



Many of you may have seen "The Good Egg" as created by the Pennsylvania Egg Marketing Association, which made its debut at the recent Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg.

Every Month Is Egg Month

- Did you do all you could to help promote your industry in the past year?
- Do you talk EGGS to consumers?
- Do you explain their many nutritional advantages?
- Do you set the example when you take your family out for a meal and order eggs in some form?
- Do you have the feeding program which gives the best return per dollar spent?

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● Swine Meeting

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Philadelphia markets are now our main source of cholera infections. The use of serum alone as a means of controlling the spread of hog cholera in sales barns may come into use as the need for an attenuated vaccine lessens, Dunn said.

CONDENSATION AND VENTILATION

Livestock specialist Dwight Younkin discussed the problem of condensation and how to solve it with insulation and ventilation.

He explained the relationship between air temperature and humidity, and the effects of each on the rate of condensation. For example, he said, when relative humidity is at 70 percent, and the inside air temperature is at 60 degrees, condensation will occur when the moist air hits cold walls and is cooled to 50 degrees.

Younkin pointed out that while condensation isn't too much of a problem in a slatted floor building, without slats pens and floors will get messy in short order.

He reviewed different types and values of insulating materials that could be used to keep walls warm and prevent condensation. Younkin recommended a minimum insulation value of 60 for walls, which he said could be obtained by using two-inch thick insulating bats or blankets.

"To reduce heat loss however," Younkin said, "you'll have to have at least four inches of insulation in the ceiling."

Ventilation, the specialist said, is a must to properly remove moisture from hog buildings. He described several systems that could be used involving slot and fan combinations in either new houses or remodeled barns.

A critical time for ventilation is when sows are farrowing in the hot weather. He explained a system of "zone air conditioning" being used by

many large operators. It is handled by piping cool air directly to the sow, and making it available continuously during farrowing. "Fans will circulate air in summer, but they don't help much in cooling the animals," Younkin said.

MEAT EVALUATION CENTER

Younkin told the swine producers that the new meat evaluation center at Penn State will soon be available to them for swine testing programs. Such factors will be measured as feed efficiency, rate of gain, feet and leg characteristics, and, after dressing animals out, ham-loin percentage, back-fat, and loin-eye will be determined, he said.

February 1 is the nominating date for hog entries, and April 15 will be the date pigs come into the center. The testing facilities contain 10 cattle, 20 hog, and 5 sheep pens, Younkin said, with each pen holding six animals. The purpose of the program is to evaluate sire groups, he said, explaining that all six pigs a breeder enters as one pen must have a common sire, but they may come from as many as six different dams.

He urged the swine producers with breeding programs to take advantage of this new service, and invited anyone who wished to visit the facilities to do so.

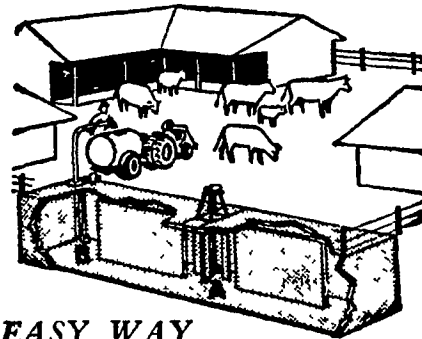
A meeting of officers and directors of the county swine association met briefly following adjournment of the educational program.

PROTECT BABY PIGS

Cold, drafty, wet farrowing pens cause troubles with baby pigs. This is why about one-third of all pigs born never reach market. The high death rate among baby pigs can often be prevented by good management, reminds Lester A. Burdette, extension livestock specialist at Penn State University.

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