

Field Day Promotes Nutrient Management

BY J. EVAN REIFF
COCHRANVILLE — Chester County farmers received the latest developments in manure management practices from government officials at the Chester County Manure Management Field Day held Thursday on the farm of State Representative Arthur Hershey, Cochranville.

Various government agencies, including the Chester County Conservation District, the Penn State Extension Service, and the Pa Department of Environmental Resources (DER), told a group of about 50 farmers about measures being taken to control agriculture run-off into the Chesapeake Bay and ways to best utilize their animal's wastes.

Duane Hershey, son of Arthur Hershey, gave a tour of the manure management system the Hersheys were able to construct using financial assistance under DER's cost-sharing program. The Hershey farm is in the Elks Creek and Octoraro watershed and received high priority rating because of its location. Marshall Haws, of the Conservation District, was on hand to answer questions about the

cost-sharing program and to give-out applications. Haws said that DER would be providing funds through 1992.

A mobile nutrient lab, funded by DER and created by Penn State, was at the field day to test water samples brought by farmers for unsafe nitrate levels and for bacteria and pesticide contamination. Sue Swartz, summer intern with DER, said close to 20% of the samples she tested this summer contained high nitrate levels. The mobile unit makes about 30 stops around Pa to perform soil tests and to educate farmers about the importance of good water and manure management.

According to a Penn State study, nitrate is dangerous to infants under the age of six months and to farm animals. Through manure management, nitrate leeching can be controlled.

Farmers were told that manure is most efficiently used when a system of collection, storage, and application is put into practice. Not only does this practice help control agriculture run-off, but, inabes farmers to apply manure to the fields in which it is most needed.



After checking a water sample in the mobile nutrient lab, Ben Zimmer, of the Pa. Department of Environmental Resources, explains the test results to participants in the Chester county manure management field day.



Farmers at the Chester County manure management field day inspect the manure holding system on the farm of State Representative Art Hershey. The Hershey farm is in the Chesapeake Bay Financial Assistance Funding Program.

Nutrient Management Workshop

Farming in an economically and environmentally sound manner may seem like a difficult task, but methods are being developed to help make the job easier.

As part of Penn State's involvement in the Chesapeake Bay Program, The Cooperative Extension Service is sponsoring a one-day workshop on nutrient management on August 25, 1987, featuring speakers from Penn State University. This workshop will provide an opportunity for area farmers to hear various approaches to nutrient management and to meet with the people who are developing them.

"The aim of the workshop," says Mitch Woodward, Extension regional manure management agent, "is to provide information on nutrient management methods that will help farmers become more efficient in the way they manage their farm's nutrients. Wise use of nutrients can help lower production costs and curb water pollution problems."

Following a brief overview of Penn State's Chesapeake Bay Projects, the morning sessions will cover the relationship between groundwater quality and agricultural practices, describe on-farm nutrient flow on Pennsylvania

farms, and present the results of soil chemical monitoring activities in southeastern Pennsylvania. After lunch, speakers will discuss a method for predicting whether corn requires side dress nitrogen and then explain ways of developing nutrient management plans.

Adds Woodward, "We've assembled a group of speakers from Penn State who have a great deal of information to share. It should be a good opportunity for local farmers to learn more about the benefits of nutrient management and the methods that they can use."

The workshop is open to farmers throughout southeastern Pennsylvania and will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at the Lancaster County Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road (near the intersection of Route 30 and Route 72), Lancaster, Pa. To facilitate luncheon arrangements, advanced registration is appreciated, but not required. There is no charge. For more information, call Mitch Woodward at the Lancaster County Extension office (717/394-6851) or Joe Makuch at the Penn State Department of Agricultural Engineering (814/865-7685).

Nutrient Test Available At Contest

The Mobile Nutrient Laboratory, co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania State University and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Chesapeake Bay Program, will be on hand at the York County and Pennsylvania State Plowing Contest on Friday August 28, 1987. The Plowing Contest will be held in accordance with the Olde Tyme Day '87 Fair

at the Blaine Rentzel farm located one mile north of Manchester.

Tom Juengst, of the DER, Bureau of Soil and Water Conservation, will perform free nitrate testing of water samples for the first twenty samples brought to the lab that day. About one cup of water is all that is necessary and the sample should be in a clean glass container. The results can be

received later the same day or can be mailed to you at your convenience. The lab will be present at 9:00 that morning so you can plan accordingly.

For further information contact the York County Conservation District, 118 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402, phone (717) 771-9430.



LANCASTER FORD TRACTOR

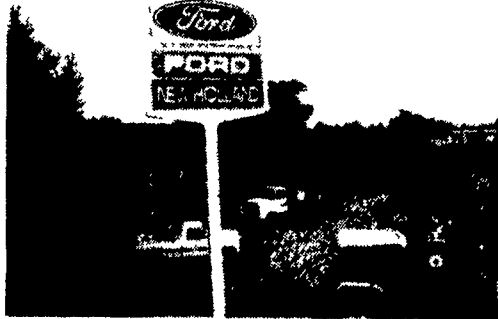
UNDER THE

SIGN OF QUALITY



Quality Genuine Replacement Parts

Quality Factory Trained Mechanics. Means Quality Service For You.



Quality Ford New Holland Equipment

- Lawn & Garden
- Farm
- Industrial
- Skid Loaders
- Mowing Equip.
- Landscaping Equip.

LANCASTER FORD INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE

Plus

FORD NEW HOLLAND PROGRAMS

Equals

BIG BIG SAVINGS FOR YOU

FINANCE AS LOW AS 4.5%

Financing for qualified buyers can be arranged through FMCC as low as 4.5% Terms of contract will vary APR Rate

OR

WAIVER FINANCING

Pay No Interest or Payments until March, 1988 for qualified buyers

OR

CASH REBATES

Choose to pay Cash or arrange your own financing and save up to


\$16,000.00

GO FORD AND SAVE!

BUY NOW AND SAVE ON A TOUGH FORD TRACTOR

Visit The Ford Tractors Under The Sign Of Quality At The Fairs:

- ELIZABETHTOWN FAIR - August 25 thru 29
- SOLANCO FAIR - September 16, 17, 18
- WEST LAMPETER FAIR - September 23, 24, 25
- MANHEIM FAIR - October 5 thru 9



LANCASTER FORD TRACTOR, INC.

Your Lancaster County Reliables

1655 Rohrerstown Rd., Just Off Rt. 283, Lancaster, PA 17601

(717) 569-7063