

# Multitude Of Activities Planned For Maryland Sheep, Wool Festival

KEYMAR, MD — If there is one word to describe the people you'll encounter at the 16th annual Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival May 6 and 7 it would be versatile—defined by Webster as having the ability for many aptitudes. "At first glance one might think," says Mary E.F. Streaker, chairman, "that those in the ring showing sheep do only that, but then look a little further and those same persons may have craft booths displaying handmade wool garments". And this applies to men and women alike, for many of the sheep breeders are women and many of the crafts people are men, with talents ranging from spinning, weaving and knitting to fine arts.

Some have raised sheep for years, others started small flocks in order to have wool for their crafts. Among them are teachers, doctors, lawyers, artists, nurses, construction workers, journalists, government employees, shop owners, clergy—to name a few who pursue careers outside the sheep industry.

This year the Festival at the Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, Md., will offer so much that the buildings are overflowing and a huge tent will be erected to house some sheep and events. Nearly 700 sheep will be there, plus more than 200 crafts people. Streaker emphasized that admission and parking are free. The fairgrounds may be reached by taking Exit 80 from I-70, just west of Baltimore. Go south on Rt. 32, then right on Rt. 144 to Fairgrounds Rd.

Three sheep shows have been added—purebred natural colored Romney and purebred white and natural colored Lincolns. The Lin-

coln shows are national shows. In addition there will be shows for Border Leicester, Columbia, Corriedale, Romney, white wool and natural colored. All these are designated "wool breeds".

Young people are very much in the picture with many contests just for them. And, in one instance, a 4-H club is for the second year teaching all comers how to spin. The West Friendship club last year found eager pupils at their "drop in, learn to spin" workshop. According to leader Peggy Howell the group has held workshops during the year to become better teachers and the event "is in the running for a possible 4-H feature by the Disney studio for the New Mickey Mouse Club television show". They will be teaching from 12:30 until 2 p.m. Sunday.

Five other seminars are slated, beginning at 7 p.m. Friday, May 5, with a sheep flock nutrition session by Dr. Scott Barao of the University of Maryland. Saturday at 1 p.m. Dr. Wendy Freeman, University of Pennsylvania, will discuss sheep health problems at the Pen-Mar Shropshire Sheep Breeders meeting. Dr. Donna Matthews, Luray, Va., will speak at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Dr. Matthews is a sheep breeder and practices in an area extending from Richmond, Va., to Myersville, Md. Julie Beaulieu, Silver Spring, Md., will demonstrate felting at 11 a.m. Sunday. She creates clothing and sculptural pieces. Creative knitting will be taught by Valentina Devine, Kensington, Md., at 12:30 p.m. Sunday. All are open to the public.

The lamb cooking contest has two divisions, professional and non-professional, with both taking place Sunday. Lamb samples will

be made available to the public for tasting both days.

One of the most popular spectator events, the Sheep to Shawl contest, will take place Saturday. Both days festival goers will see Border Collies round up sheep. Feeder lambs will be judged and sold Saturday. Shearing demonstrations will be on-going and shearing competitions will be held. Charlie Swaim, four-time national shearing champion, again will come from Iowa to show how an expert divests the sheep of its wool.

A new Maryland Lamb and

Wool Queen and her court of princesses will be chosen Saturday and will begin a year's reign over sheep events in the state.

Fleeces will be judged Saturday and many will be available for sale. This year categories for nine specific breeds have been included. Other fleeces, both white and natural colored, will compete in fine, medium, long and coarse divisions. All the tools of the trade will be offered for sale—not only spinning wheels, looms, dyes, yarns, etc., but supplies and equipment needed by the sheep producer on the farm—also

'how to' books on many subjects.

Sheep judging will go on both days, with an auction of Lincolns Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Other contests are junior spinning, shepherd's 1 skein and garment, fine arts, poster, photography, 4-H and FFA judging and carcass. Entertainment includes a fashion show, folk and square dancers and musicians. Grounds open both days at 9 a.m. Craft buildings close at 7 p.m. Saturday and 6 p.m. Sunday. Further information call 301/845-8744 or 301/321-1344.

