

Farm-city weekend tours slated

The Chester-Delaware County Farmers' Association will be sponsoring a Farm-City weekend on November 15-16 to which all interested persons are invited.

Twenty-three farm operations, greenhouses, mushroom houses, and other agriculturally related businesses will be open next Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Brochures describing the activities are available in schools and businesses of the area. The purpose of the Farm-City weekend is to "build a bridge of understanding with our city and urban neighbors."

Following is a list of farms to be seen, and brief highlights about each:

Amyr Farms, North of Oxford, - Dr. Richard Stoneback and family specialize in purebred Arabian horses, and a goat operation complete with box stalls, stanchions, and milking parlor.

McFadden Greenhouses, Wedgewood Rd., south of Oxford - 65,000 square-foot growing area under glass and fiberglass. Flowers, especially roses, are the specialty and they're marketed throughout the

Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington areas.

John K. Harnish Poultry Farm, Oxford - open Saturday only. A 12,000 cage operation with complete facilities for processing, washing, and grading.

Paul Johnson, at the end of Waterway Rd. on Route 472 - two mushroom houses, one double filled and one empty. Open Saturday only.

Penn Lea Farm, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hatton - Route 896 at Elkview. Milk from their 128 Holsteins is allowed to be sold retail without pasteurization. Free-stall parlor operation.

Ar-Joy Farm, west of Route 10 between Cochranville and Russellville. Owned by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hershey and family, the farm consists of a 50-cow registered Holstein herd and 500 hogs raised on slats in a fattening operation with automatic feeding and watering systems.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Lapp, Cochranville - 750 acre farm, with corn the primary crop. Chick to broiler operation for 70,000 birds raised in a 44 by 460 foot house with environmental control and continuous light.

Gum Tree Stables, just off of Route 10, north of

Cochranville. Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Harris are the owners of facilities for resting, breaking, and conditioning race horses. Pony rides available with proceeds going to Children's Hospital, Philadelphia.

Modern Mushroom Farms, Inc., Toughkenamon - the largest and most modern mushroom growing plant in the East. Every phase of mushroom growing can be seen by visitors.

R. and S. Barnard Orchard and Greenhouse, three miles east of Unionville of Rt. 842. Fifty acres of fruit trees and 12,000 bushel cold storage facilities. Also a large flower growing operation specializing in snapdragons and carnations.

Louise R. McMullan, Pocopson - a small dairy farm with 21 milking cows

which has been in the same family for over 60 years.

Woodward Brothers Dairy Farm with collection of old tractors and implements in working order is open to visitors on Saturday only. Located south of Pocopson.

Nussex Farms, West Chester, produces 50,000 gallons of cider, annually. A full line of vegetables are grown on his farm, which also include 160 acres of fruit trees.

The Nancy Riser Goat Farm on Pennell Rd., Glen Riddle, has a milking herd of 24 goats and has been on DHIA for nine years.

The Far Out Cactus Greenhouse, located three miles south of West Chester, features the largest collection of cactus on the East Coast. Fifteen hundred varieties can be viewed in a

typical greenhouse operation from seed growing; to retail sale.

Harry Bickel, West Chester, has a 250 acre dairy farm with free stalls and 60 cows. Crops include corn, hay, and small grains.

Linville Orchard - largest known octagonal barn; 300 acres of fruit trees and vegetables. It is one of the last fruit and vegetable farms in the Philadelphia suburban area. Take Route 452 off Rt. 1 and look for farm on West Knowlton Road.

Patty-Run Farm, located 1/4 mile west of Bridge Street exit on Route 724 on Klob Rd. Owned and operated by Daniel Klob and family, the farm consists of 170 acres, 55 Holsteins, and 500 laying chickens.

Bachelors Flowers is a retail florist operation

complete with nine air-conditioned and CO2 controlled greenhouses. Located at Snowdenville.

More than 100 Holsteins, a milk processing plant, and a dairy store are the chief attraction at William and Lester High's Ridgela Farm at Bucktown.


Titus Beam at Elverson has 500 feeder hogs, 150 beef cattle and some sheep on his 225 acre farm.

A 100-head of registered Syrsures in a conventional tiestall bran can be seen at the Charles Gable farm, south of Elverson.

A fish farm covering 46 acres is the attraction at Mahlon Kurtz's about 3 1/2 miles south of Elverson. Thirty-two ponds are used for warm water fish production.

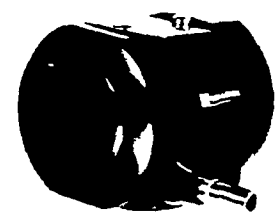

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