

Animal Rights, Welfare Not The Same

BY RICHARD BARCZEWSKI
University of Delaware

NEWARK, Del. — One way to get any self respecting livestock producer's dander up is to mention animal rights or animal welfare. The main reason for this is that these terms recall incidents of vandalism, irrational and very vocal individuals with off-the-wall ideas toward animal rearing.

First of all, animal rights and animal welfare have two very different meanings. Animal welfare refers to animal well-being. All livestock producers sure better consider themselves animal welfarists if they're concerned about the health and well-being of their livestock. For swine to be productive, their health, nutritional and other needs must be met. Failure to do so is abusive and inhumane.

I can honestly say that the vast majority of producers are concerned and conscientious about their livestock. However, as with

anything, there are always a couple of rotten apples in any group.

We owe it to ourselves, our profession and our livestock to use the best husbandry practices we can. Are we feeding balanced rations? Do our ventilation systems operate properly? Are our animals kept at comfortable temperatures and humidity?

These are the types of questions we need to be asking ourselves on a regular basis. Keeping our livestock healthy and comfortable is important for two reasons. First and foremost, we have a moral obligation to their well-being, since the animals are completely in our care, dependent on us for all of their needs. Secondly, good husbandry practices are a must for a profitable operation.

Animal rightsists feel that animals have rights. Most of these people are opposed to the confinement rearing of livestock. Many are vegetarians, and some

are adamant that vegetarianism is the way to go for everybody. Obviously, I don't agree with this train of thought. However, it's important for us to take a good hard look at our operations.

Most confinement livestock operations have been designed for the ease and comfort of the producer. Research is being done to evaluate new ideas in facility design, with the animal in mind. Time will tell if these ideas can be put to use.

By now, I'm sure that some of you are wondering what I'm getting at. Why is it so important to think about the questions raised by animal rights advocates?

It's important because we in the livestock industry must never become so accustomed to our facilities and management practices that we refuse to look at new and innovative ideas. We can't afford to become stagnant — especially when vocal groups are attacking our system.

Laws have been passed in Europe and Great Britain pertaining to animal-rearing practices. It's only a matter of time before similar laws are in our books, too, to protect livestock from improper rearing techniques.

Instead of fighting these eventual laws, let's make sure that adequate research is done to evaluate the alternative systems proposed for animal welfare. Producer organizations like the National Pork Producers Council need to be involved in the wording of any laws that may surface, to

ensure their fairness to producers and livestock alike.

Remember, any law that prevents livestock abuse is in the best interest of animal agriculture. After all, producers should care more about their livestock than anyone else does.

In view of declining red meat consumption and increasing concern from the non-farm sector about animal care, let's make a concerted effort to improve management and facilities for the livestock we raise.

Upjohn Honors Employee

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Robert A. Nash has received the W.E. Upjohn Award from The Upjohn Company for superior employee service.

Nash, product manager, International Animal Health Marketing, joined the company in

1965. He received a B.S. degree in biology from Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, Pa. that same year. Originally from Media, Pa., Nash and his wife, Charlene, and three children, reside in Richland, Mich.

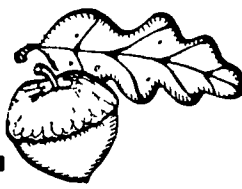
Nash played a vital role in the establishment of procedures, strategies and policies for production and marketing of Ag/Vet products during the development of Upjohn International's Ag/Vet Division. His contributions have included development and implementation of the marketing plan for Neomycin, and chairing the project teams that produced sterile mastitis products in the United Kingdom and launched cattle implants."

GLENWOOD METAL FORMING

717-733-9590



FALL SPECIAL



Painted 29 Gauge Metal
Red * H. Blue * Tan * Brown **\$38.00** Per Square
While Supply Lasts



Our Regular Line of 29 Gauge Metal
White * Barn Red * Earth Brown
* Sand Tan * Cypress Green * Sun Gold

\$42.00 Per Square



28 Gauge Galvalume	\$38.00 Per Square
.024 Plain Aluminum	\$47.00 Per Square
.024 Painted White Aluminum	\$60.00 Per Square
.29 Gauge Galvanize	\$32.00 Per Square
26 Gauge Painted Metal	\$45.00 Per Square

(Only Available In Certain Colors)

WE ALSO STOCK THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

10' Painted White Klauer Roofline Ridgulators
12'x12" Painted White Klauer Soffit System Vented or Solid
Klauer Trim Line: Ridge Cap * Rake & Corner * "J" Channel
Fascia Trim 6", 8" & 10" * Double Angle * Endwall & Sidewall Flashing
Door Jamb Trim And Door Track Cover
Construction Fasteners: Woodgrip & Woodzac Screws 1", 1½", 2" & 2½" In Stock
Dickson Weatherproof Nails: 1½" And 2½" In Stock
Pre-Hung Thermo Doors: 3/0x6/8 & 6/0x6/8 In Stock (Double Door)
Agri Built Windows: 24"x36" 36"x48" In Stock

Glenwood Metal Forming
RD #3, Box 503-A
Ephrata, PA 17522
(717) 733-9590

Robert Zimmerman
RD #2, Box 299
Newville, PA 17241
(717) 776-5951

Amos Nissley
RD #2, Box 246
Dundee, NY 14837
(607) 243-5161

TROY-BILT

ROTO TILLERS

WAREHOUSE SALE!



Only Two Weeks
Left On This
Offer

WE MATCH
TROY-BILT.

Prices are lower than ever at
this Factory-Authorized Ware-
house Sale! Get a Troy-Bilt
while our inventory lasts, and
SAVE on America's favorite
garden tiller!

Your Authorized **TROY-BILT** Dealer



Hollinger's Financing
Available
Lawn & Garden Equipment

THREE CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

- 1755 W. Main St., Ephrata, PA 17522
Located on Rt. 322 (717) 738-1131
- 1515 Chocolate Ave., Hershey, PA 17033
(717) 533-4060
- 2274 New Holland Pk., Lancaster, PA 17601
(717) 656-2710

