

Corn & soybean clinic set for February 1, 2

JEFFERSONVILLE, Pa. - A corn and soybean growers clinic and trade show will be held here at the Westover Inn and Golf Club on Feb. 1 and 2. The two-day educational event is sponsored by Southeast Pennsylvania Cooperative Extension Services and is considered to be one of the finest in the East.

A vegetable growers day is simultaneously planned for Feb. 2, at the same place.

The trade show, comprised of 30 commercial exhibits, is an opportunity for farmers to familiarize themselves with many products and services they need to make their operation a profitable business.

The corn and soybean presentations will be going on both days in separate rooms. Those interested in listening to both portions in their entirety should make plans to attend the meetings both days. The program is identical for both days. Reservations should be made at county Extension offices by Jan. 25.

The program follows:

CORN - ROOM A

Chairman - James Haldeman

- 9:30 LET'S Go - Grower Survey
- 9:45 - ABC's of Feeding the Corn Plant, Henry Plate, Agway, Inc.
- 10:15 - The Micronutrient Mystery, Dr. James Patterson, Rutgers Uni.

11:00 - Tillage for Top Production, Dr. Joseph McGahen, P.S.U.

Noon - Buffet lunch

Chairman - Glenn Shirk

1:30 - A Great Grower Panel Speaks Irwin G. Engle, Chester Co.; Sterling Raber, Lehigh Co.; Robert Meyers, Bucks Co.; I. Newton Evans, Chester Co.; Moderator - Joseph McGahen P.S.U.

2:30 Bugs Undermine Grower, Dr. Armond Padula, FMC Corp.

3:00 - Wild Weeds - Johnson Grass and other Profit Takers, Dr. Willis McClellan, P.S.U.

SOYBEAN - ROOM B

Chairman - Glenn Ellenberger

9:30 - Alert - Growers Survey

9:45 - Weed Problem Identification, Dr. Jim Luke, Ciba-Geigy; Dr. Willis McClellan, P.S.U.

10:30 - Better Bean Grower Panel, Henry Wagner, Northampton Co.; Herman Handwerk, Lehigh Co.; Stephen Wicen, Bucks Co.; Moderator - John Yocum, P.S.U.

Chairman - Samuel Lewis

1:30 - Foliar Feeding - Yes or No, H. Bodenhorn, Allied Chemical

2:15 - Diseases - Seed Borne, Dr. Martin M. Kulick, USDA

2:45 - Seed Vigor Is Important, Dr. Robert Yaklich, USDA

3:00 - Correct Culture - Vigorous Varieties, John Yocum, P.S.U.



How to grow fully developed corn such as this will be one of the things corn producers can learn at the Corn and Soybean Clinic to be held Feb. 1 and 2 near Jeffersonville.

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Shelhamer wants 'farmers' department'

HARRISBURG, Pa. - Kent Shelhamer, who became Pennsylvania's acting Secretary of Agriculture last week, told a group of agribusiness men here on Jan. 12 that his main concern will be the welfare of the state's farmers. "But to keep our farmers going, we need a healthy system of agribusinesses to support them," Shelhamer told a meeting of the board of directors of Penn Ag Industries Association.

Penn is a group of some 400 Pennsylvania agribusiness firms, and the board was meeting at the Penn Harris Motel, just a short distance from the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Shelhamer is the Columbia County fruit grower and former state legislator who was favored by most farm leaders to take over the Department of Agriculture when the controversial James A. McHale was ousted over a year ago.

The constitution, though, forbids legislators from accepting cabinet posts during their terms of office. After Shelhamer's term ended last month, he immediately joined the Department.

He told the PennAg directors that he feels the Department has needed strong leadership for many years, and he hopes to provide that leadership.

"The Department of Agriculture has been idling for too long," Shelhamer said. "It's got to get back to being the farmers' Department. We still have a great many responsibilities to consumers, and I intend to see that those responsibilities are carried out with zeal. But I intend to focus hardest on the farmers' problems."

Marketing is going to be the cornerstone of his programs to help farmers get the best possible return on their labor and investments, Shelhamer noted. He hopes to help Pennsylvania farmers find better ways to market grain. Another way for farmers to earn more is to sell fruits and vegetables directly to consumers.

Research is another area

Shelhamer hopes will improve. Ag research in Pennsylvania benefits to the tune of \$400,000 annually from harness racing revenues. He expects to see these funds channeled into projects which will benefit farmers. He also said he'd like to see more communication and more cooperation between research efforts in Pennsylvania and other states and the federal government. Shelhamer dealt briefly with some of the fiscal and regulatory problems that agribusiness will be faced with in the next five years, and said that they will be tough years. "My goal is to see that things aren't any tougher than they have to be. The Department and I will be working closely with agribusiness and farmers and all of agriculture."

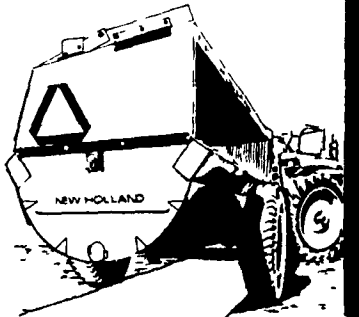
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