

Purina buys out Farmtronix

ST. LOUIS, MO. — Ralston Purina Company has announced it has acquired the remaining 50% interest in Farmtronix, a joint venture company which manufactures and markets computerized, automated animal feed systems.

W.M. Jones, President of Ralston's Agri Products Group, said Farmtronix, established in 1981, was 50% owned by Ralston Purina and Electro Dynamics, Inc., a Sheridan, Wyoming based firm. Terms were not disclosed.

Jones indicated that the acquisition of Farmtronix "is consistent with our planning to become more deeply involved in all aspects of American animal agriculture. We believe," Jones said, "that computerized feeding systems are essential tools which American farmers must utilize to

achieve improved efficiency and productivity gains."

Farmtronix is the nation's leading producer of computerized animal feeding equipment and systems. Farmtronix's principal feeding system, which is designed for dairy cows, consists of feeders, identifiers, cow identification tags and a central computer control unit. This unit can be located in the dairyman's house, office or dairy barn.

The system enables a dairyman to feed individual cows specific amounts of several different feeds at selected times during a 24-hour period. The system also records how much feed was consumed by each animal. The system also permits the animals to be fed according to their production potential for greater feed efficiency.

PennAg plans meetings

EPHRATA — Members and non-members of PennAg Industries Association are cordially invited to attend the 1984 PennAg regional meetings.

These meetings serve as an update to current members and as an informative introduction to PennAg for non-members. Consisting of an outline of the many and varied services and benefits that PennAg provides, the regional meetings will be held in each quadrant of Pa.

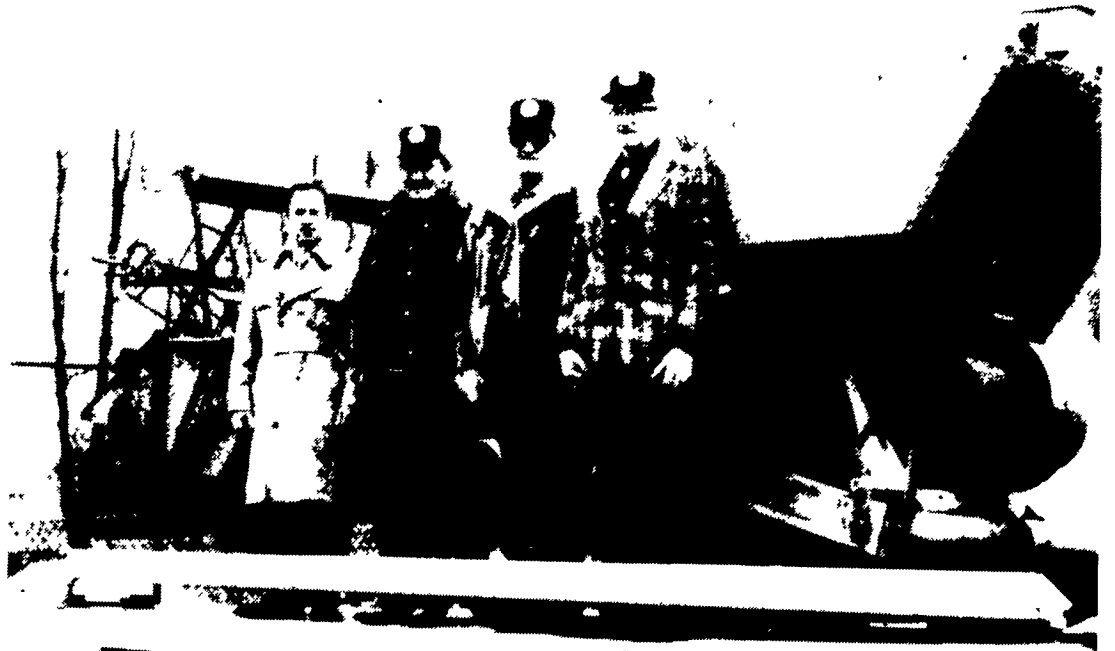
The meeting format includes Agricultural/Legislative Issues discussed by David R. Brubaker, Executive Vice President of PennAg; Association Services presented by Samuel C. Sherk, Director of Services of PennAg; and Insurance programs discussed

by Judith L. Whitehouse, Field Representative for Penn Ag Industries Insurance Trust. A PennAg Association perspective and review will be presented by Jack H. Dreibelbis, of the Board of Directors of PennAg.

