

## Fine Tuning Feeding

(Continued from Page A19)

minor change in the grain ration that 61-pound milker can be producing at 70 lbs. per day.

According to McCullough, a 1300-pound cow should be producing 70 lbs. of milk per day if she is receiving a properly balanced feedstuff. Out of that feedstuff only 69 percent is digestible energy. If digestible energy reaches above 70 percent the cow will develop scours. 31 percent of the the feed ends up in manure.

Of that digestible energy portion 20 percent of that goes to maintain heat within the body and another 10 percent is utilized for body repair and maintenance. That leaves only one-third available for the cow to use to make milk. That means that if the farmer wants to

produce milk production by 10 percent he does not start by increasing feed by 10 percent. The farmer must raise that one-third portion which the cow uses for milk production by ten percent.

McCullough told farmers that there was tremendous worth in fine tuning their feed program. Cows should be producing 5 lb. of milk per each 100 lbs. of body weight. Farmers must examine the balance of degradable protein which is utilized in the rumen compared to the bypass protein which becomes manure.

High producing cows need different sources of protein. Farmers in many countries, according to McCullough are finding tremendous success using fish meal. McCullough recommends that the

type of protein and the source of protein needed are best determined by a computer.

Dr. Lewis Goyette, Bacteriologist and President of Marketing and Consulting Services of Roanoke, VI, discussed maximizing the nutritional integrity of forages during harvesting. Starting with a high quality forage and quick filling are keys to minimizing losses during storage.

Although no product will prohibit spoilage, a good product correctly applied is cost effective and will diminish shrinkage. Goyette urged farmers to question the salesmen for all silage products and demand to see documented facts on the product's performance. Don't settle for the word from their own lab.

"The benefits of a good product applied correctly will result in less

shrinkage, less spoilage and less runoff in the feed bunk. You may not be able to see it but your cows and your milk bucket will," said Goyette.

Goyette recommends the preservatives be applied on the chopper for quicker and better distribution. He warned farmers that if it

takes four weeks to get the silage chopped and stored, then the farmers money would be best spent in buying an additional chopper. In that four-week-period, the harvest has gone from bloom to seed and has taken a drastic decrease in nutritional value.

## PA DHIA District

### Directors Conference

The annual district conferences for local DHIA directors are planned for February and March, 1988. There are five meetings scheduled around the state, corresponding to the five director districts. These meetings are held

every year primarily for directors of local DHIA Boards, but any interested member is welcome to attend. It is an opportunity for directors and management to get together for discussion of issues and developments affecting DHIA members statewide. Election of directors to the State Board is also done at the meetings. Anyone interested in attending the meeting in their district may contact their county agent or local DHIA Board of Directors.

Dates and locations of the meetings are as follows:

**Central District** made up of Adams, Centre, Clinton, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union and York counties meets Tuesday, February 16 at the Stop 35 in Mifflintown.

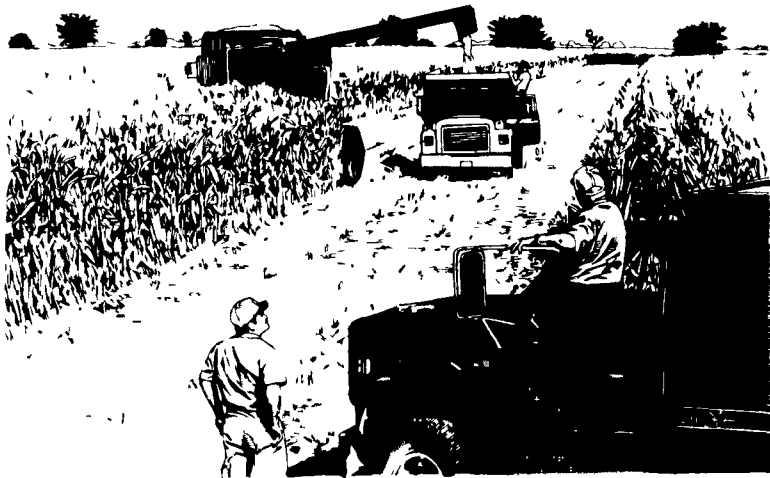
**Southwest District** comprised of Allegheny, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland counties meets Thursday, February 18 at the Mt. View Inn in Greensburg.

**Northwest District** consists of Armstrong, Butler, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Potter, Venango and Warren counties. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at the Venango County 4-H Center.

**Southeast District** made up of Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton and Schuylkill counties will meet on Thursday, March 3 at the Berks County Agricultural Center.

**Northeast District** consisting of Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming counties will meet on Friday, March 4 at the Wysox Fire Hall.

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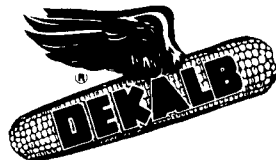
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## Manure Management Meeting

Whether you are involved in farming, agribusiness, or local government, manure management is important. Establishing a successful manure management system involves proper design, construction, maintenance and management. To help you with your program the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) and Penn State Cooperative Extension, in cooperation with other agencies, have planned this meeting to discuss the new manual.

The manual is a good source of manure management information and describes how DER's environmental protection regulations can be part of farming operations.

The meeting will be held at the Farm and Home Center in Lancaster on Friday, February 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be available. For more information contact the Lancaster County Extension Office at 394-6851.