

# Pennsylvania Agriculture-- The Keystone Of Our Economy

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Farm Show has become the premier showcase for Pennsylvania agriculture by recognizing the outstanding achievements of

the industry. It offers a unique location for the new technological advances and the competitive spirit that have helped farm production to increase year after year.

You won't want to miss the 73rd edition which runs January 8-13, 1989 at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. This year's theme, "Pennsylvania Agriculture -- The Keystone of Our Economy," is a salute to the men and women who have made agriculture our primary industry and Pennsylvania the leading agricultural state of the Northeast. This achievement is a vital keystone for the state's economy because agriculture generates employment for one of every five workers in Pennsylvania and stimulates \$35 billion in related economic activity.

Over 500,000 visitors make the annual trek to the nation's largest indoor agricultural exposition. Farm Show patrons represent a wide spectrum of interests and backgrounds, from farm families to city dwellers to international visitors. About 265 commercial exhibitors will have put the finishing touches on their displays by the time Farm Show Week rolls around. The agricultural exhibits

feature the newest innovations in farm equipment, services and products. Informative and thought-provoking displays by government agencies, farm organizations and state universities are also included.

Nearly 8,000 individual entries in livestock, poultry and farm and home competition will be on display throughout the complex. With over 2,000 head of horses, beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep and dairy goats, the Farm Show ranks as the largest state livestock show in the Northeast.

An additional 2,000 poultry entries vie for their share of the \$184,156 in premiums. Farm Show competition includes many other departments like farm crops, prepared foods and quilts. Competition at the Farm Show is limited to Pennsylvania residents.

High quality Pennsylvania farm products are the focus of the Pennsylvania food center at the east end of the main exhibit hall, where eight statewide commodity associations serve up tempting delights for hungry Farm Show visitors.

Pennsylvania processed food firms will promote their products at the Food Marketplace through samples, displays and limited sales. Food and beverages are also available from four church-sponsored booths and at several snack bars around the complex.

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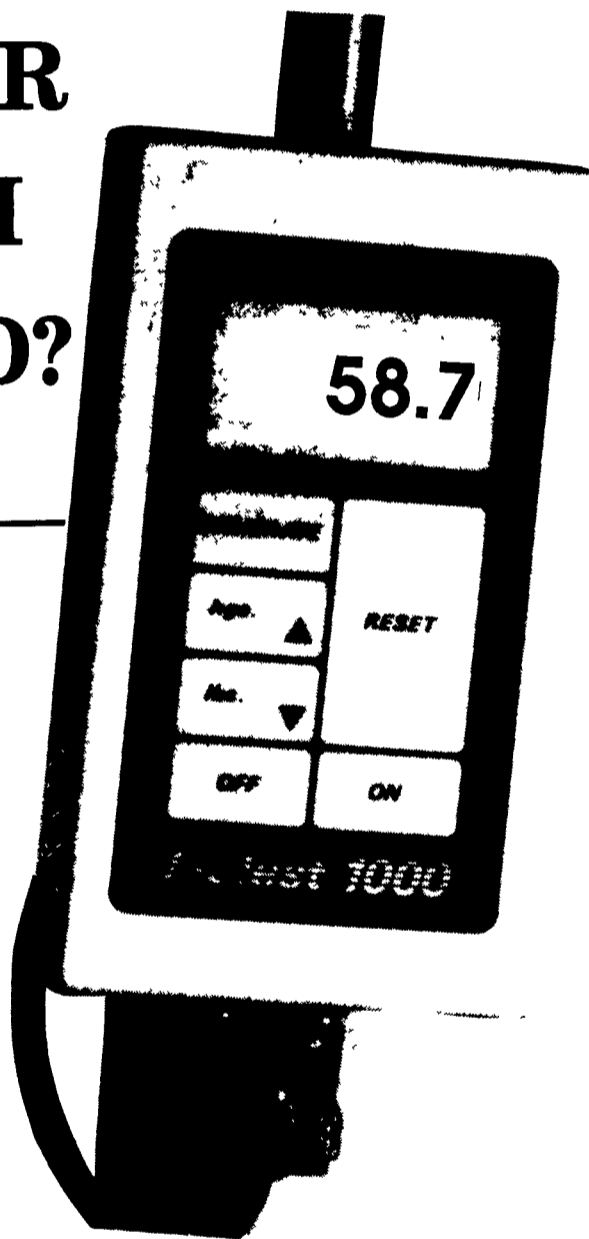
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