

Penn State Reveals Plans For Dairy Research Center

UNIVERSITY PARK — Plans for a \$36 million research facility, which would make The Pennsylvania State University the premier agricultural research center in the Northeast, were unveiled today by University President Bryce Jordan and U.S. Senator Arlen Specter.

Senator Specter released copies of a federally produced feasibility study at a press briefing held at the Food Science Department on the University Park Campus. The feasibility study recommends a number of capital improvements for Penn State's College of Agriculture, including the establishment of an Agricultural Science and Industry Facility.

Senator Specter was instrumental in getting funding for the United States Department of Agriculture study of existing agricultural facilities at Penn State. The Penn State proposal seeks an \$18 million federal grant and a matching amount from the state.

The senator also was instrumental in obtaining funding for a \$300,000 grant for milk consumption research currently being conducted at Penn State. Researchers are investigating ways to increase the market for dairy products, focusing on health issues and the threat of unfair foreign competition.

"We are delighted today to celebrate the completion of a feasibility study that calls for establishing an Agricultural Science and Industry Facility at Penn State," Dr. Jordan said. "We are very pleased that Senator Specter was able to secure the funds for the feasibility study.

"We are even more pleased that

the six-member study team chaired by Dr. Mary Carter, associate administrator for the USDA Agricultural Research Service, saw fit to recommend establishment of this agricultural research center here at Penn State."

Dr. Jordan said the proposed building "will be a major expansion of the Henning Building and will house the Agronomy Department, the Dairy and Animal Science Department and additional faculty in Veterinary Science."

Obie Snyder, president of the Penn State Board of Trustees and a dairy farmer, attended the press briefing and stressed the importance of the University to the state's dairy industry.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations report accompanying the 1986 Agriculture, Rural Development and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill directed the Agricultural Research Service to conduct a feasibility study of Penn State's proposal to establish an agricultural science and industry facility.

Dr. T.B. Kinney Jr., administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, appointed a six-member team which studied the proposal, met with University and College of Agriculture administrators, and reviewed agricultural facilities on the University Park Campus.

In addition to development of an Agricultural Science and Industry Building, the Penn State proposal calls for the establishment of several smaller research units.

These units include a new poultry research unit located at an appropriate new location on the

periphery of the campus to replace current poultry facilities. The new facilities will reflect designs and materials currently used in industry and will facilitate waste management, disease control, and efficient systems for feedings and reproduction research, as well as applications of computer technology.

Also, a new dairy research unit to replace the existing facility and to contain specialized animal housing and waste disposal facilities, feeding systems, milking equipment and computer systems. It will enable research to be conducted on important problems, such as animal production efficiency, disease control and applications of biotechnology.

Additional contemporary greenhouses are to be constructed in the vicinity of the new Agricultural Science and Industry Building. The existing greenhouses will be reglazed and remodeled to reflect standards of industry and to accommodate research on greenhouse environment control systems.

A new swine research unit will be added to replace the existing swine unit constructed in 1958. The new unit will enable researchers from across the University to cooperate in research programs in the agricultural and health sciences and in the applications of biotechnology.

Concluding that there is an

urgent need to upgrade Penn State's College of Agriculture facilities, the study team said, "the overall concept of the proposed facility plan is viable, not excessive, and will address the highest priority needs of the College of Agriculture in its support of the agricultural industry of Pennsylvania and the Northeast."

USDA Buyout Report

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The third weekly report on the buyout was released by the USDA on Wednesday.

USDA figures show an estimated 33,500 head of cattle in the program were slaughtered during the week ending May 17. This figure includes all cows, heifers and calves in the DTP, according to the USDA spokesman.

An estimated cumulative total of 366,400 head have been slaughtered since the beginning of the DTP on April 1.

Meat purchases by the government reached 11.7 million pounds for the week ending May 31. This

meat was purchased in the form of 2.4 million pounds of canned beef, 8,739,500 pounds of bulk-frozen ground beef, and 608,000 pounds of beef roasts.

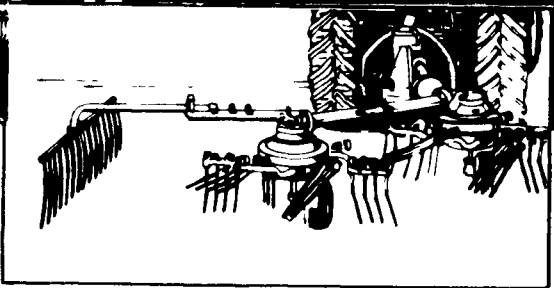
On June 4, they purchased an additional 22,984,500 pounds of ground beef and 5,906,952 pounds of canned beef. The additional purchases set a new weekly beef purchase record of approximately 29 million pounds.

Cumulative number of dairy cows that were reported for export since April 1, totaled 6,532 head. This total is expected to increase as foreign countries are preparing to take advantage of the Export Enhancement program.



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