

David G. Graybill

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Farming Operation: Dave operates a dairy/crop/honeybee farm in Juniata County; Unfortunately, the dairy herd was sold May 2022 because the landlords have signed a lease to build commercial solar on most of the crop land. The solar build was to happen fall 2022 but has not happened yet, maybe in 2024. He is cropping the land until the solar build happens. Currently, the barns are being utilized as custom housing for dairy replacement heifers. The farm is rented from landowners who reside in the Washington DC area. It is about 400 acres. Corn, soybeans, hay, and small grains are grown. Ten thousand bushels of on-farm grain storage adds value. Sunflowers have been added as a double crop after barley for soil health, bird seed, and eye appeal. The landowners love them. A beekeeping enterprise adds sale of raw honey, queen bees, and nucs from 60 hives.

History of Experience in Agriculture: Dave grew up on a farm in Juniata County. His family had 2000 laying hens producing eggs sold door to door on a weekly route, they milked 3 cows by hand, cropped 60 acres, grew vegetables for the route, raised a few sows and fat hogs, and timbered their own 40 acres of wooded ground. Before college he worked on a dairy farm, farmed crops, and ran a home repairs business. After college he worked as a broiler flock supervisor for 7 years. Additional duties with broilers were new house design and construction, chicken catching crew supervisor, and disinfection crew supervisor plus the pesticide license for the broiler division.

He taught high school agricultural education for 4 years in Snyder County. Classes included FFA leadership, veterinary science, small engines, building construction, plumbing, electrical wiring, welding (stick, mig, tig, torch, plasma) and adult farmers program. He was among the first dozen individuals to be certified as a nutrient plan writer in Pennsylvania during his teaching years.

September 1 of 2000, started Dave's 22-year dairy farming career. Success in dairying through low milk prices in 2002-2004, 2009, 2015-2022 to mention a few lows has been demanding. Factors contributing to financial stability have been high quality milk, above average components, high rate of herd fertility, attention to little details, and great employees.

Education: Dave received his associate degree in 1987 from Hesston College, KS. He received a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education in 1989, with a minor in poultry, and certification to teach in Ag Ed and general science from Penn State.

Community Experience: Dave served 8 years (2014-2022) as Pennsylvania Farm Bureau State Board Director for District 10 (encompassing Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, and Perry Counties) before hitting term limit. He served 3 years (2019-2022) on PFB's executive committee. He served as a board member of the PA Friends of Ag Foundation for 3 years (2019-2022). He chaired the Natural and Environmental Resources & Dairy and Farm Issues State board committees. He has served in many capacities at the county level, board member, member services chair, membership

processor, newsletter editor, membership chair, legislative committee, vice president, and president.

Other Community Activities: Dave and his wife Marie serve as deacons in their church. Dave serves on church board. He served as a member-at-large on the Chesapeake Bay Partnership Ag Workgroup since 2017. He served a 2-year term (2020-2022) on the EPA's Farm and Ranch and Rural Communities Committee (FRRCC) and is currently reappointed and serving another 2-year term (2023-2024) on FRRCC. He served on the Farmer advisory committee for the Ag Departments in Juniata County. He served as secretary for West Branch Crop Association. He served on the Beaver Fair board for 5 years. He served on the Snyder County Extension board. He served on the Youth Livestock committee in Snyder County. He served on the Farmer Advisory board for Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Foundation. He served on the Pennsylvania Watershed Implementation Phase III workgroup.