

Protectionist attitudes limit pork exports, says NPPC

DES MONINES, Ia — Pork producers and NPPC continue to be concerned about the accessibility of foreign markets for pork.

At a recent hearing of the subcommittee on Development Operations, Research and Foreign Agriculture of the House Agriculture Committee, John Saunders, president of NPPC submitted a statement on behalf of the over 100,000 pork producer members.

Saunders' statement centered around three general areas of concern: export opportunities, problems associated with identified opportunities and a desire for dependable guaranteed access to foreign markets.

"On a long-term basis," said Saunders, "market access must be the predominant attitude of all meat trading nations or blocs of

nations rather than the continued limitations provided by quantitative restrictions, tariffs, levies, protectionist attitudes, or the inconsistencies of sanitary regulations and documentation."

Foreign marketing of pork in particular has been restricted because of nontariff trade barriers in the past. Saunders indicated purely political or protectionist attitudes have limited the export of pork.

Two areas of the world which the U.S. feels are immediate pork customers are Japan and the Caribbean/Venezuelan area. Saunders' pointed out that the Japanese "Law on Stabilization of Livestock Product Prices" has, in effect, created a subsidy program for the Japanese beef, pork and dairy industry and also served to limit the accessibility of the

Japanese market to foreign imports.

In Venezuela a tremendous demand for pork and a severe shortage of domestically produced product has been identified by importers and processors. The

government there also chooses to limit imports by granting import licenses based not upon demand but on government control.

Saunders summarized by saying pork is in demand throughout the

world and the U.S. product has a favorable connotation. "We need to do all we can so that our U.S. exporters and packers will be encouraged to take part in developing and promoting U.S. exports of pork."

Tested boar sale coming August 26

STATE COLLEGE — Pennsylvania swine producers will have an opportunity to participate at the Fourth Pennsylvania Performance Tested Boar Sale, August 26.

The sale, which features the top 60 of 80 boars presently on test, will be held at the Department's Meat

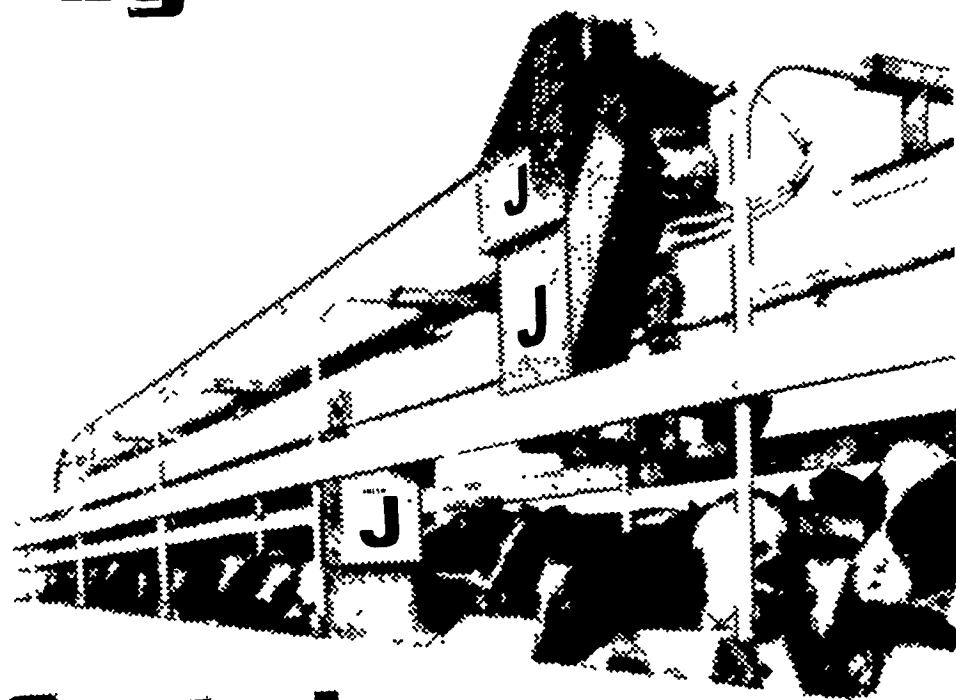
Animal Evaluation Center in State College, beginning at 6 p.m. Berkshire, Landrace, Hampshire, Spotted Swine and Yorkshire herds will be included.

The testing program is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in cooperation with Penn State and

the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council.

Sale catalogs are available by writing the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Meat Animal Evaluation Center, 651 Fox Hollow Road, State College, Pa. 16801, or by calling 814/238-2527.

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