

# Maryland cattlemen to tour Lancaster County operations

LANCASTER—Maryland cattlemen will have an opportunity next week to visit four modern beef production facilities in Lancaster County. The one-day tour is set for Thursday, March 6.

Sponsoring organizations are the Extension Service at

the University of Maryland, the Maryland Cattlemen's Association, and the Division of Marketing in the state Department of Agriculture.

Chief coordinator for the educational tour is William E. Kunkle, Extension beef cattle specialist and assistant professor of animal

science at the College Park campus.

Kunkle reported the tour will stress waste management techniques, including manure-handling systems being used on the farms which are visited. Feed-handling systems will also be highlighted.

Transportation is being provided at nominal cost for tour participants. Buses will leave simultaneously at 7:30 a.m. from West Friendship, Howard County, and Westminster, Carroll County. Both buses will stop at the north gate of the Maryland State Fairground in Timonium, Baltimore county, to pick up additional passengers. They will depart from the fairground at 8:15 a.m.

The buses are scheduled to arrive by 9:30 a.m. at the Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, on the north edge of Lancaster.

Residents of northeast Maryland and the Eastern Shore may board the buses in Lancaster at a reduced rate for the actual farm tour,


provided that space is available.

Tour host will be Max Smith longtime Penn State Extension agricultural agent in Lancaster County.

Total cost for the tour is expected to be about \$10 per person, Kunkle said. Reservations may be made by calling Dr. Kunkle's office in College Park; phone: 301/454-3732.

Locations of the Howard and Carroll county bus pickup points are the Baltimore-Livestock Exchange north of West Friendship and the parking lot in Westminster behind Ascension Episcopal church and the county office building annex.

Buses are expected back at the original pickup points between 5:30 and 6 p.m. In case of heavy snow, the tour will be postponed one week.



**On being a farm wife - And other hazards**

**Joyce Bupp**

A South Carolina farm woman lobbying in Washington recently told representatives that farmers should be "pitied, pampered and loved."

Well now, I can certainly go along with the "loved" part.

But as for the "pitied and pampered"—forget it!

Farmers have voluntarily chosen a vocation that inherently comes with long hours, uncertain financial returns, and daily roulette with livestock, machines and the weather.

Any farmer who want to be pitied for that had doggone well better tack up the "For Sale" sign and let some more positive producer take his place. We don't need him.

And as for pampering, only the lazy crave it or the sick deserve it. Agriculture is neither.

While we don't need pity or pampering, there are a few things we do seek.

Like respect. Respect for the contribution that agriculture is making to America's badly sagging economy. Only grain dollars have served as the stable prop under a shaky balance

of payments on the world trade market. And respect for the fact that agriculture's productivity has made this country better fed at cheaper cost than any other nation in the world.

And instead of pampering, how about a little political support? But political support that reaps benefits, not just for the farmer, but for all.

Protection, for instance, from being hung by the noose of our own bureaucratic red tape, stretched ever tighter by desperate agencies clinging to the rope of their livelihood for dear life.

Or how about revisions to laws that allow the dumping on our markets of cheap, subsidized imports, not only of milk powder, cheese, or beef, but also of steel, shoes and garments?

We don't need pity or pampering any more than doctors, truck drivers, lawyers, teachers, super-market managers, business executives or welders.

All we ask is a little political common sense. Save the pity for those lacking it.

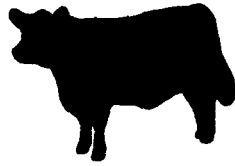
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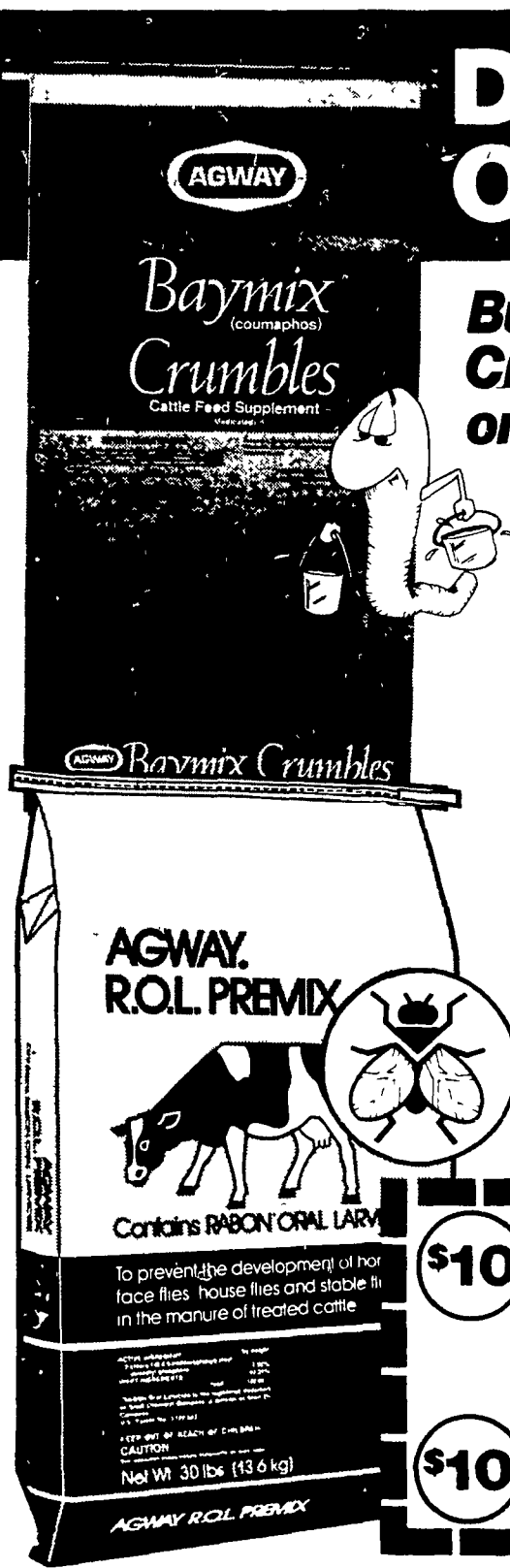
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