

Now is the Time

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potash to obtain maximum yields. However, we must realize the potential danger of burning seeds or roots when they come in direct contact with either the nitrogen or potash fertilizer. Either of these elements will stunt or prevent germination.

Fertilizer should be placed to the side or deeper than the plant roots or seed. Most mechanical planters are now designed to keep the seeds and fertilizer at least two inches apart. In the case of plants, the fertilizer should be either worked into the topsoil in advance of planting or side-dressed along the row after the plants have been transplanted. Proper fertilizer placement will return greater benefits from the plant food.

To Think Of Neighbors When Spreading Manure

Livestock and poultry farmers who work with their animals or birds every day may not be as keenly aware of manure odors as their non-farm neighbors. I know that everyone's time is at a premium at this season of year, but I would like to suggest that you should try to spread manure only when conditions are right to minimize odor problems. Wait for a day with low relative humidity, clear sunny skies, and spread the manure on land that is dry enough to plow or disk. The best time of day is between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. when suburban people are at work. Also, try to avoid spreading

HARRISBURG — Eleven agricultural research projects, addressing topics ranging from avian influenza to direct marketing, will be renewed for the 1984-85 fiscal year, according to state Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell.

The ten-member Pennsylvania Agricultural Research Committee, chaired by Secretary Hallowell, has renewed project funding in the amount of \$260,266. Funding for the proposals, which came previously from horse and harness racing revenues, will now be drawn from a special agricultural research line item requested by Governor Thornburgh in the state budget.

The projects are being conducted by Penn State, the University of Pennsylvania and Delaware Valley College.

State funded projects at Penn State include:

Hybrid Mushrooms: Production by Dual Culture and Protoplast Fusion (terminates 12-31-84), \$13,824.

Management of Soil Levels of Nitrogen and Phosphorus for Corn Production and Minimum Enrichment of Runoff and

on weekends and holidays when neighbors are likely to be engaged in nearby outdoor activities. Whenever possible, the manure should be plowed or disked into the soil as soon as possible after spreading. This not only minimizes odors but also preserves nutrients and reduces the potential for surface runoff that causes water pollution.

The Extension Service is an affirmative action equal opportunity educational institution.

Downward Moving Water Under Field Conditions, \$24,400.

Increased Utilization of Leaker Eggs, \$22,960.

An Integrated Management System for the Control of Nematode-Transmitted Virus Diseases Affecting Fruit Crops in Pennsylvania, \$8,000.

Avian Influenza Surveillance and Virus Identification by Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), \$31,416.

A Research/Educational Program for Direct Marketers, \$36,124.

Projects underway at the University of Pennsylvania include:

Pseudorabies Infection of Swine: Molecular Epidemiology and New Approaches to Analysis of Latent Infections, \$21,300.

Transmissions and Significance of Bovine Leukemia Virus Infection, \$36,829.

The Relationship of Hemoglobin Types and Susceptibility of Sheep and Parasite Infections, \$8,400.

Pathogenesis of Avian Influenza Infection of Chickens, \$25,835.

On-going research at Delaware Valley College focuses on Agricultural Utilization of Lime-Enriched Septage on Forage Lands at a cost of \$31,200.

The Agricultural Research Committee is composed of

Secretary Hallowell; Deputy Secretaries of Agriculture E. Chester Heim and J. Luther Snyder; Fred Wertz, acting director of the Department's Office of Planning and Research; Ben Mader, executive director of the Pennsylvania State Harness Racing Commission; Sen. Edward Helfrick, chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee; Sen. Patrick J. Stapleton, minority chairman of the same committee; Rep. Joseph W. Grieco, chairman of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee; and Representative Kenneth J. Cole, minority chairman of the same committee.

Northampton holds mastitis school

NAZARETH — The Northampton County Cooperative Extension Service held a three-evening Mastitis Treatment School on March 28, 30 and April 4.

The ten students learned bacteria identification, isolation, and purification, and the techniques of antibiotic sensitivity testing to select treatments.

Instruction was handled by Gregory Solt, Northampton County Agent, in consultation with Ackermanville Veterinary Hospital.