Locations and dates: Feb. 21, Sheraton Lancaster Resort, Lancaster; Feb. 28, Sheraton Altoona, Altoona; March 20, David Meade Inn, Meadville; April 3, Fireplace Restaurant, Tunkhannock. The evening meetings will be preceded by a sit-down dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Any questions about the meetings should be directed to: PennAg Industries Association, P.O. Box 329, Ephrata, PA 17522 (Phone: 717-733-2238).

Oldest working Gleaner combine



The Oldest Working Gleaner Combine found in a recent contest sponsored by Allis-Chalmers Corporation is a machine manufactured before 1927 and now owned by Joe Samson Jr., a wheat farmer from Oberlin, Kan. Samson is shown, second from the left, in photo. Second and third-place winners in the contest are Albert Schmidt, New England, N.D. and Joe Heidrick, Woodland, Cal. They are shown with Tom Stadtmueller, left, marketing manager for Gleaner combines.

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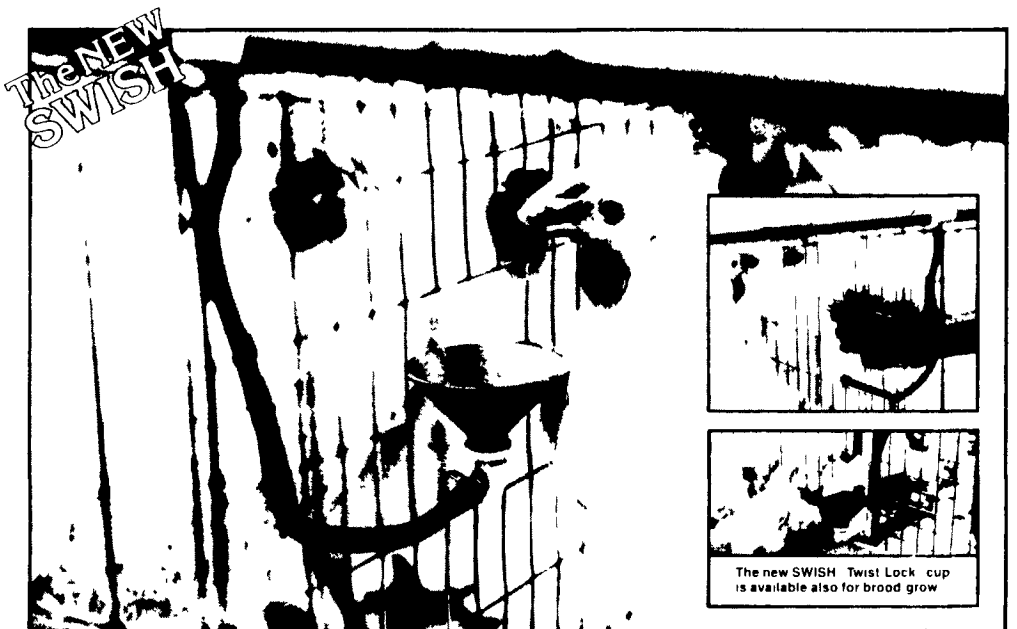
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"Twist-Lock" cups: newest innovation from the new leader



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The newest twist in cage watering makes cup cleaning and maintenance a real snap. It's SWISH's Twist-Lock cups for cage layers and brood-grow watering systems.

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Installation is a snap too with SWISH's new cups — they simply snap into the desired location and the hose attaches to the water line outlet. These are some

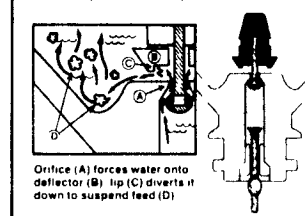
of the ways SWISH's new cup saves you labor — easy installation, low maintenance, and labor savings because our cup constantly cleans itself.

Helps save more birds. Because our cup is self-cleaning, algae and bacteria growth is not a problem as with cups that don't flush out feed particles. Clean cups mean less chance of disease and less mortality. And our big cup means good access to water, for a good level of bird health.

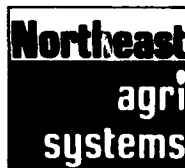
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