

March 19 is Ag Day

HARRISBURG — Agricultural people from across the Commonwealth are preparing to tell the story of Pennsylvania agriculture in an effort to spread a nationwide awareness of the importance of our industry to the daily livelihood of all Americans.

Thursday, March 19, has been proclaimed as National Agriculture Day, as a result of Resolution 560 passed by Congress last fall. President Ronald Reagan will officially proclaim the national celebration in ceremonies in Washington this month.

Governor Dick Thornburgh has signed a proclamation of March 19 as Agriculture Day in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania will play a leading role in the national effort to stress the importance of agriculture.

Many state farm and agriculture related organizations have planned activities for March 19, ranging from mall and supermarket demonstrations to luncheons, talk shows and other media events.

The Agriculture Department will be conducting a series of media information releases, and will have a display on Pennsylvania agriculture in the rotunda of the Capitol Building in Harrisburg.

Agriculture is the heartbeat of our economy," State Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hollowell said. "It's essential that all Pennsylvanians, whether farmer, businessman or consumer, understand how directly their future is linked to a strong, prosperous agricultural industry."

Communicating this idea is the purpose behind National Agriculture Day. Volunteers from all phases of the agricultural production, processing and distribution systems are joining in all 50 states to tell the story of agriculture with a united voice.

In line with this idea, the Agriculture Department is preparing a packet of information on Pennsylvania agriculture which will be distributed to the editors and news directors of all news media outlets in Pennsylvania.

"Those of us in the agricultural community have known all along that Pennsylvania agriculture is truly growing better," Hollowell said. "But we've got to also get

that message to the state's 11.8 million consumers. Hopefully, Agriculture Day will mark a good start in our efforts."

Bucks NFO members to meet

PLUMSTEADVILLE — The Berks County Unit of the National Farmers Organization will hold their annual dinner on Saturday, March 21, 1981 at 7 p.m. at the Plumsteadville Fire House, Plumsteadville, Pa.

The speaker will be H. Kenton Bailey, a farmer from Farmington, Maine.

Tickets for the family-style beef dinner are \$6 each, and may be purchased from County President, Bill Garges 215/348-5514, Raymond Gross 215/766-8785, or Web Singer 215/346-7749. The public is invited.

Speaker H. Kenton Bailey was born in 1933, in Farmington, Maine. He is married and the father of two girls and two boys.

Bailey operates a 600 acre dairy farm. He is the 7th generation on the same family farm.

Bailey went to work building Board in 1971 and served in that capacity for five years. He has worked as Regional Supervisor, and helped build milk, meat, potato, blueberry, broiler, and also served as State President of the New England States.

Egg output slips slightly

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania egg production in January 1981 totaled 375 million, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The January production was one percent below the 378 million eggs produced in January 1980.

The January average of 16.8 million layers was the same as a year ago. Egg production per 100 layers was 2,230 compared with 2,250 a year ago.



H. Kenton Bailey

Why we need an ag secretary



Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh, left, demonstrated Tuesday why he chose Penrose Hollowell as Secretary of Agriculture. Here Hollowell serves as a desk as the Governor signs autographs on an Adams County dairy farm. Hollowell, it should be noted, bends over backwards for his boss.

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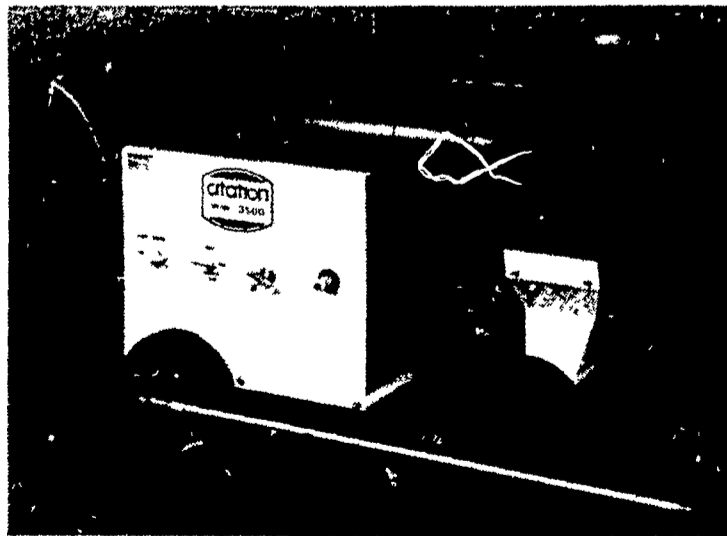
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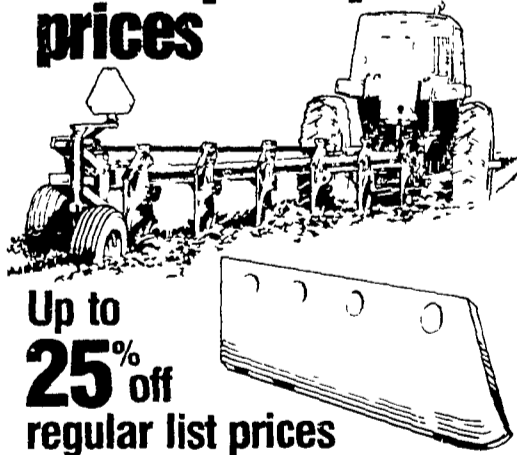
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