"To the best of my knowledge, this is the first time an effort was made in the state to teach a large group of dairymen antibiotic sensitivity testing", reports agent Solt. "I know of several individual dairymen who have done it in the past but it has usually been considered 'too technical' for most dairymen".

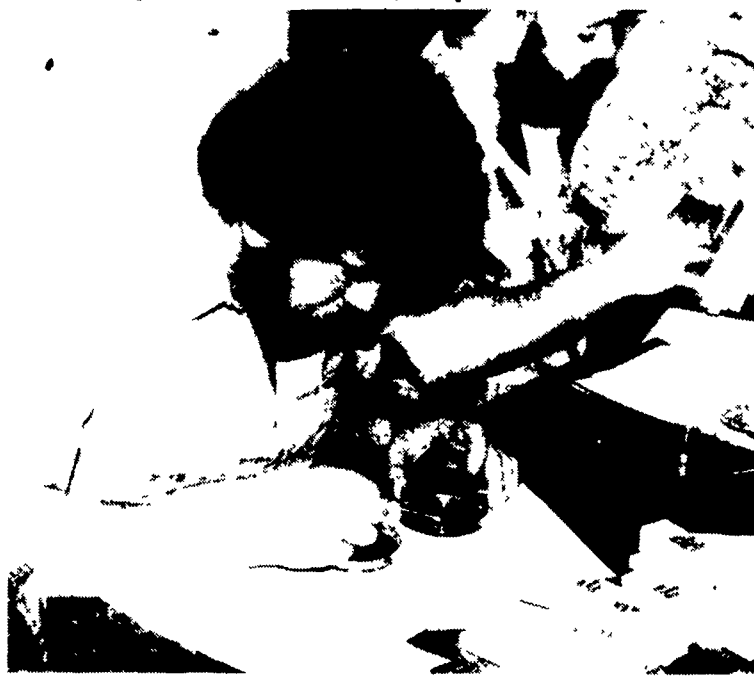
"Judging from the results with the practice work, these dairymen should do fine" Solt continued. For a dairymen who is willing to work at it and remain practiced, sensitivity testing can be a great tool for fighting mastitis.

Agent Solt plans to follow through with these 'pioneers' and

summarize their success and failures after one year. "Then future classes can gain from their experiences", concludes Solt.

The dairymen received in-

cubators, instructions, agar plates, drugs, and all necessary accessories to start testing on the farm. Cost of the program was \$75.00 per farm.



Bruce Fox, dairyman from Bangor, swabs an agar plate with bacteria culture during recent Northampton County Extension Mastitis School.

Farm Calendar



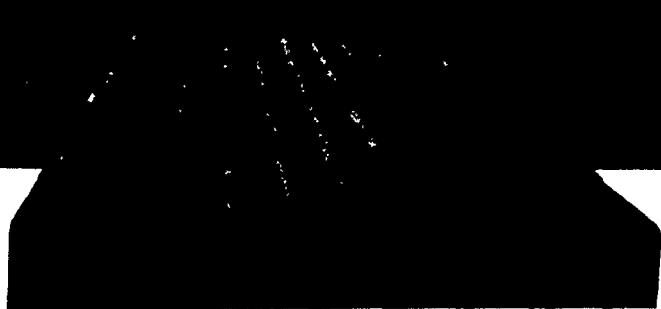
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Troy Fairgrounds, continues tomorrow.
Region IV 4-H Horse Clinic for parents and leaders, 10 a.m. -

12:30 p.m.
Northwest All-Breed Calf Sale, 1 p.m., Crawford County Fairgrounds.
Dairy Expo, Penn State Ag Arena.

CATTLE GUARD

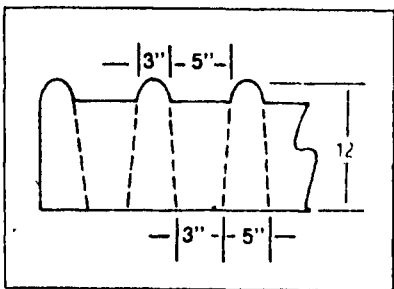
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