

OUR READERS WRITE, AND OTHER OPINIONS

(Continued from Page A10)

development of plants and animals that can withstand diseases and pests.

New research is the key to the future for farmers. Although farm income is affected by temporary surpluses of grain and dairy products, no one doubts that world food demands will increase in the years ahead. Agricultural research is an essential investment in the future strength and vitality of the nation's food and fiber production abilities. The Agricultural Experiment Station at Penn State has scientists working in more than 300 active research projects. Nearly one-third of the "scientists years" in the Experiment Station, 36 percent, are devoted to seeking ways to produce an adequate supply of farm and forest products and to decrease production costs.

Twenty-two percent of the "scientist years" are devoted to protecting forests, crops, and livestock from insects, diseases, and other hazards.

Still other areas of emphasis in the College of Agriculture include: research to insure a stable and productive agriculture through wise management of natural resources, 7 percent; improving efficiency in marketing, 5 percent; developing new and improved products, 6 percent; promoting community improvement, 17 percent. The latter includes development of economic opportunity, public services, and recreation and environment.

We will maintain our emphasis on agricultural production and protection of crops, forests, and animals. However, any substantial growth of research in these areas will probably have to come from private funding rather than from taxes. Two areas in which I see a potential for increased emphasis

are in research projects designed to improve marketing efficiency and the development of new and improved products.

The goals of Penn State's College of Agriculture must be synonymous with goals for agriculture in the Commonwealth. Pennsylvania agriculture, foremost in the East, will continue to grow and prosper as long as we, all people in agriculture, work together to make it so.

It is generally recognized that high quality technology is the major reason for the success of U.S. agriculture over the years. The heart of that technology is in the research and educational programs of land-grant universities such as Penn State.

New Technology and new equipment must be adopted rapidly if the food producer and processor is to survive and prosper.

Methods of developing new knowledge and getting it out into the hands of those who need it must be sharpened and refined at the college level.

Samuel H. Smith
Dean
College of Agriculture
Penn State

Show and tell

I would like to thank you for printing my story, "Nancy the Goat," in the paper (Kid's Korner, Jan. 15, 1983).

I was very proud of the picture. I took it to school and shared it with my friends. Thanks for returning my picture.

Michael Corman

Study shows high erosion

CHAMBERSBURG — Approximately 57,045 tons of excess soil erosion is taking place each year from farmland in Greene Township, according to a study by Kenneth Reisinger, graduate student at Shippensburg State College.

The erosion study was done from a grid survey of the farmland in Greene Township and from the grid, 43 points in farm fields were sampled. Field visits were made to each point and data gathered included the soil type, steepness and length of slope, type of crop grown, and the amount of soil cover available.

The information gathered in the field used the Soil Conservation Service's Universal Soil Loss Formula to determine the amount of soil loss occurring at that point in each of the 43 fields. The study was under the direction of Daniel

DeVitis of the Geography Department at Shippensburg State College.

In his conclusions, Reisinger stated that 51 percent of the 43 samples had an excessive soil loss problem. The average soil loss was 5.5 tons per acre per year more than the allowable soil loss. The average annual allowable soil loss

per acre of the soils in Greene Township is 3 tons per acre.

There is approximately 20,337 acres of farmland in Greene Township. If the farmland soil losses are the same as the 51 percent of the sample points, then there is about 20,337 acres with a soil loss of 5.5 tons per acre above the tolerated level.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, Feb. 19

Adams County Fruit Growers dinner, 6 p.m., Bendersville Fire Hall.

Monday, Feb. 21

Bradford County Milker School, Mansfield, continues tomorrow. Delaware PIK meeting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sheraton Inn, Dover, Del. Garden Spot Young Farmers banquet, 6:45 p.m., Blue Ball Fire Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 22

Mid-Atlantic Roadside Marketing Conference, Host Farm, Lancaster, continues through Thursday.

Adams County Forage Production/Marketing Meeting, Cross Keys Diner, Rt. New Oxford.

Fayette County Agronomy Day, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Piwowar Farms, Rt. Uniontown.

