

Cattlemen Slate Summer Field Day

UNIVERSITY PARK — Rolling Ridge Farms will host the 1986 combined Cattlemen's Summer and Pennsylvania Simmental Association Field Day on July 19, 1986. The farm is in west central Pennsylvania, 14 miles north of Butler on State Route 38.

Specialists will cover many topics at various stops on the Field Day Farm Tour.

Dave Welch, D.V.M., from Berlin, will discuss the purpose and techniques of on-farm embryo transfer. Rolling Ridge Farms has been involved in embryo transfer, which allows more calves to be born from the same dam and sire than with natural or artificial insemination techniques.

Byron Breisch, retired district conservationist from West Sunbury, will discuss various steps in reclaiming stripmined land. Breisch, who supervised reclamation work that was done on Rolling Ridge Farms, will discuss improvement in cattle carrying capacity from properly reclaimed land.

Clair Engle, Penn State extension animals specialist, and Dr. Bob Owen, extension veterinarian,

will give a presentation on cattle handling facilities, health programs, parasite control and pinkeye prevention and treatment. Their presentation will include a discussion of up-to-date cattle health programs.

Tom Calvert, coordinator of Project Grass, Soil Conservation Service, Somerset, will present some of the latest materials on intensive forage/beef management systems and ways of using different forage species in a total grazing-hay program.

On a related topic, Sid Bosworth, Penn State extension agronomist, and Jim Garthe, extension agricultural engineer, will emphasize storage of forages for winter feeding — methods that capitalize on different growth habits of various forage species and that maximize forage quality as well as quantity.

Don Butler, president of the National Cattlemen's Association and an Arizona cow-herd operator, will discuss cattlemen's concerns about economic and production issues that affect profitability of the industry. Butler will focus on

how the individual cattle producer fits into solving some of the beef industry's problems.

Other topics to be discussed include current and expected expansion of consumer promotion/education programs,

Reproductive failures is a frustrating and costly problem for many farmers. The mystery of why some animals fail to conceive is gradually being unravelled.

For years, scientists have suspected early embryonic mortality as one of the causes. It is now appearing that the bodies of certain animals are not getting the message that they are pregnant. Consequently, they continue going through their regular cycle, and the pregnancy is lost.

At the University of Missouri, scientists are isolating the protein responsible for sending the "I am pregnant" message, and through recombinant DNA technology hope to generate new strains of animals that have lower embryonic mortality.

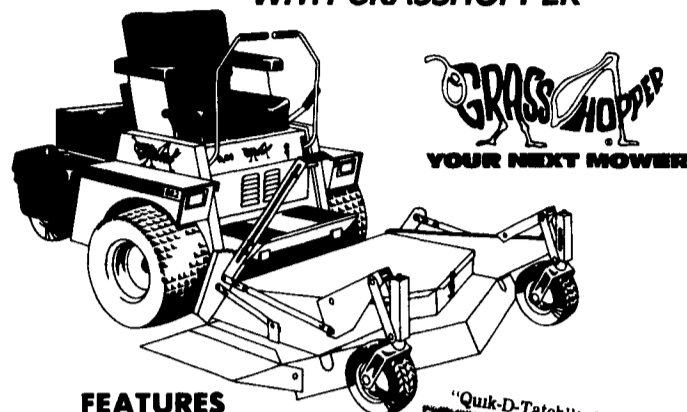
live evaluation of quality and cutability of finished steers, new marketing programs and information on nutritional value of beef and beef products.

The event is co-sponsored by Penn State's Department of Dairy and Animal Science, the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association, the Pennsylvania Simmental Association, the Pennsylvania

Beef Council, the Pennsylvania Meat Marketing Program and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. For more information, contact the Department of Dairy and Animal Science, 324 Henning Building, University Park, PA 16802 (814) 863-3667, or Rolling Ridge Farms, RD1, Box 147, Karns City, PA 16041 (814) 894-2463.

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