

# Feeder pig committee discusses promotion

Feeder pig industry image improvement, pig management information, production problem research and promotion programs were initiated at the first meeting (May 12) of the National Pork Producers Council's Feeder Pig Committee.

"Although some NPPC member states have had feeder pig funding and projects, this important segment has not been specifically identified in our national program," Chairman William Buller of Brookings, South Dakota said. "Even though many of our research and other programs of the NPPC related to the feeder pig

segment as well as the finisher, we will now be expanding these programs to encompass all segments of the pig and pork production industry."

The funding of projects and programs initiated by this new NPPC committee will be made possible with its two-cent share of other recently approved five-cent investment program of the feeder pig industry that is to be initiated July 1. The remaining three cents per feeder pig will be returned to the state of origin for investment by the member state pork producers organization.

Buller stated that the

committee's policy is to cooperate with all segments of the feeder pig industry in programs beneficial to the feeder pig and market hog producer. The committee also recommends that all NPPC member states form feeder pig committees at the state and local level to give better direction and to complement the projects of the state and national programs.

Funds will be collected at the first point of sale and forwarded to the NPPC office in Des Moines, Iowa. The NPPC will then coordinate return of funds to the state of origin with those that

are received from the market hog investment program. Several feeder pig markets and organizations across the country have already endorsed the program.

Besides image improving programs, development and distribution of educational material, specific feeder pig production problem research and support of ongoing NPPC national promotion programs, the NPPC's share of the investment from feeder pigs will be used to develop and update reference information on state regulations pertaining to the

importation of feeder pigs into each state. The committee also recommended that the USDA livestock grading department be contacted in respect to updating feeder pig grades and better coordination of grading standards between states.

In addition, the NPPC Feeder Pig Committee has initiated planning for a feeder pig symposium this fall that will include pre-selling management, in-transit management, grading changes and customer management. Fact sheets and proceedings from the information

presented would be prepared for distribution to producers from the NPPC.

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NORRISTOWN — Dr. James Prier was awarded the certificate of "Friend of 4-H" recently in appreciation of his time and effort in teaching a 4-H Veterinary Science Workshop. This leaders' training course was open to all 4-H leaders interested in working with the 4-H Veterinary Science Project, either as a single project or as part of an existing program such as a sheep or horse club.

Dr. Prier owns the Centre

Square Veterinary Center, and is on the faculty of Temple University and the director of Public Health for Pennsylvania.

Leaders from throughout Montgomery County participated in the 10-week course. Those attending were: Lynn Paul; Ann Stever; Jenny Suffel; Jane Haentze; Ginny Kibler; Marty Holmes; Tony Neve; Jim Levis; Karen Homer; Chris Jones; and Nancy Kadwill, county agricultural agent.

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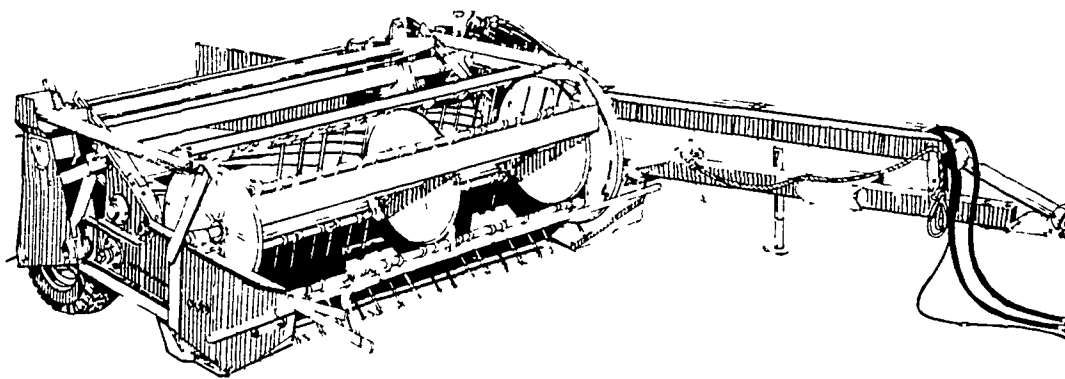
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