

New feeder pigs require special care

ST. LOUIS, MO. — A new shipment of feeder pigs demands the protection of a total receiving program, declares Ray Washam, manager of swine technical services for Ralston Purina Company.

"During shipping, pigs often go without feed or water for long periods of time," he says. "They are also subjected to the stress that sorting, co-mingling with unfamiliar pigs, loading and reloading brings. By the time they reach their final destination," continues, "these pigs may have shrunk an average of seven percent, been exposed to multiple disease organisms, and are perhaps injured from fighting."

A good receiving program for recently-shipped feeder pigs which includes sanitation, vaccinations, sound facilities management, and attention to nutrition should reduce the effects of this stress and get pigs eating as soon as possible, Washam says. "It should also protect them from disease."

The first step in a receiving program is preparing facilities for the animals' arrival. "One week prior to their arrival all floors, walls and equipment should be cleaned and disinfected," he says. Confinement areas also should be bird- and rodent-proofed, and steps should be taken to ensure that dogs, cats and unauthorized personnel not enter the disinfected facilities.

Upon arrival pigs should be sorted according to size. "Any size or crippled pigs should be removed from the group and treated separately," Washam advises. "A veterinarian should be consulted if a health problem appears to be spreading."

To prevent disease, Washam recommends deworming pigs on arrival with such a product as the Purina Liquid Pig Wormer, and vaccinating them against erysipelas if not already noted on the animals' health certificate. "We also advise medicating their

water for the first three to six days," he adds.

Producers must not ignore the critical role nutrition plays in reducing the effects of stress and preventing disease in a receiving program, Washam notes. "Recently-shipped feeder pigs have increased nutritional needs due to the many stresses they've been subjected to during shipping," he explains. "They should be placed on a special, medicated receiving ration that is high in protein and energy, to offset the effects this stress causes."

The only product specifically formulated for recently-shipped

feeder pigs is Purina's new High Octane Feeder Pig Receiving Chow, Washam says. "Fed to newly-arrived pigs during their first two to three weeks in a growing finishing facility. Receiving Chow can help pigs quickly regain weight lost in shipping, gain new weight faster, and maintain that improvement through finishing. The ration is also medicated with TNA 390 to deal with and prevent bloody scours and bacterial enteritis."

"Newly-arrived feeder pigs should receive the ration for 14 days," Washam adds. "Pigs

under extreme stress can receive it for up to 21 days," he adds.

Besides providing a sound nutrition program, Washam recommends observing pigs twice daily for potential health problems—scours, sneezing and coughing, low feed or water intake—and take immediate therapeutic action. "Pigs should also be castrated and ear-notched (or tagged) if necessary a week after arrival," he adds.

A week later, he continues, if pigs seem acclimated to their new surroundings, they should be changed from Feeder Pig

Receiving Chow to a growing ration like High Octane Hog Grower Chow. Otherwise, the receiving ration should be fed for another week.

A receiving program that incorporates good sanitation and facilities management, disease prevention measures, and a sound nutrition program will contribute to improved feeder pig performance, Washam contends. "Such a program requires close monitoring and a considerable amount of time, but will certainly pay off in healthier and heavier animals," he concludes.

Computer exhibition slated

conclude on March 3. Participants will be limited to 115 farmers.

Enrollment fees for the agricultural seminar will be \$140 per person for members of the Maryland Grain Producers Association and \$190 for non-members.

Registration for spouses or one other farm associate will be \$100 per person.

A trade show, with an estimated 100 exhibitors, will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9:30 p.m. on March 2 and from 9 to 5 p.m. on March 3. More than 1,000 persons are expected to visit the trade show which is free and open to the public.

It will feature both computer hardware and software for farmers and small business firms.

WYE MILLS, Md. — Farmers will learn the nuts and bolts of setting up a home microcomputer system and how to select software during the first annual East Coast Computer Exhibition.

Slated for March 2 and 3, the event will be held on the Chesapeake College campus, at Wye Mills, on U.S. 50 between Annapolis and Easton, Md.

The exhibition is sponsored by the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service (UMAES), the Maryland Grain Producers Association and Chesapeake College.

A seminar for farmers will pinpoint specific farm computer applications such as accounting, crop and livestock management, and commodity marketing. The seminar will begin on March 2 and

For detailed information about seminar enrollment, please contact; Ms. Dianne Turpin, Director,

Continuing Education, Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD 21679, Phone: (301) 822-5400.

Sire Power post to Gulnac

TUNKHANNOCK — Ed Gulnac, of Eldred, is named to a new position as District Sales Manager for Sire Power, Inc. He will be serving the area of Southcentral Pennsylvania.

Gulnac will be managing established sales territory for Sire Power in Southcentral Pa. which includes the counties of York, Adams, Cumberland, Northern Franklin, Fulton, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, and Somerset.

His duties will include direct herd semen sales, delivery of semen, supplies, and nitrogen direct to the farm, teaching A.I. Training Schools, supervising A.I. Technicians, and promotion of the Gold Sire Development Program.

He brings to his new position a strong background in A.I. He has been a technician in the Northeast Sales Division for 17 years. He has been a performance leader in the technician force awards contest which recognizes outstanding service and results. He has been the performance leader in Per-

centage Sample Sire Usage for the past six years, 1978 through 1983.

Gulnac replaces the retiring Robert B. Baker who has served as Direct Herd Representative in the area for nine years.



Ed Gulnac

New Idea reports harvesters

COLDWATER, Oh. — New Idea has introduced two pull forage harvesters. The model 680 is for use with 140-190 HP 1,000 RMP PTO tractors and the model 660 is for use with 540 PTO tractors with up to 95 HP or 1,000 RPM PTO tractors up to 140 HP.

The 680 accepts a 3-row row crop head. Both models accept a 2-row row crop head, an ear corn head or

either a 72-inch or 90-inch low profile open end windrow pickup.

The 18-inch, 12-knife cutterhead makes up to 10,200 cuts per minute to cut as fine as 3/16-inch without a recutter screen. Several recutter screens are available.

A hydraulic cutterhead sharpener allows in-field knife rebeveling. In-cab electrical controls make field operation easy.

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