

Pa. Cattlemen hold field day at Simmental farm

BUTLER — More than 350 enthusiastic Pennsylvania cattle producers turned out recently at Rolling Ridge Farms, located near here, for the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association field day.

The field day, which turned out to be slightly soggy due to the weather, was co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania Simmental Association and held at the 800-acre Simmental farm of Harold and Rose Schneider.

The Schneider farm is a model of how barren stripmine land can be reclaimed and put back into production as a cattle operation.

Penn State's Lester Burdette was on hand for the day's events to discuss proper yield grading of beef. He stressed knowledge of yield grading is important for

cattle breeders and also consumers in getting the most and best quality meat available.

There were a few rays at the field day, but not from the sun. Instead, they were the rays emitted by a Sonoray electronic device demonstrated by Robert Kimble, director of the Meat Animal Evaluation Center at State College. This piece of equipment shows the amount of backfat on an animal and helps determine the yield grade through the use of sound waves.

The Pennsylvania Holstein Association displayed a scale model of the proposed Penn State Ag Arena for the field day participants to inspect.

In a heifer show, Middletown's Joseph Messick exhibited his entry

to Grand Champion honors while Amy Rynd, Karns City, showed the Reserve Grand Champ.

Champion Showman of the Junior division was Wayne Stough, Jr., Spring Grove. And Brenda Walter, Airville, took the Senior

Showman honors.

Other placings were:

Class 1

Yearling Heifers

1. Jay Stough, Spring Grove;
2. Leroy Bowles, Red Lion;
3. Brenda Walter, Airville;
4. Annette

Walter, Airville.

Class 2

Yearling Heifers

1. Joseph Messick, Middletown;
2. Amy Rund, Karns City;
3. Jessica Ferree, Spring Grove;
4. Joseph Messick.



Everyone who attended the Pa. Cattlemen's Field Day recently left the beef cattle conference a winner, but several young people left with ribbons and trophies to prove it. Winners in the Simmental heifer show and showmanship contests were: from back row, left,

Leroy Bowles, Red Lion; Brenda Walter, Airville; Wayne Stough, advisor, Spring Grove; and Joseph Messick, Middletown; front row, from left, Jay Stough, Spring Grove; Annette Walter, Airville; Amy Rynd, Karns City; and Wayne Stough, Jr., Spring Grove.

Fire poses threat at harvest time

NEWARK, Del. — Fire has been a valuable tool since the dawn of civilization, yet it also has the power to destroy, says Delaware Extension safety specialist Ronald C. Jester.

"We're often surprisingly casual about the potential dangers of fire. We smoke in bed, let electrical wiring and heating systems run down, handle flammable liquids carelessly, put off developing a fire escape plan and ... fail to equip our combines with fire extinguishers."

Fire is a serious matter at harvest time. A ripe, dry crop catches fire easily and burns rapidly. The personal safety of the operator is at stake, and the combine and crop may be destroyed, stresses Jester.

Proper care and operation of equipment can prevent most combine fires — eliminate the cause of fires by keeping the area around the engine free of chaff, trash, and excess grease. Replace faulty mufflers and exhaust pipes.

Follow maintenance recommendations as to lubrication, adjustments, and engine tune-ups. Fire can be caused by overheating of bearings owing to lack of lubrication, or by overheating of

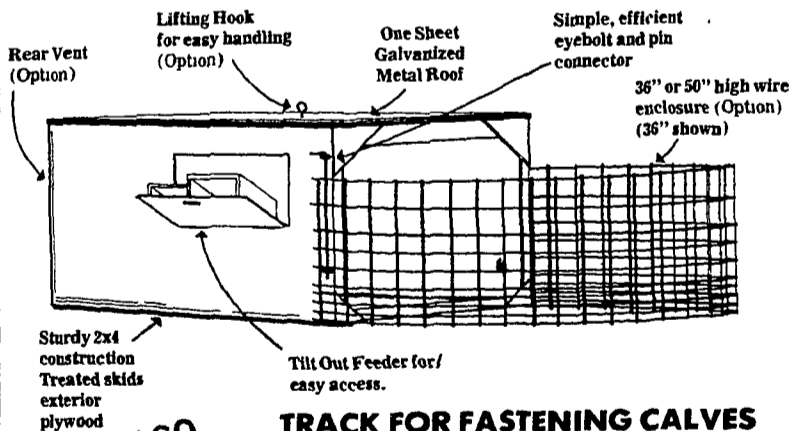
belts owing to too much or too little tension. Keeping the engine properly tuned and tuned will prevent backfiring. Also avoid extended overloading that could result in overheating of components, he recommends.

When refueling, turn off the engine and do not smoke. Avoid fuel spills. During routine maintenance, check the fuel system for loose connections and leaks. Watch for and repair leaks in the fuel lines, carburetors, pumps and filters before a machinery fire has a chance to occur. Be sure smoking materials are out before disposing of them.

Caution during equipment repair is also extremely important. When using flammable materials while overhauling, degreasing or repainting, work only in a well-ventilated area or outdoors. Be careful about welding and other sources of heat or sparks.

Equip your combine with at least two fire extinguishers. Mount one in or just outside the cab, and another where it can be reached from the ground. A good choice would be the 2A-20 B:C rated multi-purpose dry chemical extinguisher, Jester concludes.

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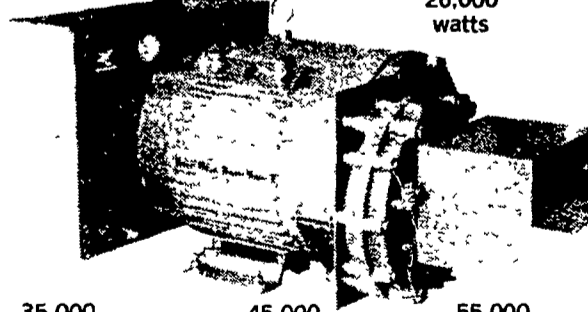
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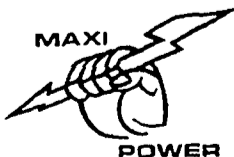
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