

Hog Contracting

(Continued from Page A22) mills can. In some cases that he's aware of, feed is costing contract growers 50 percent more than it

would if they mixed their own. Although Burkholder concedes that a contract may be beneficial to producers trying to get a start in

the business, he worries that this year's favorable market will encourage the large feed mills to expand their contracting business and flood the market with pork. "Generally the fellows running the feed business are more aggressive investors," says Burkholder,

pointing out that the contractor doesn't have to "put up with the labor situation. The farmer might not reach out as quickly to expand and hire more help."

Despite the increase in contracting in recent years, Burkholder doesn't see the hog business going the way of the poultry industry. "Chicks can be produced in a more mechanical way," he says. "With sows you always have a variety of problems."

Ken Kephart concurs. "Getting a chicken from egg to broiler is much different. It takes a special kind of an individual to want to do a good job farrowing sows."

That's what John Henkel, an independent Yorkshire breeder from Strasburg, finds appealing

about the business. "Getting the maximum production out of a sow herd," is doubly rewarding when you do it on your own, says Henkel. Of course, there's also the profit motive. "If you want to take the risk, you stand to make more money if you do it yourself," Henkel sums up.

Like most independents, Henkel believes that pressure from integrators will threaten operations such as his in the future. But most contractors contend that they aren't out to eliminate independent operators. "I think there's always going to be a place for the independents, but they're going to have to become the best," says White Oak's Mike Pflieger. "They're going to have to be thinking marketing all the time."

Annual Forage Conference Set

(Continued from Page A1)

- 9:00-10:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION** - \$10.00 - Keller Building Lobby (Fee includes lunch and program booklet)
- MORNING PROGRAM** - Quality Forages and Profitable Dairy Feeding Programs
Mr. Bruce Kreider, presiding
- 10:00-11:00 - "How Forage Quality Relates to Production, Intake, and Profitability" - Dr. Neal Jorgenson
- 11:00-11:40 - "Formulating a Sound Nutrition Program" - Dr. Richard Adams
- 11:40-NOON - "Forage Testing Options and Ration Programming at Merkle Laboratory" - Dr. Ann Wolf
- NOON **LUNCH** (with PFGC annual meeting report)
- AFTERNOON PROGRAM** - Managing Resources to Maximize Returns
Mr. George Wilcox, presiding
- 1:15-2:15 - "Growing & Feeding Quality Forage - Farmer's Perspectives"
Dairymen Panel - Mr. Tom Craig, Centre County
Mr. Frank Marks, Wayne County
Dr. Sidney Bosworth, Panel moderator
- 2:15-2:45 - "Evaluating Crop Rotations" - Mr. William Waters
- 2:45-3:15 - "To Buy Or To Grow Your Own?" - Dr. Joseph Hlubik
- 3:30 p.m. **ADJOURN**

Reservations may be sent to: **Sidney Bosworth**
106 Ag. Admin. Bldg.
University Park, PA 16802

PUBLIC AUCTION CORRECTION PLEASE NOTE!!!

The Public Auction advertisement for the Gene J. Wolfgang Estate on Thurs., Nov. 13 at 4 p.m. is located in Valley View, not in Tower City as advertised in sale ad on page D-35

We regret any inconvenience this may have caused you

Robert Arner, Auctioneer
717-386-4586

MEETING
Saturday, Nov. 15, 1986
1 P.M.



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- 1 load fresh and springer cows consigned by Norman and David Kolb.
- 1 load fresh cows consigned by Dale Hostetter.
- 1 load fresh cows consigned by Alfred Albright.

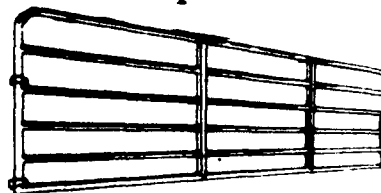
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Abe Diffenbach
717-354-4341

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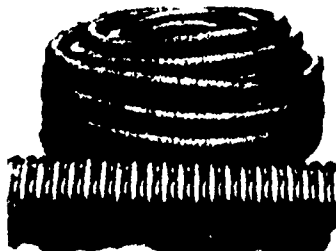
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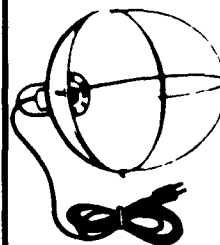
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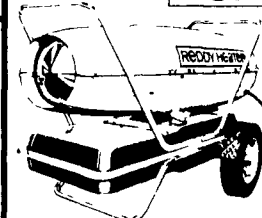
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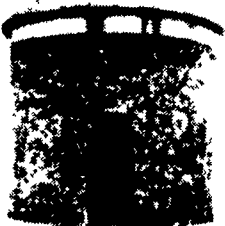
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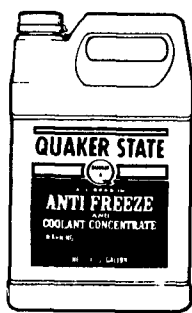
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