

# Ag Day affects all Pennsylvanians

HARRISBURG — State Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell says Agriculture Day, a nationwide celebration of agriculture's successes, is important to all Pennsylvanians.

"Agriculture today produces more than just income and jobs for farmers, it accounts for a significant part of both rural and urban areas' income and jobs," said Hallowell. "Agriculture Day is a day to increase public awareness of agriculture's economic impact.

"Farming has always been a family business in the Commonwealth. For 300 years, our farm families have been the focal point of the state's economic growth. Agriculture is now the state's number one industry for the second year in a row, generating \$50 billion in economic activity."

One out of five Pennsylvania workers — 900,000 people — are employed by agriculture. Nationally, approximately 23 million are employed by the industry.

The food and agriculture accounts for 20 percent of our Gross National Product and agricultural exports have become a primary factor in limiting our national trade deficit — farm exports paid for almost half the cost of importing petroleum products last year. Pennsylvania has been increasing its exports with the help of the Pennsylvania Department of

Agriculture and their new Agnet computer system.

Besides paying for over \$8 billion in taxes last year, farmers generated money for the local economy by being big consumers. Last year farmers spend \$14 billion for tractors and other farm

machinery, using approximately six and one-half million tons of steel and preserving nearly 40,000 jobs in the steel industry. Farmers also spent over \$13 billion for fuel and vehicle upkeep.

Electricity is another large expenditure for farmers. Last year

farmers used 33 billion kilowatt hours — more than the New England States, Maryland, Kentucky and Washington combined.

"As demonstrated by the large dollar figures involved, farming has truly graduated into a complex

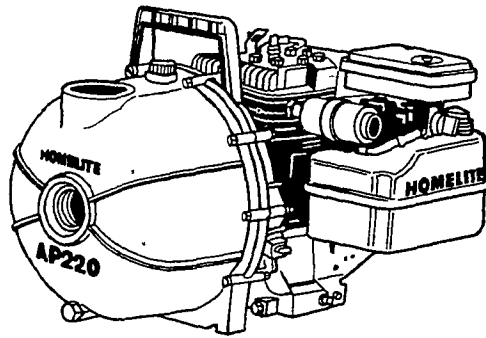
agribusiness, subject to the same economic, political, natural and social pressures as any other business," said Hallowell. "For this reason, it is appropriate that we set aside a day as Agriculture Day to celebrate nationwide the successes of our agribusinesses."

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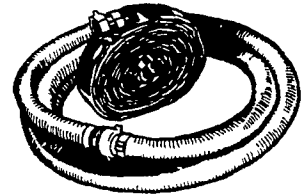
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5-10-30*	159.50	8-32-16* m	219.50	15-15-15*	182.50	0-23-30*	Ask
5-15-30*	175.50	8-32-16* mzn	234.00	16-16-16	186.50	0-26-26*	189.50
5-20-20	171.50	9-23-30*	Ask	19-19-19	206.50	0-26-24* w/b	198.00
6-18-36*	194.50	10-20-10*	175.50	20-10-10	178.50	0-18-36*	181.00
6-24-24	190.50	15-30-15*	224.50	21- 7-14*	183.50	0-14-42	172.50
6-24-24* m	200.00	10-20-20	183.50	28-13-13*	217.00	0-14-40* w/b	185.00
6-26-26	199.50	11-22-22*	199.00	30-10-10*	211.50	46- 0- 0	206.00
7-27-11*	188.00	10-30-10*	201.50	23- 0-30*	Ask	0-46- 0	210.00
7-27-11* m	194.50	12-24-24	206.50	0-15-30*	165.50	0- 0-60	157.75
7-28-28* m	220.50	12-36-12*	228.00	0-15-30* w/b	174.00	18-46- 0	250.50
8-24- 8*	176.50	10-10-10*	149.50	0-10-40*	164.50	13-52- 0*	274.00

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