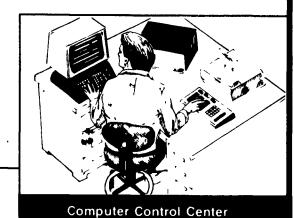
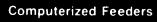
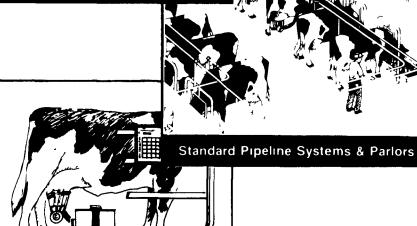
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NCGA Official To Address **Corn Conference**

The Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers invites all corn producers and agri-business personnel to the second annual Pennsylvania Corn Conference. The conference will be held Mar. 3 from 9:45 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. at the Embers Restaurant, Carlisle. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The program will revolve around the theme, "Innovations - The Cutting Edge."

The key speaker will be Al Tank, executive vice president of the National Corn Growers Association, and National Corn Growers representative in Washington, D.C. "Farm and Government Programs' is the topic of his presentation. Tank presents an honest, up-front presentation on political trends, USDA feed and grain programs, and government influence and regulations on farming. He advocates the government and producers are yoked in corn production. Tank will describe how and to what degree that relationship exists.

In addition, conference participants will have the choice of attending several other presen-

Dr. Jon Carson, ag engineer from Penn State, will describe some innovative heat reclaimers for corn drying. There will be a panel of farmers who will describe some of their successful, innovative practices in corn handling and drying. These farmers designed their own handling and drying systems that are efficient and cost effective. Their operations are designed to their particular situation and could be used by other corn producers.

Dr. Donald Johnson, senior agronomist for Arcadian Fertilizer Company, will present some innovative ideas on how to fine tune nitrogen fertilization practices for more economical corn production. Fertility management is an area where producers can save some money without sacrificing yield. Johnson will explain how.

Betty Marose, a pest management specialist with the University of Maryland, will present a session on "Managing Problem Weeds". Practices such as split application of herbicides, pre and post emergent spray programs economic thresholds, weed scouting procedures, triazine spraying for weed control, including triazine-resistant weeds and new herbicides will be addressed by Marose.

The economic value of participating in a Crop Management Association will be discussed by Melvin Brown, crop management coordinator at Penn State. "Dollars and Sense" is the title of Brown's presentation.
Management decisions based on timely information gathered by Crop Management technicians may mean the difference between a profit and a loss in a year of suppressed corn prices. Brown will look at areas where input costs can be lowered for corn production.

Jeffrey Patton, from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Markets, will explain the possibility of a check-off program for Pennsylvania corn producers. Patton will discuss how the funds would be generated and how the money would be used, if the check-off program were put in place.

There will be a variety of commercial displays at the conference. Representatives from many major equipment, service and supply companies will be present to talk with interested individuals.

The deadline for obtaining luncheon tickets is Feb. 20, but registration is not necessary for the conference itself. For ticket information contact your County Cooperative Extension office.