

Ag arena committee seeks, salutes consignors

UNIVERSITY PARK — The number of animals consigned to the Penn State Ag Arena sale scheduled for December 11 at the Farm Show Complex is on the rise, with the strongest support at the present time coming from the beef industry.

This all-breed sale will include dairy cattle, sheep, and swine as well, with proceeds going to the construction of a 190,000-square-foot facility to be used in holding various student activities and exhibitions, such as the Little International, Dairy Expo, Hort Show, horse shows, FFA and 4-H judging contests, and statewide shows and sales.

"We're hoping people will consign animals to the Ag Arena Benefit Sale and donate 50 percent of the sale price to the arena," says Milford Heddleson, College of Agriculture coordinator of environmental quality affairs and co-chairman of the fund-raising campaign. "Our goal is to have several hundred high quality animals in this sale."

So far, the several-hundred-head goal is still a long way off.

According to William Nichol, co-chairman of the ag arena committee and executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, there has only been one dairy animal consigned to date. That animal is a Holstein offered for sale by Obie Snider of Imler, Bedford County. However, Nichol reports his state directors will be signing up more consignments by September.

The sheep breeders also are having a slight hold-up in securing commitments for the sale since there is no statewide mailing list of sheep producers in Pennsylvania. According to Tom Calvert, of the Pa. Sheep and Wool Growers, the sheep committee is trying to "get everything cleared" to send out their appeal for consignments through the Extension service newsletters.

So far, there are only three ovis on the sale register: a Suffolk yearling ewe and a Dorset yearling ewe from Penn State, and a Suffolk ewe lamb consigned by John Kimbark, Manheim, Lancaster County.

The swine producers are having better results, reports Dennis Grumbine, president of the Pa. Swine Breeders Cooperative. There have been 14 breeders who have consigned animals to date.

The beef breeders are leading the way, however, with 28 producers consigning one or more head.

The following swine producers have consigned animals:

D. L. Grumbine & Sons, R2 Myerstown, Berkshire - 1 boar, 2 gilts, 1 bred gilt; John Strawbridge, Stewartstown, Hampshire - 1 boar; Rodger Bankert, R3 Hanover, Duroc - 1 boar, 1 gilt; Leon Arnold, R7 Lebanon, Yorkshire - 1 boar, 1 gilt, 1 bred gilt; Charles E. Griest, R1 Abbottstown, Spotted Poland - 1 gilt, Black Poland - 1 gilt; James T. Parlett, R1 Airville, Chester White - 1 boar, 1 gilt; Ed Hildebrand, R2 Biglerville, Chester White - 1 boar, 1 gilt; Larry Arnold, Lebanon, Duroc - 1 gilt; John H. Hinkle, R1 Strasburg, Yorkshire - 2 gilts; Charles B. Hall, R1 Julian, Yorkshire - 2 gilts; Elwood Houser, Lebanon, Yorkshire - 1 gilt; Joel Stern, R2 East Berlin, Yorkshire - 1 boar, 1 gilt; Lazarus Brothers, Whitehall, Yorkshire - 1 boar, 1 gilt, 1 bred gilt, Spotted - 1 boar, 1 gilt, 1 bred gilt, Duroc - 1 boar, 1 gilt, 1 bred gilt; and Harry Bachman, Annville, Berkshire - 1 gilt.

The following beef breeders will be represented:

Simmental - Norman Hughes, R1 Portage, Good Hope Simmental Farm, 1 heifer; Lyle Hafco, R2 Canton, 1 heifer; Reed McCormick, Port Matilda, Skytop Farm, 1 heifer; Harold and Rose Schneider, R1 Karns City, Rolling Ridge Farm, 2 heifers; Stone Row Farm, Stockton, N.J., 2 heifers; Linden Farms, LaGrangeville, N.Y., 1 heifer; Dr. D.P. Greenly, 1 cow and 2 Belted Galloway heifers.

Limousin - John D. Moore, R3 Neville, Keystone Limousin, 1 bull, 1 heifer.

Angus - Conrad Grove, R1 Downingtown, Devereux-Soleil Farms, 1 heifer; Gilbert Watts, Bellwood, Logan Spring Farm, 1 heifer; Bob Coleman, Harrisburg, Longmeadow Farms, 1 heifer; William Sweigard & Son, R3 Halifax, Mountain View Acres, 1 heifer; Harry and Nona Stambaugh, Green Pastures Farm, 1 heifer, 1 bull.

Charolais - Ray and Sue Bratton, Bratton Charolais, Mifflin County, 1 bull, 1 heifer; Fletcher Byrom, Micasu Farm, Allegheny County, 2 heifers; Leo Dumont, Dumont Farm, Donstable, Mass., 1 heifer; Fred Mazey, Honey Brook Farm, Princeton, N.J., 1 heifer; Rodger and Mary Mitschelle, Flying M Ranch, Tioga County, 1 heifer; James Wentzel, Sunnyside Farm, Somerset County, 1 heifer.

Chianina - Galen Dreibelbis, Hidden Hollow Farm, Centre County, 2 heifers.

Hereford - Terry Shearer, Pigeon Hill Farms, R1 Abbottstown, bull semen; Richard Samders, J & R Farms, Union County, 1 heifer.