## Delaware Extension Joins 75th Anniversary Celebration

NEWARK, DE — The National Cooperative Extension System is celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, signed by Congress on May 8, 1914. This act established a nationwide Extension system committed to communicating research-based information from land-grant colleges to the public.

Delaware Cooperative Extension has planned statewide festivities to celebrate the occasion.

On May 8, Delaware Extension will celebrate from 2:45 to 5 p.m. at the University of Delaware's Townsend Hall in Newark. Highlights of the day will include participation in a nationwide 75th Anniversary videoconference and a tree-planting ceremony. Scheduled for 3 p.m., the videoconfer-

ence will take a look at both the past and the future. Following a 4 p.m. reception, New Castle County 4-H'ers will plant an anniversary tree in the Emily B. Clark Garden.

The same day, Kent County Extension will celebrate with an open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at its office in Lochmeath Plaza, 4601 S. Du Pont Highway in Dover. 4-H demonstrations will take place from 3 to 8 p.m.

The Sussex County Extension office, located on Delaware Route 9 at the university's Research and Education Center, will also hold its open house on May 8, from 5 to 7 p.m., with a reception and a tree-planting ceremony by Sussex County 4-H'ers.

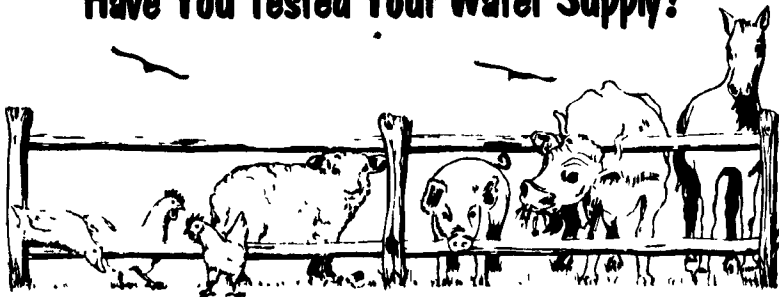
All Extension events are open

to the public without regard to race, color, sex, handicap, age or national origin.

Throughout May, the Delaware Agriculture Museum in Dover will host a 75th Anniversary exhibit. Produced by the University of Delaware College of Agriculture Sciences' communications office, the exhibit will feature historic photos and a timeline of Extension landmark events from 1914 to present. On May 9, the museum will host an opening reception and a signing of a proclamation recognizing the 75th anniversary of Cooperative Extension. An anniversary tree will be planted by Kent County 4-H'ers on the museum grounds.

All anniversary trees will be donated by the Delaware Association of Nurserymen.

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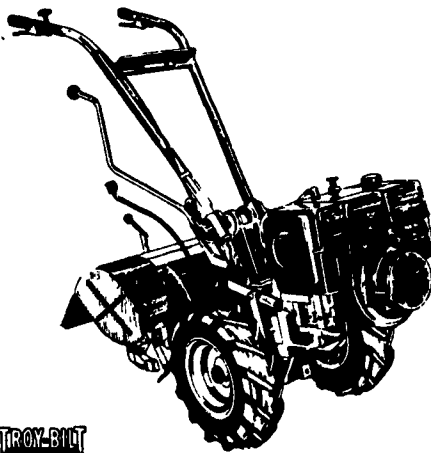
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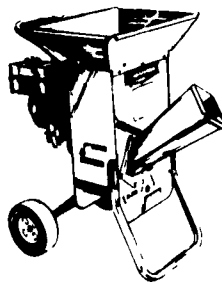
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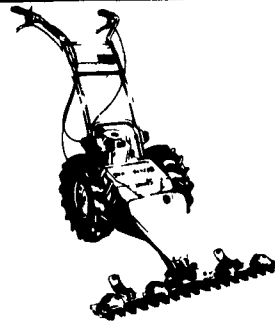


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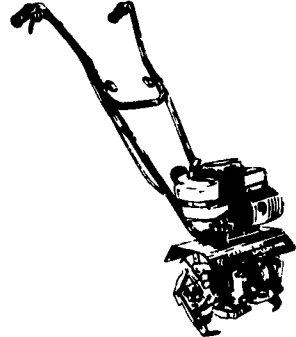
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