

Agronomy Day Set For Fayette County

UNIONTOWN (Fayette) — Everyone is invited to attend the Fayette County Agronomy Day on February 14. Speakers will be extension specialists of Penn State University. Industry programs will be held throughout the day. Lunch will be available for \$3.00 per person.

Private applicator's credits will be given to each person for attending the entire day's activities, which begin at 10:00 a.m. and last until 3:00 p.m.

The agenda will include:

- 9:30 - 10:00 View Exhibits
- 10:00 - 11:00 Field Crop Insect Identification and Expert Systems - Steve Jacobs
- 11:00 - 12:00 Pesticide Safety - William Gallagher
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch and View Exhibits; Video Tape of Agronomic Practices in Fay. Co.
- 1:00 - 2:00 Soybean Establishment and Management - Elwood Hatley
- 2:00 - 3:00 Update on Tillage Equipment and Panel Discussion with area farmers - Lynn Hoffman

3:00 Door Prizes and View Exhibits

In order to make adequate arrangements, please call the extension office with your reservation for lunch no later than Friday, February 10.

Plan to attend this annual event which has been scheduled for your

benefit!

Also, the private applicator's pesticide test will be administered on Wednesday, March 1, 7:00 p.m. in the extension office, Uniontown. Please let us know if you need to take the test, and call the extension office to register, 412-438-0111.

Turfgrass, Grounds Maintenance School

SCRANTON (Lackawanna) — Landscapers, grounds keepers, golf course superintendents and garden center personnel should consider attending the up-coming Turfgrass and Grounds Maintenance School sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension. The training is scheduled for February 28 and March 1 at the Luzerne County Community College.

This year's event will involve Extension specialists from Penn State University, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and industry representatives as speak-

ers. The school also offers commercial exhibits on display for participants. Agricultural agent, Bill Pencek, comments "This year's topics offer an array of up to date subject matter for anyone involved in the turfgrass or ornamental horticulture profession. There will also be Pesticide Applicator update points awarded."

For more information and a copy of the program and registration form contact Bill Pencek at the Lackawanna County Extension, 963-6842.

Beef Exports Look Positive For Producers

"Despite the European Economic Community's threatened ban on American beef, U.S. beef exporters expect 1989 to be a banner year," said Greg Henderson, marketing editor for "Drovers Journal" in a January article. "Japan, Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong significantly increased their consumption of American beef last year, and more increases are expected this year."

Beef exporters received a break last year with the opening of the Japanese market, to which 150,000 metric tons of beef valued at \$550 million were shipped. According to Phil Seng, U.S. Meat Export Federation vice president, that's a 25 percent increase over 1987.

"We see the Japanese market representing tremendous long-term growth potential for red meat exporters, both for variety meats and also high-quality meats," Seng said.

It is hoped that the estimated \$145-million loss caused by the

ECC ban will be picked up through increased exports to other countries.

"Mexico has already replaced Europe as our second-largest export market," he said. "Mexico is definitely a growth market, and so is Korea. Last year the U.S. filled about 40 percent of Korea's total imports. Taiwan increased its purchases 40 percent last year, and Hong Kong was up 50 percent. So we believe there are other areas that are going to ease the sting of losing the European market."

"Mexico lowered many of their tariffs and duties, which helped our exporters," Seng said. "In addition, cattle numbers in Mexico are down dramatically to about 38 million head. So from that I look for two things. One, we won't see as many Mexican feeder cattle coming into this country, and two, I think we'll see increased exports of American beef into Mexico."

Greg Henderson's article appeared in the January 5 issue of "Drovers Journal".

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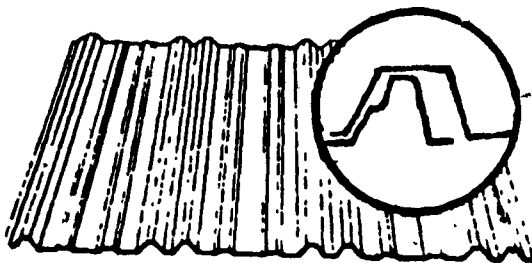
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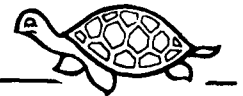
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