Polled Hereford - The following farm owners have agreed to consign animals, the number to be determined at a later date: Dr. Frank Perrone, Chalfont Farm, Greensburg; William Gray, Graystone Farm, R1 Schellsburg; Phil Scott, R2 Gettysburg; Jesse Terry, J.V. Farm, R2 Douglassville; Stockdales Hereford Farm, Dayton; Hunt Hereford Farm, R2 Portersville; Frank Darcey, Jr., Spring Bottom Farms, Fairfield; Lawrence Dodds, Spring Rung Farm, York.

Any other producers interested in consigning animals to the December sale should contact the following people:

Dairy cattle - William Nichol, Pa. Holstein Association, 839 Benner Pike, State College, PA 16801;

Beef cattle - Robert Coleman, Pa. Cattlemen's Association, 4605 North Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109;

Swine - Dennis Grumbine, Pa. Swine Breeders Cooperative, R2 Myerstown, PA 17067; and

Sheep - Tom Calvert, Pa. Cooperative Sheep and Wool Growers, R4 Berlin, PA 15530.

Penn State's Heddleson points out the estimated cost of the Ag Arena is \$900,000. About 19 percent of this amount has been raised to date.

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out on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. The event opens each day at 9 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, and at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

For more details about how to reach your Ag Progress Days destination, along with a complete schedule of events and exhibitors' list and map, turn the pages of this week's issue of Lancaster Farming. A special pull-out map, found on page D17, will help you find your way to one of the largest outdoor ag events in the East.

See you there

Lancaster ag

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behind at about \$143 million - only \$20 million back.

And had it not been a depressed year for poultry operators, that lead could have been completely wiped out and put the egg and broiler operators in the top spot.

Another interesting statistic shows that Lancaster County now has almost half - 46.4 percent to be exact - of all the layers in the state.

"That's enough eggs to feed about 7 million people," Irwin points out.

Lancaster also has more than a third of the state's hogs.

Of course, all the figures add up to the fact that Lancaster County has an even firmer grip on the title as the Number One ag county in the state.

In all major livestock categories, it continues to lead in everything but sheep.

And on the crop side of the ledger, Lancaster continued to show gains, too.

Corn, for grain, is still tops, with silage second. Tobacco is in a close third.

But if the present tobacco harvest cures out well and farmers get a good price this winter, the big-leaved crop could well move into the runnerup spot. There's a lot more tobacco out there this year.

The trend of taking land out of pasture and putting it back into cultivation continued, with the number of tilled acres jumping by about 22,000 from 1979 to 1980. A lot of it went into corn, as well as hay

acres that were converted to row crops.

Corn and silage had a combined value of some \$68 million in 1980. This should jump considerably this year.

Those ears are a lot bigger and filled out this year as compared to the 1980 drought year. Those plants are a lot taller and have leaves all the way to the ground and should fill silos a lot quicker.

Sizable harvest hukes are expected over last year's average of 85.9 bu. of corn to the acre and 15.5 tons of silage.

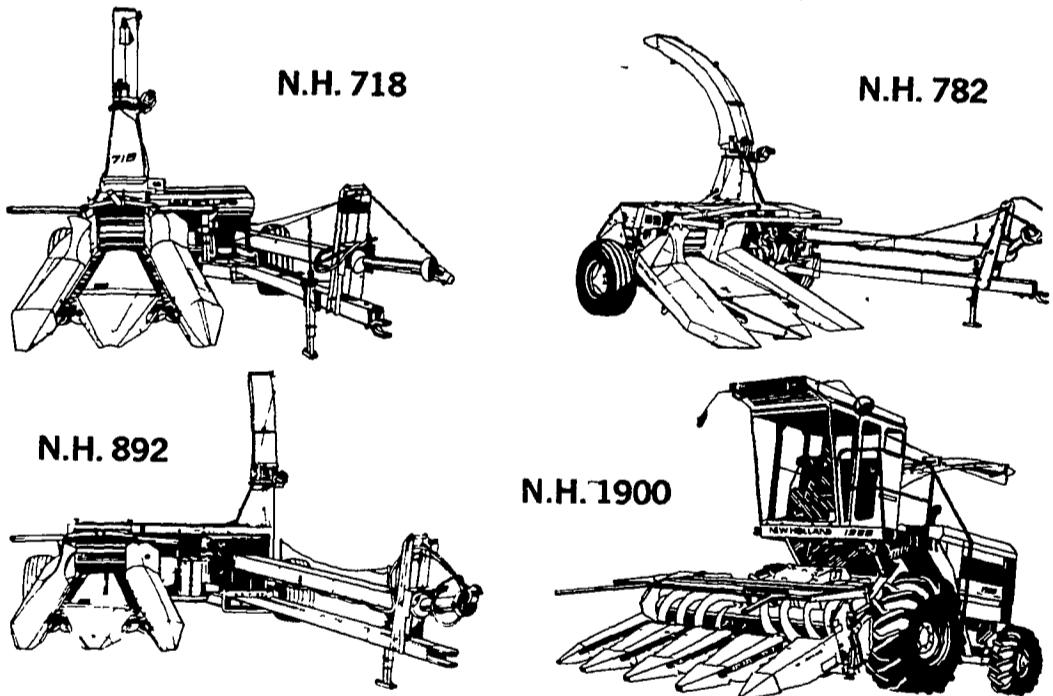
Last year, the last full year under the retiring Max Smith as extension director, saw Lancaster County agriculture continue to grow.

Max was the first to see it pass the half-billion dollar mark. And, it looks like it won't take long for Jay to help nudge it over the billion-dollar mark.



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