

Producers & state must change thinking to lick PRV

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
EPHRATA — To get at the heart of the pseudorabies problem plaguing the Lancaster County swine industry may require a change in thinking among not only local pork producers, but also among state officials.

This was one of the "suggested conclusions" that came out of two Pseudorabies Task Force meetings with pork producers this week.

Monday's meeting was held at Ephrata's Bergstrasse School — only a stone's throw from the hotbed of the disease. It was followed Tuesday night with a session at the Farm and Home Center.

Here are some of the topics of discussion that came up at the meetings:

—Winter is coming when different livestock get mixed in closer quarters. The pseudorabies problem could intensify within individual farms, but there could

be less lateral movement from one farm to another.

—The stress of winter also seems to bring along the disease and the virus lasts longer in the cold weather.

—When sows are under stress at the end of gestation and the start of lactation, they are more likely to pass PRV to the piglets. It's likely to be fatal to the smaller pigs, but the sow may not even show signs of the disease.

—One of the big problems are feed lots who buy out-of-state feeders for perhaps a nickel a pound cheaper and are among the main suspects in the introduction of the disease.

—One breeder admitted he's like to take measures to eradicate the disease in his herd, but what's the use if the state permits this importation of suspect feeder pigs.

(It should be noted that veterinarian Robert Graybill said that the source has not been confirmed and denied that feeder

pigs are the culprits.)

—There should be requirements for ID ear tags for all pigs so that when traceback becomes necessary, it can be done. This apparently has interfered with the county PRV investigation.

—Boars moving about Lancaster County between farms, friends and relatives is suspected to be the main source of the spread.

It was suggested that producers must change their thinking about breeding practices and get a boar early enough so that it can be blood tested and isolated and retested before breeding. Now, breeding is primarily a last minute operation.

—It's no coincidence that in the heart of the PRV area that the affected breeders are surrounded by quarantined feed lots. Although some feed lots have self-imposed quarantines to provide a market outlet for the affected breeders.

—The disease can infect many other types of livestock, including dairy and beef cattle, sheep, pet

dogs and cats, birds and wildlife. It is usually fatal for them.

—Something should be done to limit the movement of stray animals who can be carriers and also dead piglets must be properly disposed of if the spread is to be permanently checked.

Concerning eradication, Penn State vet Larry Hutchinson listed a few alternatives.

The first alternative is depopulation — the most costly but the most effective measure.

Second, there's the practice of continued testing and gradual removal of the positive animals. But even here, sows can test negative one month and come up positive a bit later due to stress.

In other states, vaccination has been used.

And then there's the alternative of living with PRV, which is much the case in places in the mid-West.

Glenn Shirk, county dairy agent, explained that peer pressure among pork producers will likely

be a strong factor in any final solution.

"We must work together to prevent any further spread of the disease," he explained.

"If we clean up the environment perhaps it will set the stage for more effective eradication."

A score card of the disease showed 48 herds in Lancaster County infected since June, with 15 of the quarantines lifted. Currently, 33 herds are infected, including nine new quarantines. That means a gain of plus six herds since June.

Earl Township is still the heart of the PRV area.



HARVEST THE SAVINGS AT HERR'S FARM & HOME SUPPLY

SPECIAL PRICES THIS WEEK

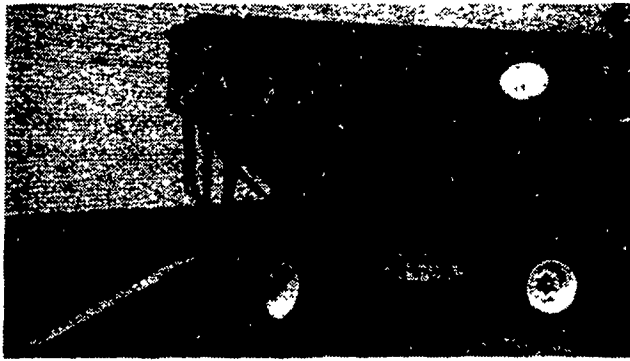
KORY GRAVITY BOX

Model S-165

- Silts - 7 ga.
- 970 lbs.
- 60" Height
- 165 Bu.
- Heavy Duty

Reg. 499.95 **SALE \$399⁹⁵** Plus Freight

-220 Bu. Reg. 635.95 **SALE \$529⁹⁵** Plus Freight



RUNNING GEAR

- Standard Tongue • Adj. Wheel Base
- 6 Bolt Hubs
- Less: Wagon & Tires

10 TON Reg. \$599.95 Sale **\$539⁹⁵**

8 TON Reg. \$499.95 Sale **\$449⁹⁵**

6 TON Reg. \$465.95 Sale **\$429⁹⁵**

CORDOVAN TRACTOR BATTERIES



- 6 volt
- 36 mo. warranty
- w/ trade-in As Low As

\$34⁹⁵

PUT YOUR JUNK IN A BOTTLE!



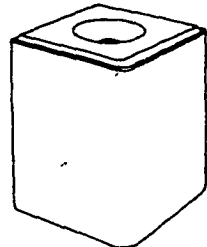
Receive 1 Gallon of **FREE ANTIFREEZE** When You Bring Us A Junk Battery. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

CORN CRIBS ARE HERE!

BUY NOW WHILE SELECTION IS BEST...

4 SIZES IN STOCK

- ★ Better Not Wait This Year!
- ★ Don't Buy Until You Call and Check Our Prices



50 POUND SALT BLOCKS

White **\$2.99**

Trace Mineral **\$3.79**

5 PANEL STEEL GATES



CLEARANCE PRICE

	Reg.	SALE
10'	46.99	33.95
12'	49.99	38.95
14'	57.99	42.95
16'	62.99	46.95

AUGERS



4"x10' **\$108.75**

4"x15' **\$133.75**

6"x11' **\$162.75**

6"x16' **\$199.75**

CEILING CIRCULATING FANS



Reg. \$124.99
SUPER SPECIAL \$99⁹⁵

Sizes Available:

- ★ 36"
- ★ 48"
- ★ 56"

- 56" Fan • White Enamel
- 20,500 CFM • 5 Year Warranty
- 2 Speed: Low-4 AMP, Hi-9 AMP
- Control Not Included

CALL FOR QUANTITY DISCOUNTS

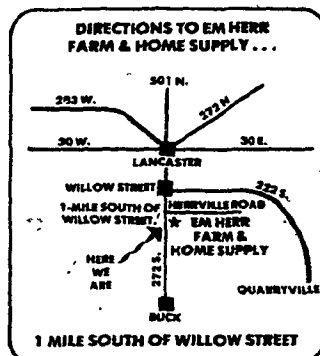


FIELD DRAIN PIPE
 (ASCS Approved)

- 4" Solid or Perforated
- 6" Solid or Perforated

Also Available in 8", 10", 12", 15", 18"
CALL FOR QUANTITY PRICES

WE UPS ANYWHERE — JUST CALL 717-464-3321
SALE PRICES GOOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 26



Store Hours
 Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
 Sat. 7:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
 Fri. 7:30-9:00



WOVEN WIRE - KEYSTONE RED TOP BRAND

Height	Stay Space	Filler Ga.	Reg.	Sale
32"	6	12½	\$63.95	\$59.95
39"	12	12½	69.95	64.95
39"	6	12½	84.95	79.95
39"	6	11	112.95	105.95
47"	12	12½	69.95	63.95
47"	12	11	99.95	94.95
47"	6	11	125.95	119.95