

# PYFA Summer Conference Offers Tours And Fun

**BY LOU ANN GOOD**  
**SOMERSET (Somerset Co.)** — Pack your bags and head to the Pennsylvania Young Farmer Association Summer Conference in Somerset County.

The agenda for the annual conference held July 21 and 22 is packed with farm tours, great eating, entertainment by Captain Stubby, and a volleyball tournament.

"It's a time to share ideas, exchange agriculture technology and see the technology implemented at on-site tours," said Doyle Paul who is coordinating the two day event.

Overnight lodging is available at motels, bed and breakfast inns and camp grounds in the area, which is touted as the roof garden of Pennsylvania because of the elevation of the Allegheny mountain chain.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 21. Lunch on both days will be served at the Somerset County Area Vocational Technical Schools. A choice of tours is offered each afternoon.

Entertainment at the Friday night banquet held at the Ramada Inn is Captain Stubby, a farmer from Galveston, Indiana. Paul Harvey of ABC news reports that Captain Stubby offers good, clean, down-to-earth humor that is hard to come by. His stories are enriched by growing up in hard times. Paul promises, "The laughs come thick and fast and your sides will ache."

A pig roast will be held Saturday at 12:30 p.m. with county chapters

competing in a volleyball tournament.

Tours of the following farms and businesses are offered:

- Bill and Mary Jane Yoder Farm has the top Jersey herd for butterfat for the past several years. They rank ninth in the nation for a herd of 30 to 49 cows. Their intensive grazing system has brought recognition in state and national publications. Examine their gravity flow manure system.

- 4-Guys, Inc. is a stainless steel and aluminum fabrication plant organized in 1975 and now has annual sales exceeding \$6,000,000.

- Robert Decker Farms features

their popular six-horse wagon teams seen at the state farm show, on TV and in movies. He owns 40 registered Belgian horses and antique machinery.

- Snyder of Berlin produces quality potato chips.

- Hillside Hunting Preserve provides hunting excursions in a setting that closely resembles natural cover.

- Stony Acres Farm owned by Jim and Barbara Brant dates back to 1890. They have a rolling herd average of 21,507 pounds of milk, 811 pounds of butterfat and 708 pounds of protein.

- Coal Cleaning Plant and Surface Mine is an important industry

to Somerset. Visit an active surface mine and see the strip mine operation.

- Latuch Brothers Dairy Farms boasts famous registered Holsteins with a 50 descendents lineage.

- Farmers and Threshermens Jubilee Grounds where history is brought to life.

- Sechler Sugar Shack is a sugar camp that combines modern and age-old methods to produce maple syrup.

- Southern Somerset County offers a scenic tour of the variety of modern agriculture and artifacts from the past.

- Walker's Farm Service offers computerized fertilizer mixing and

seeds.

- Brendles Poultry Farm has 85,000 layers and 44,000 pullets. Manure is processed through a methane digester which supplies all the electricity for the farm plus they sell it for the community.

- Somerset Historical Center exhibits recall the pioneering spirit that settled the state frontier.

The host chapters included Berlin Brothersvalley, Meyersdale, North Star, Rockwood, and Somerset Counties PYF chapters.

To register, request information form James Harrold, Somerset County AVTS, R.D. #5, Vo Tech Road, Somerset, PA 15501 or call (717) 443-3651.

## Wye Field Day Set For Aug. 24

**QUEENSTOWN, MD.** —

Today's farmers are asked to feed a growing population on less land, using fewer chemicals that can find their way off the field and into our food and water supplies.

What's a producer to do? Well, a wise first step would be to attend the 21st annual Wye Field Day, August 24, at the University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station's Wye Research and Education Center.

"Our goal is to improve the lives of Maryland farmers and consumers through innovative research and educational programs," said Dr. Russell B. Brinsfield, head of the Wye Research and Education Center. "The Wye Field Day provides a unique opportunity to share the results of some of our efforts with the citi-

zens of Maryland."

Here's a brief rundown of this year's informative field day wagon tours:

- A cornucopia of helpful information about field crops, including the latest soybean variety, disease and weed control methods, and efficient use of fertilizers is available to those taking the field crops and soils tour.

- Horticulturists are offered the latest sweet corn variety and pollination trial results, irrigation alternatives for vegetable production, information on how to optimize fruit size in tree fruits, and how to use integrated pest management to control strawberry and bramble insect pests.

- Cattlemen can learn about the future direction of research on the famous Wye Angus herd. Experts

will field questions while showing cow/calf pairs and 1989 Wye progeny.

Pesticide-conscious homeowners and small orchard owners will benefit from a morning half-hour clinic, "Low-input Fruit Production," where disease-resistant varieties and non-chemical controls will be discussed.

Another informative session, "Your Health and Environment," runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Here you can learn how to prevent food-borne illness, conserve and check your water supply, and dispose of hazardous household waste.

There are three afternoon seminars: Ag Market Outlook, Aquaculture in Maryland, and Low-input Sustainable Agriculture. In addition to the buffet luncheon

and program, there is also a crab feast, featuring bluegrass music, from 3 to 6 p.m. There will also be a staffed information booth for the College of Agriculture and College of Life Sciences at the University of Maryland at College Park.

The Wye Research and Education Center is located near Queenstown on Maryland's Eastern Shore, 3 1/4 miles south of U.S. Route 50, on Carmichael-Wye Neck Road. Watch for the Chestnut Lane Entrance road about 1/2 mile beyond the Carmichael Methodist Church.

The 21st annual Wye Field Day is sponsored by the University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wye and Aspen Institutes.

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