

Former Diagnostic-Lab Director

(Continued from Page A1)

poultry producers. "The vaccine should be ready soon, and we should be able to implement the program in about a month and a half," he added.

Of great concern to poultry producers is the possibility of another avian flu outbreak. When asked what is being done to prevent an outbreak, Clark stated, "We have the best monitoring system in the country, a system that resulted from the outbreak a few years ago."

In the state's surveillance program a certain number of eggs from layers and blood samples from broilers are sent to diagnostic laboratories for testing. The state has its own diagnostic lab, Summerdale, and also contracts the testing to Penn State, the University of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School, and Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture.

The diagnostic labs are a form of early disease detection," Clark said. "They're on the front line of seeing birds, and are a surveillance

tool for diseases such as avian flu, Newcastle, or whatever. They may be the first point of detection."

Before accepting his current post, Clark was the director at the Summerdale Veterinary Diagnostic Lab for 18 years, two years after he joined the lab. Prior to that he spent almost five years at the Penn State diagnostic lab. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's of science degree and veterinary medicine degree.

Clark is a member of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medicine Association, the American Veter-

inary Medicine Association, and the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

Under Clark's direction, Summerdale in 1978 became the first full-service, fully accredited veterinary diagnostic lab in northeast United States. He also coordinated the lab's testing responsibilities with poultry contract labs at Penn State, the University of Pennsylvania, and Delaware Valley College.

Clark became the chief of avian health because "Because I am very interested in poultry and at one time wanted to go into poultry

pathology." Clark also welcomed the opportunity to work with poultry producers and industry support people such as Dr. David Kradel of Penn State Extension Service, Dr. Robert Eckroad at the Penn State Diagnostic Lab, and Dr. Linda Silverman-Bachin at Delaware Valley College's contract lab.

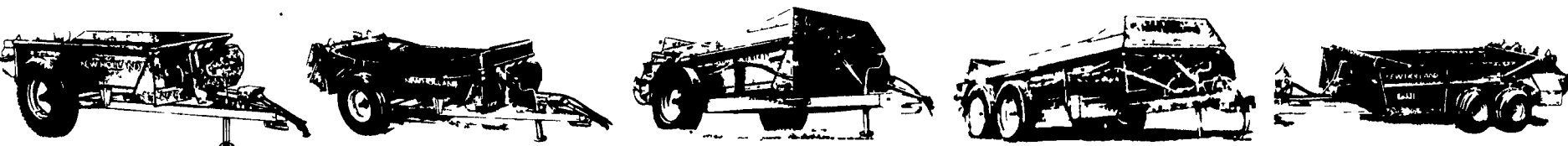
"My goal right now is to more closely integrate all the people doing diagnostic and regulatory work," Clark said. "Everyone has something to offer the industry, and I want to make sure we're all working together. Much has been done and I'd like it to continue."



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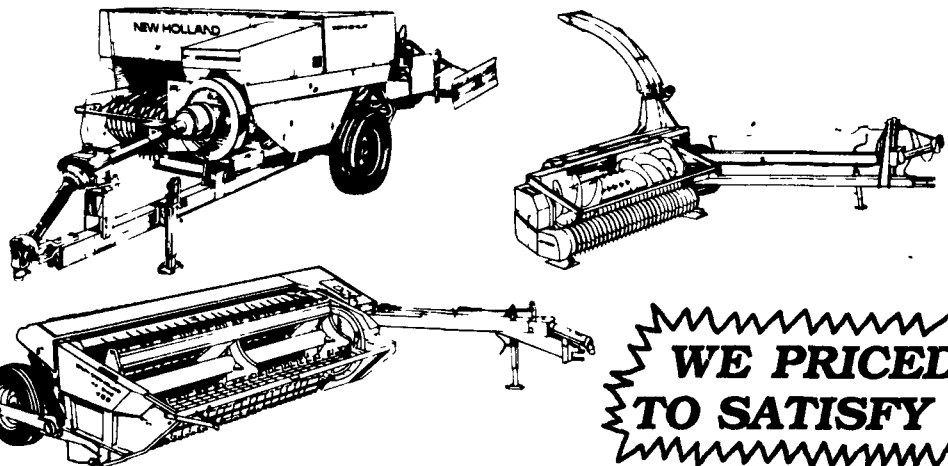
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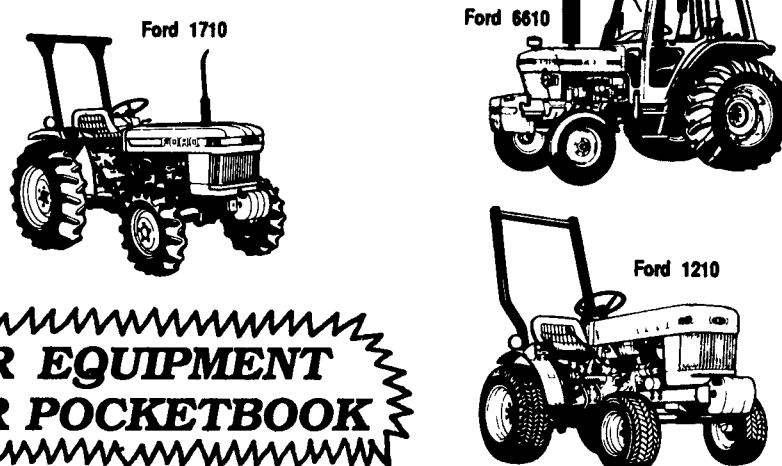
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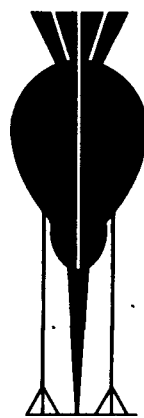
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