

# Special beef field day slated

UNIVERSITY PARK - A special beef cattle field day will be held at the Southern Pennsylvania Forage-Beef Farm, approximately five miles west of Greensburg, between Harrison City and Export in Westmoreland County, on Saturday, July 31. This field day will be co-sponsored by The Pennsylvania State University, the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's

Association, and the Pennsylvania Grassland Council.

The 300-acre farm, known in the area as the Ryan Farm, has been under the supervision of Dr. Les Burdette, Penn State Extension Animal Scientist for about three years. The farm is divided into three separate management systems. One section involves a high rate of fertilizer and pasture renovation, and is used to maintain a herd of about 80 brood cows, or one cow per two acres.

The second unit is using no fertilizer or lime, and no pasture renovation has been done on this unit. This section of the farm is used to maintain approximately 15 cows, or one cow per five acres.

The third unit involves a

moderate level of fertilizer and lime and some pasture renovation. It is a moderate level of management about half-way between the other two units. This unit maintains approximately 25 cows, or one cow per three acres. The economics of producing cattle under these three different management levels will be discussed, based on the records which has been accumulated so far in the project.

In addition to the above three comparisons, special demonstration areas will be available on sod-seeding of grasses and legumes, livestock watering systems, large round bale harvesting and feeding techniques, and different breeds and crosses. An especially interesting set of calves sired by Jersey bulls, to reduce calving

difficulty in first-time heifers, will be available to see, and to compare with calves sired by bulls of other breeds.

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Forage-Beef Farm management is provided by a Committee composed of county extension agents and beef cattle producers in the southwestern part of the state, in addition to specialists from agronomy and animal science departments at Penn State. According to Burdette "for many years we have needed a demonstration-research forage-beef farm in southwestern Pennsylvania, and we hope that the several different projects here will

contribute to growth and strengthening of the beef cattle industry in this area".

A special pit beef barbecue will be available at lunch time, and there will also be many other demonstrations and exhibits on hand.

According to Dr. L. L. Wilson, professor of animal science at Penn State, "this is the second annual summer field day co-sponsored by the Cattlemen's Association, and promises to be of interest to many people involved in beef production and other agricultural areas. We extend an invitation to cattlemen's associations and individuals from surrounding states to join with us at this summer field day.

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process. It would be much better to leave the young animal with its parents and to find out from observation and reading how these parents raise their young. If human parents are generally interested in fostering this kind of learning, the right message comes across and children learn respect for the ways of the wild. If they're more interested in just letting their youngster have a tactile sensation, they're making a poor educational choice."

Resisting the temptation to try to play foster parent to some wild creature calls for a certain humility. Each person has to size things up for himself and use his own conscience in making a decision when the interests of nature and his own interests conflict.



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