New Staff For Ag Information Services At Penn State

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre) — Agricultural Information Services in Penn State's College of Agriculture has three new members assigned to assist faculty and staff with computer education,

Planting Tips For Fruit Trees, Vegetables

NEWARK, DE — Spring is an excellent time to plant fruitbearing trees.

The wise home gardener will plant "semi-dwarf" apple and pear varieties and standard-size peach varieties. Fruit plants do best in sunny locations and in welldrained, humus-rich soil.

Feed established fruit trees with a complete fertilizer, such as 5-10-10 or 5-10-5. Apply about one pound per inch of trunk diameter.

For a good harvest of quality fruit, Dave Tatnall, University of Delaware Extension garden agent, says to spray bearing trees regularly with protective pesticides. Although a dormant oil should have been applied by the end of March, the regular spray program doesn't start until the blossoms fall. Home gardeners should be systems development and computer applications.

Roscoe T. Miller, a staff associate for the College of Education's Regional Computer Resource Center (RCRC) at Penn State,

aware that apple trees require the most spraying.

Tatnall suggests that vegetable gardeners who have a limited growing area consider planting some of the new space-saving hybrids. Some of the compact varietics being offered by the seed companies are vine crops, such as cucumber, cantaloupe, watermelon and squash.

Wet or heavy soil can affect the planting of seeds. To avoid caking and crusting the soil, don't work the ground if it's too wet. When planting in a heavy soil, cover the seed with coarse sand or vermiculite, Tatnall advises.

Mushroom soil is an excellent soil conditioner for the vegetable garden, especially if it is fresh from the mushroom house. The garden agent considers sphagnum peat moss best for a small plot.

received his B.A. in General Arts and Science in 1973 and in 1987 completed an M.S. in instructional systems, both from Penn State. His research focused on learning styles as applied to computer documentation and he continues his affiliation with RCRC. He has been a computer programmer at Penn State and a small business manager in State College. Before coming to Penn State he taught auto mechanics at ITT Tech, a post-secondary vocational school for adults in Boston. Miller is a member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society, the American Society for Training and Development, and the Association for Educational Communications and Technology.

John Sherwood, formerly a public high school teacher from York, is an education and support specialist for the PEN*LINK project in Ag Information Services. PEN*LINK is a computer network, that connects the Pennsylvania Department of Education to 600 local educational agencies throughout the state. It was developed by Ag Information Services and is provided to PDE by contract. Sherwood received a B.S. in education from York College in 1973 and as associate degree in computer science from Penn State in 1986. He was a microcomputer support and systems development specialist for Progressive Typographers and Galt Controls companies before coming to Penn State.

Ronald Welling has just completed an M.S. in agricultural engineering with a thesis that involved developing a telemetry or a data transmitting system to measure the force of harvesting and handling equipment on potatoes. In 1969 Welling received a B.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue University and was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy. He served until 1979. He is a member of Gamma Sigma Delta agricultural honor society, Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society, Eta Kapp Nue electrical engineering honor society and Alpha Epsilon, the agricultural engineering honor society.





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