

Ag Progress salutes

(Continued from Page A1)

Members of the Pennsylvania House and Senate Agricultural Committees, as well as the Conservation Committee, will be in attendance.

General Manger of APD, Joseph Harrington, is expecting a record turnout for what he terms as the "largest annual outdoor educational event for agriculture in the East." More than 75,000 people turned out for the 1981 event.

Although much of the Rock Springs show is geared to the farming community, Harrington notes that APD is a "family affair," and will feature several demonstrations and exhibits with the consumer in mind.

In the dairy and livestock tent, Penn State will unveil the most recent member to its research team — an African blue duiker.

The foot-tall antelope, which

resembles a tiny spike-horned doe, combines small size with a digestive system similar to cows and sheep. The blue duiker may make it possible to conduct large scale digestive studies with forage grown under controlled greenhouse conditions.

After an odyssey that spanned more than five years, Penn State animal scientist Robert Cowan was able to bring 23 of the endangered species to Penn State.

Beef cattle can be found grazing on plots of the USDA's Pasture Research Laboratory. The cattle, grazing highly digestible turnips instead of grass will one of the newest features of the three day show.

Averaging 90 percent digestible in tests at Rock Springs, turnips are part of the brassica family of forage crops. They're becoming popular among farmers needing pasture in fall and early winter when most grasses are no longer

productive or nutritious. In addition to forage turnips, the beef cattle will be grazing on a brassica named rape.

Brassica crops were grown by farmers more than 50 years ago, but were hand-harvested and not grazed as pastures. Gerald Jung, USDA crops scientist is pioneering the return of brassicas to Pennsylvania and other mid-Atlantic states.

"Forage-type turnips and rape resist frost and retain their nutrients and yields right into early winter," Jung says. "In the milder climate areas, farmers can graze cattle on such pastures right up to Christmas."

Jung describes rape as closely resembling broccoli without the flowers. A rape pasture in November can look like a giant garden overgrown with large, leafy broccoli plants. As with broccoli or brussel sprouts, another close relative, rape generally maintains its nutrient quality into fall and early winter.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, August 21, 1982—A19

In southern Pennsylvania and most of Maryland, brassica planting can be delayed until mid or late August for grazing in October and November which takes advantage of the cold hardness of the brassicas.

Foultry research will be among the many features included in research tours which leave every 20 minutes between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. across from the Pasto Agricultural Museum. Visitors can see broiler flocks undergoing experiments to control salmonella, a widespread disease that scientist hope can be eradicated in animals and humans.

The poultry health center is also studying the prevalence of salmonella in poultry flocks, says Dr. Dwight Schwartz, Penn State Extension veterinarian.

Although visitors are not permitted to enter the research pens, the flocks can be viewed through an observation window.

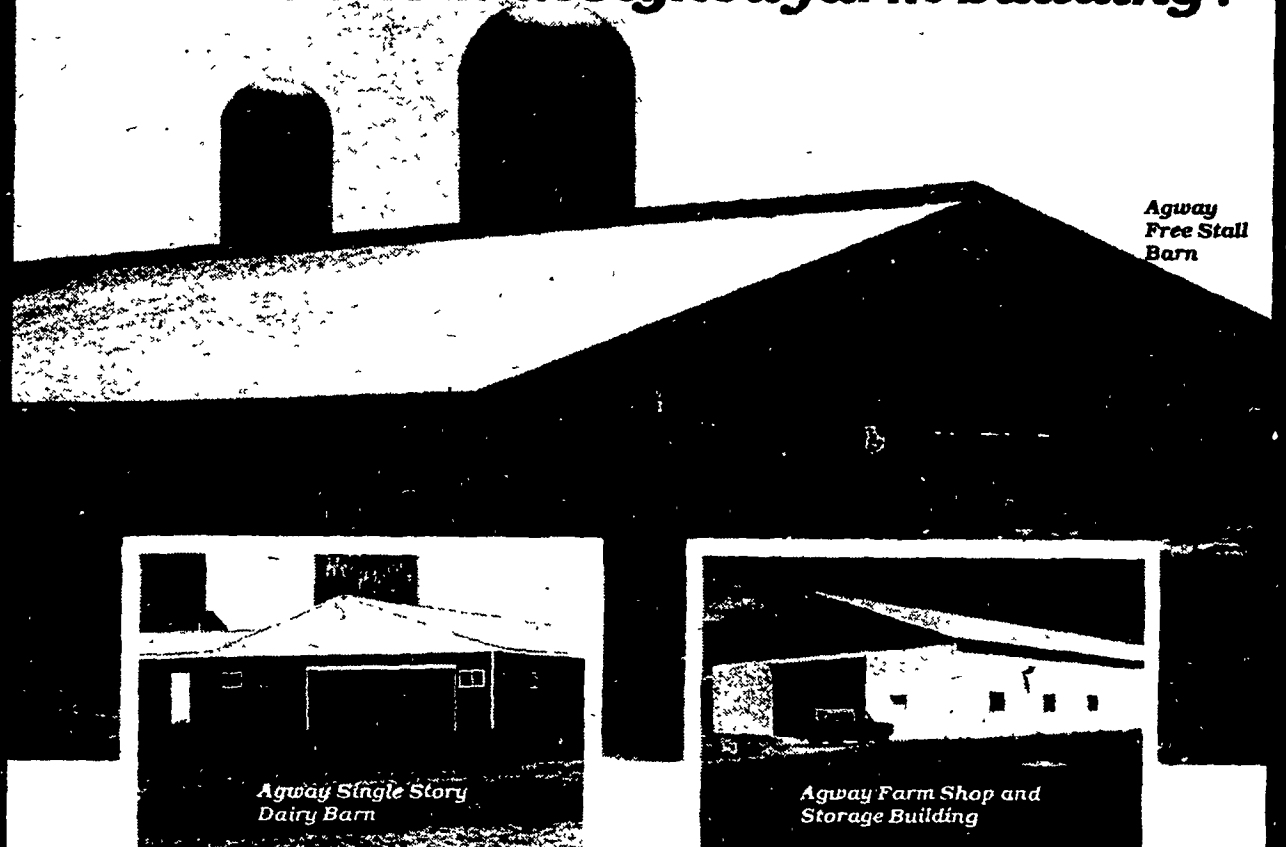
The three-day show is admission free, there is ample parking and facilities include numerous food concessions for those planning to spend a day touring the midway and grounds. Show hours are from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday and from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 25.

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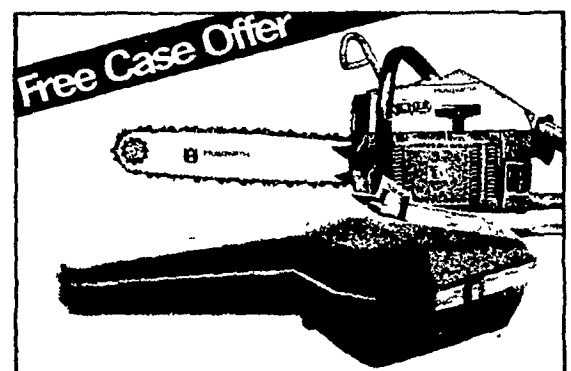
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