

Hearing

(Continued from Page 1)

going to move out" if the facility is built, Cooper said. "We have a high grade park of mostly senior citizens. Some have lived here for 18 years. I don't think it is fair to these people."

Also opposing the facility was adjoining land holder George Metzger. Signed statements by Dr. Gerald Weaver and Dr. Harry Hoffman were presented.

These statements were for three of their asthma patients, saying it would be detrimental to their health if exposed to the odor of a pig farm.

Fields emphasized "this is not your traditional hog operation." He stated that unfavorable reactions usually comes from not understanding the facility and how it operates.

"It is apparent to me that

somewhere the general public has to make up their minds to live homogenously with agriculture," Mitchel declared.

The other case that evening involved a 100 sow confinement operation proposed by Keith Zurin of Mount Joy R3.

Zurin planned to use a pit manure system under the facility. He would pump the manure two times a year, using a closed tank spreader. "If smell is a problem, we will treat the manure chemically," he said.

At first, Zurin's case was said to be invalid because he did not have a lease and is not the owner of the land. Sam Zurin, Keith's father and owner of the land, said "we wanted to make sure it was passed before we went into other legal action."

After Terra Grain Inc. presented their case, Sam and Keith Zurin testified that they had agreed on a partnership. The Zurin decision will be given at the next board meeting in June. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month.

What suggestions did

Mitchell have for farmers wanting to build facilities such as these? "A man has to be prepared for these hearings. He has to take time and figure out what prudent questions they would be asked," he said. Mitchell suggested the person know his operation, inside and out. Also, to feel out the surrounding area residents. "Know what you are going to be doing five years down the road," he added.

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Carrots that are young, tender, well-colored and mild-flavored are best for eating raw. Larger carrots are primarily for cooking or shredding, for salads. Avoid any flabby carrots that show any sign of decay. Carrots are freshly harvested now year around.

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Fresh, crisp celery should have a solid, rigid feel and stalks should have a glossy light green or medium green surface. You can freshen celery somewhat by placing the butt end in water, but badly wilted celery will never become really fresh again.

High criteria

(Continued from Page 25)

said. Feeser uses hand mating in his breeding system. He has a special breeding house which is insulated and stays cool. He feeds his sows once a day in the evening. This way, in the morning, Feeser has more time to check if the sows are in heat. "None of us spend enough time in the breeding pen," Feeser said. "We have to go back to taking better care of what we have, and having less of it."

An interesting feature of Feeser's outdoor pens, is what they are constructed of...metal signs. The signs (depicting

anything from insurance to gasoline) are strong, durable and very inexpensive.

"Purebred breeders are researchers and developers," Feeser stated. He feels that swine producers need to market a looser hog that is deep in the heart girth and rib cage, real deep in the flank and long bodied. "A long neck, flat bone, and long head" is going to make a productive hog. "When they are deep and square in the rib cage it gives the lungs more room to work. Once we lengthen the neck, it leaves room for the shoulders to work, and that will solve some of the soundness problems."

Feeser is striving for flatter topped swine with a higher head and tail extension. He explained it is easier for the boar to breed and more pounds of muscle are up higher on the hog.

"We still have to breed for production and go back to the traits the swine once had as good mothers. We have to work on the female hormones coming out in a female to keep them productive."

Feeser farms 425 acres, 40 of which he owns. He grows most of his feed for the hogs and buys a complete cattle ration for his dairy cattle and show calves. He is a strong advocate of traveling to see existing ideas in farming operations. "It's a cheap investment. If you pick up one idea, it pays for your trip" he added.

Feeser's herd exemplifies his beliefs. He has brought in new boars to develop the type of swine he believes in and is striving for.

Feeling that the "Hampshire breed has been put down," Feeser has been breeding to make his Hampshires productive. "We have a card for every sow, four to five years back. This way, we know what our sows are doing for us at least three generations back. That's what the purebred man should be doing for the commercial man. Our bread and butter is the commercial man," he emphasized.

"Purebred breeding takes a little more time than commercial breeding," Feeser felt that "too many purebred breeders think the purebred area is a big joke, but all they're doing is kidding themselves." He stressed that a "purebred man should be as honest as possible in business and give exact breeding dates."

"Too many people try to feed grain for perfection rather than breeding for perfection. We're feeding a good feed, but we try to work along the same lines the commercial man is working."

Feeser is a strong believer of the National Pork Producers Council. He recommended producers participate and volunteer their dime or nickle for every hog they market. "You have to promote what you believe in...and that's pork," he concluded.



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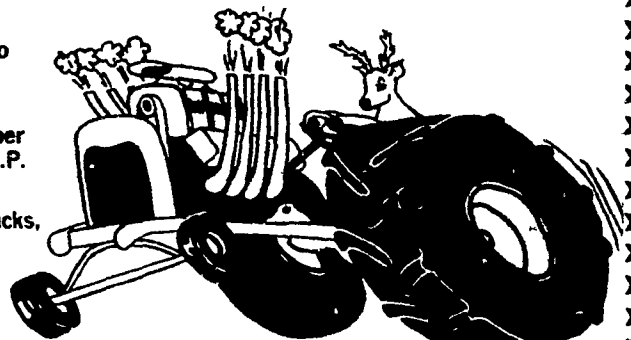
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