

# Ag Advice

(Continued from Page D27)

cutting costs you should look into your feed ration ingredients. Ask the questions (1) why is this in here, (2) can I replace it with a more economical feed, (3) do I really want to reduce feed costs?

Since most of this column has been aimed at Dairymen and I have made a couple of snide comments on DHIA, here are my thoughts on that program. DHIA and OS are two extremely useful management tools for dairymen. The unfortunate thing is that many dairymen do not use this valuable tool as an aid in decision making. It is used as a sales tool (which is good), as a brag item (bad), as a social topic (neither), as a data

gathering tool for statistics, bull proofs, breed standards, and written material. but too often it is not used as a management tool. It could show you (1) how much to feed - if your records are real, (2) when to breed - or not breed cows, (3) when to cull - let's quit that 2nd and 3rd chance, (4) where your weak months fall, (5) excessive dry periods, (6) perennial problem cows - cow families, (7) where you goofed (it is your fault when a whole group of heifers are poor), (8) when you could cut grain feed. Yes DHIA is a much more useful program than most Pennsylvania dairymen are willing to admit. All dairymen should use it.

**WEST CHESTER** — This year's Fourth Annual Maple Sugar Festival, sponsored by the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department, has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 31, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

An assortment of informative and interesting activities will take place, including converting maple tree sap to delicious maple syrup, taste tests between homemade syrup and commercial brands, baking demonstrations with free recipes, bluegrass music by Jake Jamison and the Susquehanna Valley Boys, hayrides, interpretive displays, and take-home literature.

A special festival breakfast will be served all day, beginning at 9 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, orange juice, and a choice of coffee or

cocoa will be available for \$2.50; pancakes, orange juice, coffee or cocoa will cost \$2.00; extra orange juice, coffee, or cocoa will be \$.40 each. The breakfast will feature homemade Hibernia syrup.

Pure Pennsylvania maple syrup will be sold in various size containers, by the ½ gallon, quart, pint, ½ pint, and ¼ pint. Maple cream and bags of maple candy will also be sold. Tree taps will be available for purchase by those who would like to tap their own trees. Tours of Historic Hibernia Mansion will be offered at a nominal charge.

Admission to the Maple Sugar Festival is free. Hibernia Park is located approximately four miles

north of Coatesville in central Chester County. From the Route 30 Downingtown-Coatesville bypass, follow Route 82 north ¼ mile, then turn left onto Route 340 for one mile. Make the first right after passing the Wagontown Fire Company and follow the signs to the park. The rain date will be Sunday, April 1. For further information, call the Hibernia Park office at 384-0290.



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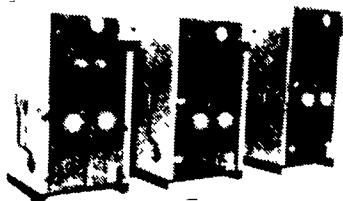


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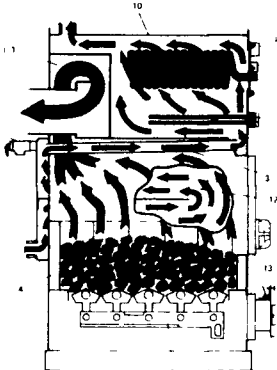
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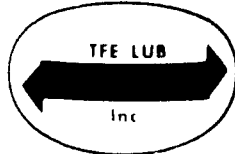
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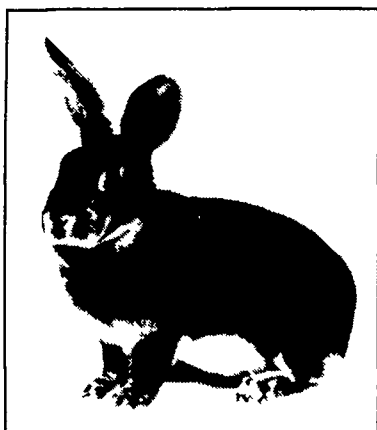
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