Delmarva Safety Seminar, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Delmarva Convention Hall, Rt. 13, Delmar, Md.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

1983 Delmarva Dairy and Livestock Seminar, Sheraton Inn, Dover, Del., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., next session on March 2.

Adams County Swine Producers, Vo-Ag Room, Bermudian Springs High School.

Somerset County, N.J. Small Farmer Course, 7:30-9:30 p.m.,

4-H Center, Bridgewater, N.J.

Clearfield County Milker School, continues through Thursday, Multi-Service Center, Clearfield.

Delaware Turf Ornamental Workshop, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Room 125, Clayton Hall, University of Delaware North Campus.

Bradford County Heifer Housing & Health, 12:30-3 p.m., Extension Office, Towanda.

Thursday, Feb. 24

Outstanding Young Farmer Program, Sioux Falls, S.D., Ramada Inn, continues through Sunday.

Maryland 4-County Swine Meeting, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Talbot Ag Center.

Pa. Holstein Convention, continues through Saturday, Erie Hilton Hotel.

State Holstein Sale, Erie Hilton. Estate Planning meeting, 7:30 p.m., Lancaster Farm & Home Center.

Tobacco Management Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Union Grove School, Terre Hill.

Friday, Feb. 25

Bradford Heifer Housing & Health meeting, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Alba Church.

Saturday, Feb. 26

Dauphin Extension Banquet, 7 p.m., Colonial Park UCC.

LCCD offers conservation booklet

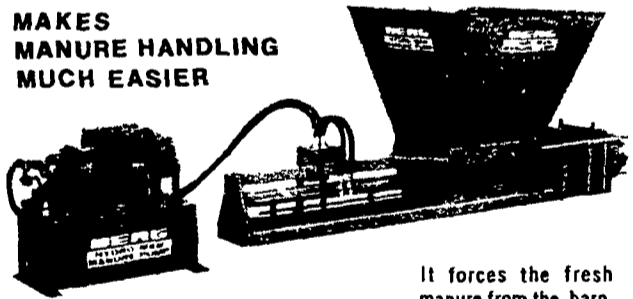
LANCASTER — The Lancaster County Conservation District is offering a 16-page booklet and other related materials to Lancaster County religious leaders who wish to conduct services relating to the teachings of the Bible and wise use of natural resources.

Soil Stewardship Week will be May 8-15, 1983, although the suggestions and references can be used at anytime to call attention to soil and water stewardship.

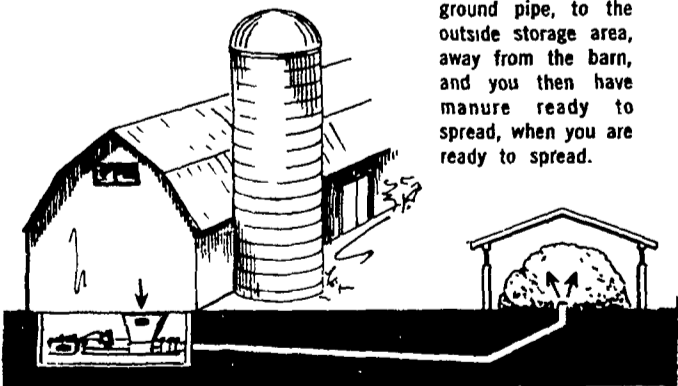
This information can be obtained by contacting the Lancaster County Conservation District, Room 6, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA 17601, telephone 717/299-5361, before Feb. 26, 1983.

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(Hublersburg)
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FARM COMPUTER SEMINAR

Topics to be discussed:

- What can a computer do for me on my farm?
- How do I decide which computer to buy?
- How much will it cost?
- How do I learn how to operate it?

Plus demonstrations and operation of farm programs

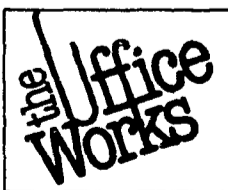
Seminar will be a "hands-on" seminar, with the participants operating the computers. Wives are encouraged to attend. Apple computers will be used in seminar. Cost Per Person...\$20.00; or \$25.00...For Husband & Wife, Lunch included. Call now for reservations. Maximum number of persons per session is 20.

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THE OFFICE WORKS

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THE OFFICE WORKS

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