

USDA Historian To Speak On Ag Policy

Putting policy into perspective is a goal for the former chief historian of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Wayne D. Rasmussen asks how appropriate

are the agricultural programs that began in the 1930s to solving today's problems?

What alternatives do we have to insure and maintain a safe,

reliable, supply of food? Rasmussen will discuss these and other questions like in a public lecture at Penn State's University Park Campus, Tues., Nov. 18

"An interesting thing about agricultural policy is that it involves government policy in areas such as land use, livestock health and grading farm products. It involves a good deal more than price supports and farm surpluses," he says. His lecture, "Historical Overview of Federal Agricultural Policy," will be held in the HUB Assembly Room at 4 P.M.

across the country and abroad and has become known to radio and television audiences as an authority on the history of agriculture in this country. He is past president of the Agricultural Historical Society and a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association.

Rasmussen received a B.A. in History from the University of Montana and a Ph.D. in history from George Washington University. He is the second in a series of speakers co-sponsored by the Food, Agriculture and Society Project (W.K. Kellogg Foundation), the Science, Technology and Society Program and The College of Agriculture Circleville Farm.

Rasmussen is the co-author of a number of historical studies including *A Century of Service, The Department of Agriculture* and a four volume set, *American Agriculture, a Documentary History*, published by Random House in 1975.

He has lectured in universities

Communicate With Legislators

SYRACUSE, NY — Kansas Senator Robert Dole, a 25-year member of Congress and majority leader of the Senate, told Agway members meeting here last month that some agricultural problems are... in a broad sense... a matter of communications and urged them to keep talking with their legislators on farm issues.

He noted that most people have no idea where their food comes from or what is involved in producing it.

Dole called the nationwide transition to fewer farms "in many respects a national tragedy," but noted that fair and effective solutions are hard to come by and that farmer organizations themselves have difficulty agreeing on agricultural policies.

The Kansas Senator said he could defend both the subsidizing of U.S. agriculture, to a certain extent, and of export products when other nations are subsidizing their ag exports. He warned, however, that a "farm-cost backlash" will force another hard look at farm legislation this year.

Several factors are currently helping farmers, Dole stated. Moderating interest rates as well as tax reform are helping. He promised that tax rates would not increase next year, but he warned that the interest rate on the national debt was \$150 billion a year.

Discussing the difficulty on targeting government benefits to help smaller farmers while being fair and not worsening over-production, Dole challenged his audience to come up with new proposals.

Dole stated that Agway "does an outstanding job" as a farmer cooperative and is well respected across the country and by members of Congress of both parties... a compliment to both its leadership and members.

Butz To Keynote No-Till Conference

NEWARK, Del. — Former Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz will be the keynote speaker at the Mid-Atlantic No-Till Conference set for Dec. 17 at the York County Fairgrounds, York.

Following Butz's 9 a.m. address titled "There is Still a Rainbow in Agriculture," five speakers and three farmers panels will present the morning program. Participants in the conference will be allowed to meet and quiz the experts during the afternoon. Commercial exhibits will also be

open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets to the conference cost \$3 and must be purchased prior to Nov. 21 from a county extension agent.

Topics to be addressed in the morning session include corn diseases, creating the environment for successful no-till forage, new sprayer technology, "take home" weed control programs and the economics of no-till agriculture. The panels will discuss "Why I No-Till," "Problem Weeds" and "Cover Crops."

Christmas Tree Marketing Proposal

HARRISBURG — A proposal to establish a marketing program for Pennsylvania Christmas trees failed to muster sufficient votes for enactment on Nov. 5, the State Department of Agriculture announced.

Results of the referendum were 126 growers in favor of the plan and 185 opposed, while those in favor controlled 51 percent of the 13,873 acres represented by the eligible

ballots. For passage, the proposal had to attract a majority of the ballots cast and those supporting it had to own a majority of the acreage represented.

The referendum was limited to growers with three or more acres of marketable trees. More than 1,600 ballots were mailed in October and the results were tabulated by a special committee in Harrisburg.

Carroll-Baltimore, Md County DHIA October, 1986

Maple Lawn Farm, Inc. Fulton, Md had the herd with the highest average for the month of October according to figures just released by the Carroll Baltimore Dairy Herd Improvement Association

During the month of October 96 dairymen in Carroll Baltimore counties participated in this program Listed below are the top 10 herds based on their herd averages over the past year

Owners	No. Cows	Milk	Fat
Maple Lawn Farm (C E Iager & Son)	157	21,955	789
Marlin Hoff	328	21,250	769
Rose Crost Ltd (Gary Derr & Brad Garst)	85	20,106	741
Barnes and Wilhide	55	19,692	734
Edrich Farm	119	19,940	715
Joe Schwartzbeck	121	19,028	699
Del Myr Farm (Roger and Jeff Myers)	60	19,321	695
Flint Hill Farm (Edgar Schaeffer)	58	19,413	691
Windsor Manor (Jason and Donna Myers)	44	19,730	689
Unicorn Associates Inc	88	17,968	684

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