

Farm-City Week To Bridge Gaps Between Rural, Urban People

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Rural and urban Pennsylvania have more in common than they realize, says Dr. Lamartine F. Hood, dean of Penn State's College of Agriculture, and the state's annual Farm-City Week is a good time to discover those similarities. Hood is honorary chairman of 1989 Farm-City Week, a statewide program designed to promote the interdependence of the state's urban and rural areas.

Each year local, state and national Farm-City Councils sponsor the event, which begins the Friday before Thanksgiving and continues through Thanksgiving Day, to help create an understanding of mutual issues faced by rural and urban residents. This year's Farm-City Week begins November 17 and runs through November 23.

The theme of this year's Farm-City Week, "Partners in Economic Progress," recognizes the contributions of both sectors to the commonwealth. "Economic growth and development are very important to both rural and urban communities," Hood says. "Agriculture, industry and private citizens all depend on one another for goods and services, and we all want to use our limited resources wisely to preserve a healthy environment for ourselves and for our children."

"Pennsylvanians have a long-standing tradition of a shared rural-urban heritage," Hood says, "and part of the reason is that our agricultural industry is found in all parts of the commonwealth. We need to recognize that the perceived differences between rural

and urban Pennsylvanians aren't as important as what we all have in common--the future of our environment and economy. We all depend on the same basic natural resources of soil, water and air. How well we use these resources affects each of us."

Farm-City Week, held in Pennsylvania since 1955, is sponsored by a statewide committee representing 50 organizations in cooperation with the National Farm-City Council, Inc. The committee is made up of government, business, industry and agriculture representatives.

The council annually recognizes the top three Farm-City counties in the state, based on their promotional and educational activities. The first place winner, Lebanon County in 1988, tradi-

tionally hosts the state kickoff banquet. The 1988 second place award went to Mifflin County Farm-City Council. Franklin County Farm-City Council placed third.

Local Farm-City Councils can arrange tours, provide speakers

and help develop programs. For more information about Farm-City Week, contact your local Kiwanis Club or a county agent of Penn State Cooperative Extension, or call the Pennsylvania Farm-City Council at 717/540-9300.



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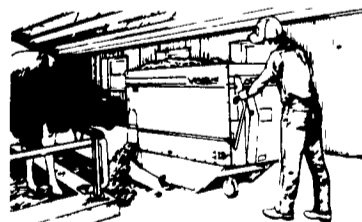
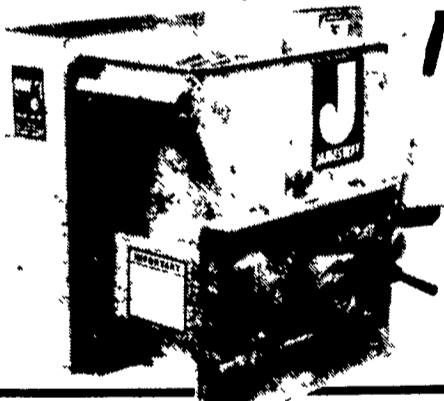
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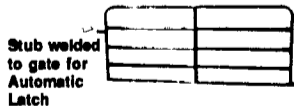
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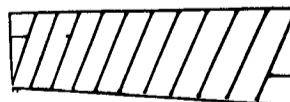
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