

## Alfred State plans Ag Day events

ALFRED, NY — Farm tours, special displays, horse-drawn wagon rides, and a traditional "down on the farm" dinner are among events planned at Alfred State College as part of the Wednesday, March 19 observance of National Agriculture Day.

Events are being organized by members of the Collegiate Agricultural Leaders (CAL) Club who extend an invitation to the public to visit the campus, the college farm, and other college agricultural facilities on local "Ag Day." Most activities are planned between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Attractions will include: live animal exhibits such as cattle, sheep, and swine; milking, and sheep-shearing and blocking

demonstrations; horticulture displays; maple syrup boiling demonstrations; machinery and agricultural engineering exhibits; campus and farm tours; demonstrations of draft horse harnessing and hitching.

Visitors also will be able to watch baby chicks hatch from eggs, according to student co-chairmen Colleen Spahr of Lancaster, PA, and Thomas Sampson of Rushford, seniors in the animal husbandry curriculum.

Microscopes will be available for viewing samples containing protozoa and bacteria, they said.

Samples of dairy products to be offered visitors will include ice cream "made while you watch" by students in the agricultural science

curriculum.

More than 100 students enrolled in the college's agricultural curriculums are involved in plans for the 1986 observance, according to Professor Terry Tucker, CAL Club adviser.

Many of the exhibits will be in the lounge area of central dining hall, with other exhibits and demonstrations scheduled outdoors throughout the day in the vicinity of the dining hall and the agricultural science building.

As in past years, students and faculty have invited youngsters from area schools to take part in "Ag Day" events, including visits to the nearby college farm. Several schools are expected to accept the invitation.

Featured as the evening meal for the entire student body on "Ag Day" will be a farm-style dinner with a menu which promotes agriculture's role in good nutrition. Serving the students will be members of the faculty and staff in agricultural technologies.

One of the oldest schools in the nation offering agriculture, Alfred (founded in 1908) traditionally uses "Ag Day" to focus attention on programs, facilities and the

people who make the college a leader in agriculture education.

Purpose of National Agriculture Day, which was first observed in 1973, is to recognize the farmers, ranchers, horticulturists, and aquaculturists who produce hundreds of agricultural commodities and who also provide a forum for the education of others concerning the value of various agricultural industries.

## Meeting set on trickle irrigation

NEW HOLLAND — The Eastern Lancaster County Adult Farmer Program will sponsor a Trickle Irrigation Meeting on Thursday evening, March 20th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Blue Ball Elementary School.

The main emphasis of the

meeting will be to discuss managing a trickle irrigation system for vegetable and fruit production.

Topics that will be studied will include fertilizer injection, filters for different situations, selecting adequate equipment, water and fertilizer requirements for different crops, and other management tips for vegetable and fruit growers.

A representative from Trickle Co., drip irrigation specialists from Michigan, will be the speaker. Local trickle equipment distributors will be on hand to share some experiences as well.

As Lancaster County vegetable and fruit production increases dramatically, the need for irrigation to help produce a uniform, quality product becomes more and more important. Many do-it-yourself irrigation setups are not properly designed or managed for maximum profit.

A properly managed system should more than pay for itself in a few years and improve protection during dry periods as well as increase production, quality and improve the producers ability to manage his crops for maximum profit.

The Blue Ball School is located one mile east of Blue Ball on Ewell Road, between routes 23 and 322. All interested persons are invited. For additional information contact the Adult Farmer office at 354-4525.

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