

# Rural Development Tour Planned October 6 and 7

Plans for the 1971 Rural Development Tour have been completed, says Dr. Donald A. Harter, Penn State University Extension resource development agent and chairman of the tour committee.

The two-day tour will begin October 6 in Chester County with the first stop being at C. P. Yeatman and Sons, Inc., Avondale, Chester County mushroom producer. Aided by the latest developments in production, this operation produces four crops of cultivated mushrooms in a continuing year round operation. Special houses containing 131,000 square feet of bed space produce a 1,500,000 pound crop which is marketed through a local cooperative processing cannery.

Other stops include: Green Valley Farms, Avondale, Chester County—On this modern farm, animal wastes from a herd of 200 milk cows is recycled back to cropland, pastures, and woodland through a system of aerobic lagoons and irrigation sprinklers. Monitoring procedures and laboratory tests are carried out to measure the ecological implications of this pioneering venture.

The Conard-Pyle Co., West Grove, Chester County—This is the largest concern in Pennsylvania as well as the oldest in the U. S. merchandising by mail order. This firm annually produces 500,000 field grown rose plants, and 700,000 can-grown ornamental plants, the latter in plastic-covered winter protection houses.

Davida Pines, Plowville, Berks County—Ecology has been a dominant concern in the design and development of homes on this 100 acres of beautiful woodland to provide a new concept in family vacationing.

Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area located in Lebanon and Lancaster Counties—This 5,000 acres under development by the Pennsylvania Game Commission is planned as multi-use recreation project which may be enjoyed equally by the sportsman, amateur naturalists, and outdoor enthusiasts. While controlled water fowl hunting is planned as a major feature of the area, picnic sites, nature trails, and mountain overlooks are also being developed.

Cloisterdale Farms, Inc., Ephrata, Lancaster County—A modern egg production plant which uses highly mechanized practices to manage 270,000 layers in cages. The Bressler drying system, a recent innovator in poultry waste management, is used for manure disposal. The system was developed at Pennsylvania State University.

Aaron Z Stauffer Farm, Ephrata, Lancaster County—This highly diversified 87 acre family farm serves as a good example of the effects of increasing urban pressures on agricultural practices.

Nolde Forest State Park,

Reading RD1, Berks County—This 644 acre tract is under development by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources as an environmental Education Center. Development of the Center will enable a wide range of teachers and students to become better acquainted with ecological concerns.

The theme of the tour is: Agricultural Progress and Urban Development; Values in Conflict.

Headquarters for the tour will be the Colonial Motor Lodge, Denver, just off the Pennsylvania Turnpike Exit 21.

The annual banquet will be held at 7 p.m. October 6, at tour headquarters. R. M. Davis, state conservationist, USDA Soil Conservation Service, will be master of ceremonies. A featured speaker will be announced later.

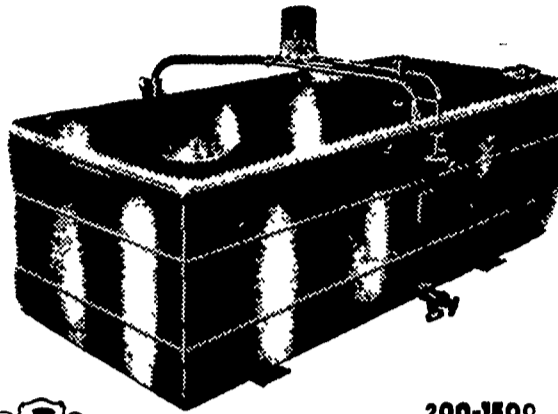
Interested persons who would like to participate in the tour may contact: Orval Bass, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, Pa. 17601, Telephone (717) 394-0681.

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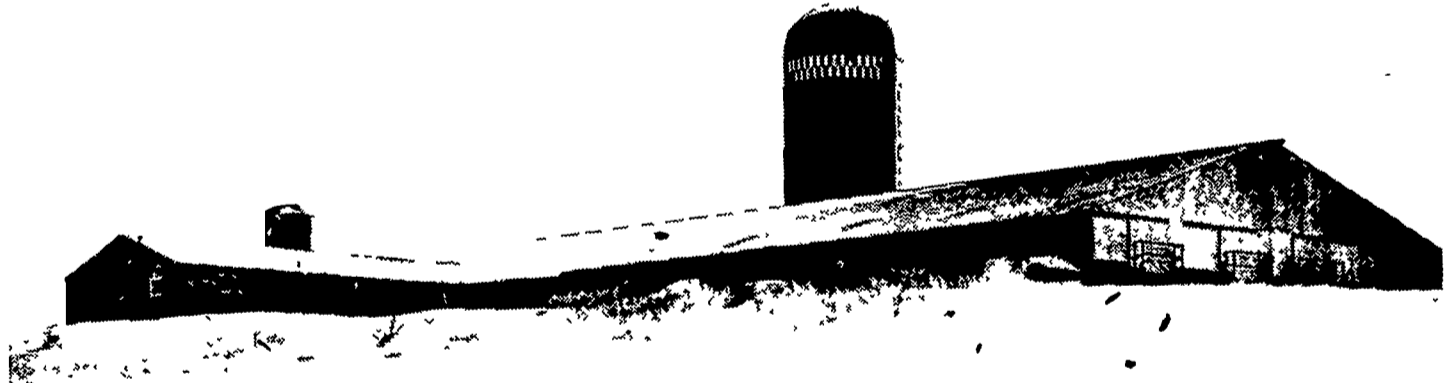
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