Penn State Dairy Expo is today

UNIVERSITY PARK - "Show Day is here for the 56th Annual Dairy Exposition at Penn State. Events are scheduled to begin this morning at 8 a.m. in the University dairy barns. The show is dedicated to Donald V. Seipt of Easton, alumnus from the class of 1950.

The show's main attractions

Solar drying

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constructed at less expense and perform with comparable levels of efficiency as design techniques

Wilmot is the first to admit that the major roadblock to Generation One is labor, with all that stacking in and hauling out of hay bales.

So, he's already mulling over ideas for "Generation Two," and then even "Generation Three," more mechanized versions of his basic solar crop drying design.

Generation Two would theoretically be semi-mechanized, the bales loaded non-manually into the chamber, perhaps on a wagon as some drying systems, already available, operate. A projected third design could carry the solar dryer into total mechanization, moving bales in and out of the chambers without ever touching

will be fitting and showing contests between Penn State students. Special events will include milking contests for women, both independent groups and sororities; milk "chugging" contests for fraternities as independent groups; and a calf-dressing contest. Well-known people in the field of agriculture will compete in a milking contest.

Donald Seipt, to whom the show is dedicated, is owner and operator of Keystone Farm, Easton, known for its registered Holsteins. He received the Charles Cowan Award in 1977, presented by the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association for his contributions in improving and promoting the Pennsylvania dairy industry. Seipt will be honored at an awards banquet to be held at 7 p.m. in the Holiday Inn, State College.

Also to be honored at the awards banquet will be this year's Distinguished Dairy Science Alumnus, Clyde S. Robinson of Coal Center. Robinson graduated from Penn State in 1939 with a degree in dairy production. Following graduation, he returned to his home to become his father's partner. In 1960, he assumed ownership. The farm has always featured registered Jersey cattle.

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Robinson has received many distinguished awards over the years, including the Master Farmer Award. In 1976, he received the first Charles Cowan

Robinson has served as

president and secretary for the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club and national director of the American Jersey Cattle Club. He has been president and director of the National Dairy Herd Improvement Association. He has served as vice president for

Atlantic Breeders Cooperative and the Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Robinson's immediate plans are to remain on the home farm with his wife, Marie, and to stay active in the dairy industry with son, Robert.

Spring weather boosts planting

plowing is making rapid progress on Pennsylvania farms, now at 58 percent complete, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

This is well ahead of the 17 percent completed last year at this time, and ahead of the five year average of 35 percent. Plowing stands at 48 percent complete in the north, 68 percent in central counties and 58 percent complete in the south.

Oats are now 59 percent sown, far ahead of the eight percent sown in 1980. Oats are now 36 percent sown in the northern counties, 71 percent in central counties and 68 percent in the south.

Potato planting is also running

HARRISBURG - Spring ahead of last year, with 19 percent reported to cherries, pears and planted, compared to five percent in 1980. Thirteen percent are planted in the northern and central counties while southern counties report 32 percent planted. Tobacco beds are 12 percent sown, compared to 60 percent last year at the

> Barley and wheat crops are still in the pre-boot stage. The crop condition appears good, and with winter kill about average.

> Both alfalfa and clover-timothy hay stands are mostly fair to good. The amount of feed being obtained from Pennsylvania pastures is average to below average across the state.

Scattered frost damage has been

asparagus. Peaches are reported as 32 percent in pink stage and 23 percent in full bloom or past. Cherries are now 17 percent in the pink and 27 percent in or past full bloom, while apples are 17 percent pink and less than five percent in full bloom.

Soil moisture was rated as adequate to short across the state. In the north soil moisture was rated 36 percent adequate, 36 percent short and 28 percent surplus. Central soil moisture was rated 72 percent adequate and 28 percent short while in the south, soils were rated at 63 percent adequate, 12 percent short and 25 percent surplus in moisture.

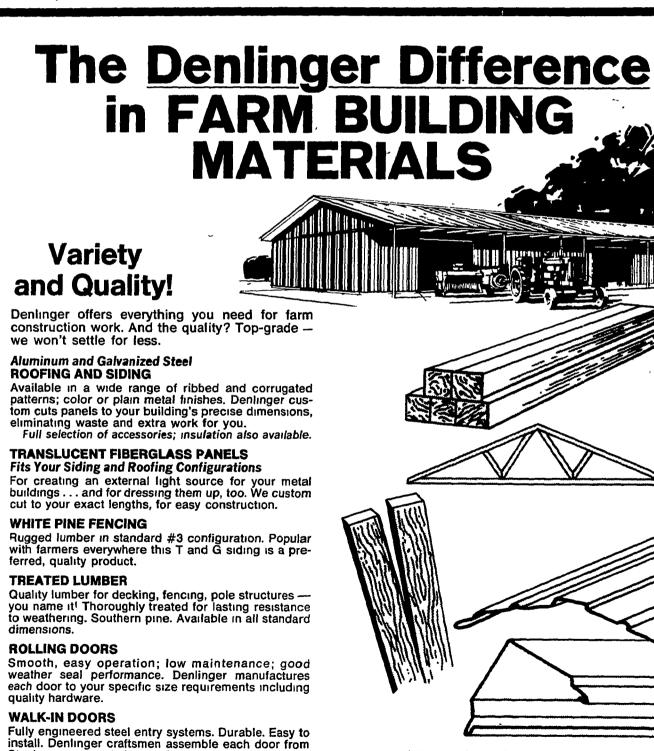




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