season-long list of fairs we cover at Lancaster Farming. During Manheim Farm Show Tuesday, Seth Reifsnyder, second from left, exhibits his grand champion steer. From left, Tom Geibney, judge; Reifsnyder; Diana Lynn Orley; Mrs. Walter Heistand; and Alicia Geib, Manheim Alternate Farm Show Queen. See inside for more farm show coverage. Story is on page A28. Photo by Charlene Shupp

## Boarder and Trainer

SECTION 2 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2003

### ‘Old-Fashioned’ Just Might Be The Best Fashion



A farmer's workbench is his anvil and Tom Suggenthaler hammers the shoe into the proper shape for the perfect fit. Photo by Nick Leiber.

NIKELEFFER  
Special Correspondent  
ROCK SPRINGS (Centre Co.) — Sometimes the old-fashioned way is the best. New technologies are about every day, but showing a horse still time-honored as eye limits before the 21st century.

Through the Equine Experience at the 2003 Ag Program (Sept. 28-30), the owners and exhibitors received a lesson in horse shoeing from a big time farrier, Tom Suggenthaler.

In his presentation he explained the gradual process of shoeing. It's an 18- to 20-year-old horse and didn't get some old-fashioned shoeing.

A brief review of the present in Suggenthaler took a 4-month farrier course at a horse shoeing school in Colorado, but said he still learned the basics.

A guy told me once that it is all in your head and all you need will make you a farrier, he said. I am always learning as a farrier.

Suggenthaler listed the reasons to shoe a horse with it is as the number one. A lot of times a horse's feet are natural, it's what I want to protect the feet in that situation, he said.

It's hard to give an equine shoeing lesson, Suggenthaler said, when they are busy up there, putting a horse in a riding tank. (Turn to Page E10)

### Healthy Horses Come From Proper Feeding

NIKELEFFER  
Special Correspondent  
ROCK SPRINGS (Centre Co.) — Horses are just as fit as about their weight as humans.

Not one of the three horses evaluated by Dr. Katie Young, consulting equine nutritionist for Pooka Mills, stood still for the audience at the 2003 Ag Program (Days Equine Experience seminar on proper nutrition and feeding (Turn to Page E11)



Dr. Ed Jodrozowski, Penn State University, holds a 1,210-pound mare while Dr. Katie Young, Pooka Mills, feels there are a number to determine the health of the horse using body condition scoring. Photo by Nick Leiber.

### Want To Ride Trails? Learn To Ride Them Right

NIKELEFFER  
Special Correspondent  
ROCK SPRINGS (Centre Co.) — Bad and loose. While enjoy their miles and they intend to ensure that they are able to continue riding them.

The couple who live in Lancaster County wish to make an occasion for themselves as volunteers for the Penna. and Equine Council. They want to keep public lands open to trail riders. To do so they believe they must be better on the land, be conservative, ride properly and teach others to do the same.

They took a class in the mountains of Virginia and now teach other horse riders the Leave No Trace method of horse recreation.

At the 2003 Ag Program (Days Equine Experience) the couple shared their experience with the audience. They said they are the only people south of South Carolina.

### This issue includes the fall Lancaster Farming Boarder & Trainer, our comprehensive section on the horse industry!

Included: information on proper riding trails, lessons from a popular farrier, proper feeding of horses, information from a horse “dentist,” round pen training, and tips from a harness maker. Articles about horse care and a calendar of horse show and meeting events round out the section.

### Inside The Farmer

- ✓ KILE Lead Line page B2.
- ✓ Manheim Dairy Show page A37.
- ✓ KILE Angus Show page D4.