

Right to know

(Continued from Page A1)

nonmanufacturing sector." Included in the non-manufacturing sector are small business, such as farming, Lee said. Under the bill, these businesses would be required to label all chemicals in the workplace and provide a training program for employees about these substances.

In most cases, chemical containers are already labeled and provide information on the substances found within. However, if a container is not labeled correctly, the businessman or farmer must correct the labeling, Lee said.

Labeling of containers includes secondary containers, as well, he said. For example, if a farmer purchased a 50-gallon drum of fertilizer and placed the contents

in a fertilizer spreader, the farmer would be required to label the spreader. The spreader, Lee explained, would be considered a secondary container.

Under H.B. 1236, farmers and businessmen would also be required to supply a list of all hazardous chemicals in their workplace if a community member would request this information, Lee said. The list of substances would then be recorded with the state Department of Health.

Approximately 2,500 "hazardous" substances have been listed by the Department of Health.

The "Right to Know" bill, Lee said, was drafted with worker safety in mind, but it must be reasonable for the employer also.

"We think Pennsylvania needs a right to know law," he said, "but it

must be enforceable and reasonable and not in conflict with Federal OSHA standards."

A "Right to Know" bill is needed, agrees the manager of government relationships for the Pa. Farmer's Association (PFA); however, as drafted, H.B. 1236 would create additional paperwork for farmers and employers.

Farmers and employers should know what chemical substances they are working with and provide this information to employees, Al Myers agreed. But, he added, the bill goes beyond its beneficial nature.

"It is our belief that farmers would have a considerable amount of paperwork as the bill is written," Myers said.

Included in the paperwork, Myers explained, would be the filling out of a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Developed by OSHA, the MSDS form should be

provided by the manufacturer, but if this is not the case, a farmer-employer would need to obtain this form from the Department of Health.

One MSDS, explained Steve Crawford, director of agriculture employer programs for PFA, is required for each container of substance. The MSDS should list the chemical name among other chemical information, Crawford explained.

This creates a problem for

farmers, Myers said, who lack the expertise or research to provide such information. He noted that large manufacturing firms are able to hire experts to complete such a task.

"The 'Right to Know' is a step in a positive direction regarding chemicals people deal with," Myers said, adding that PFA is in the process of drafting amendments which would create a "more acceptable bill."

Penn State to offer milk marketing shortcourse

UNIVERSITY PARK — On September 17 and 18, a milk marketing shortcourse for county extension workers and state extension specialists will be offered

at Penn State's University Park. Dairy marketing extension specialists from Penn State, Cornell University and the University of Vermont as well as key industry personnel will present the program. The program will cover topics such as starting and maintaining county or regional milk marketing programs, the 1985 Farm Bill, the Pa. Milk Marketing Board, advertising and promotion, the price support program, pricing milk under federal market orders and many others.

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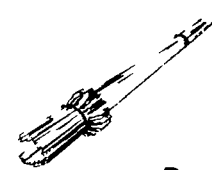
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Brooks End sale

BEAVERTOWN — Brooks End and Par Kay Farms held their annual summer sale June 29. The sale totaled \$66,540 for an average of \$297.00 for the 224 head.

The top-selling animal was Lot 122 RTB3 Champion Boy 100-10 selling for \$1,000 to George Fraizer and Sons Fort Wayne, Ind. The Top-selling Yorkshire Bred Gilt was Lot 25 purchased by Joseph Zerby, Beavertown, for \$535. The top-selling Landrace Boar was Lot 143 purchased by John Matthew Fallentimber, for \$510. The top-selling Landrace Bred Gilt was Lot 71 purchased by John K. King, Paradise, for \$400.

Averages include:

41 hd. of Yorkshire Bred Gilts, \$361, 42 hd. of Yorkshire Boars, \$463, 83 hd. of Yorkshires, \$412, 35 hd. of Landrace Bred Gilts, \$322, 6 hd. of Landrace Boars, \$498, 41 hd. of Landrace, \$348, 100 Commercial Open Gilts, \$181.

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