

Cargill Increases Rural Scholarships

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — The Cargill Foundation again will sponsor \$1,000 scholarships for high school seniors from U.S. farm families, increasing the number from 200 to 250.

"The program has been so favorably accepted throughout the rural community that we decided to expand it this year. It's a good place to put Cargill Foundation money," said Barney Saunders, president of the Cargill Foundation.

The Cargill Scholarship Program for Rural America is open to all high school seniors who graduate next spring and come from families that derive at least half of their income from farming. Candidates must enroll full time next fall at an accredited two- or four-

year college, university, or vocational-technical school.

The program was established in 1986 to recognize and encourage the academic achievements, accomplishments, and talents of rural youth. Thus far, the Cargill Foundation has made 1,000 awards for a total of \$1 million.

Selection for the scholarships is handled by the national Future Farmers of America organization, although applicants need not be FFA members.

"The FFA has a long history of administering scholarship programs for many agriculturally based companies. In addition, because it is a national organization that is part of the educational program in many rural high schools,

it is ideally suited to administer and promote the program," said Gladys Tripp of Cargill community relations. The national FFA Foundation will manage the selection process, which is based on academic records, leadership, extracurricular accomplishments,

and financial need.

Information and application forms can be obtained at any Cargill office or high school FFA department. Students also

can request forms from the Cargill Scholarship Coordinator, National FFA, Box 5117, Madison, WI 53705-0117. Application deadline is March 2, 1992.

Md. Pork Producers To Hold Sale

EDGEWATER, Md. — The Maryland Pork Producers Association (MPPA) will be holding their third annual tested boar sale at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds on Saturday, December 14, at 1 p.m.

Boars may be inspected on the day of the sale from 10 a.m. until the time of the sale. The local 4-H club will be serving lunch from 12 noon until 1 p.m.

Fifteen boars, who have undergone strict testing conditions at the MPPA test station, will be sold at the sale.

"Of the 27 boars that went on test at the end of the summer, these 15 show the best performance for lean meat production," said Steve Ernst, test station committee chairman.

Buyers will have four different breeds to select from, including York, Hampshire, Duroc, and Poland China.

Frank Feeser from Taneytown, Md. had the highest indexing board on test. With an index of 155, this York boar boasts a .56 inch backfat with a 5.28 square inch loin eye measurement and a feed efficiency of 2.62 pounds of feed per pound of gain. This pig will be the first to be sold. Following the sale of the boars several purebred gilts will be sold.

Meat packers are responding to the consumers demand for lean pork, and this is translating into better profits for leaner animals.

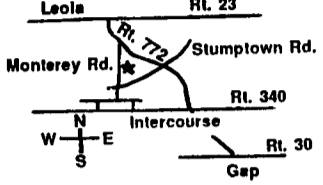
"One of the most efficient ways to improve a pigs carcass composition, and hence the producers profit, is to use genetic selection, and breed from proven stock", said Dr. Tom Hartsock, swine specialist at the University of Maryland.

Anyone requiring more information on the boars should contact Lynne Hoot, MPPA, (410) 956-5771.



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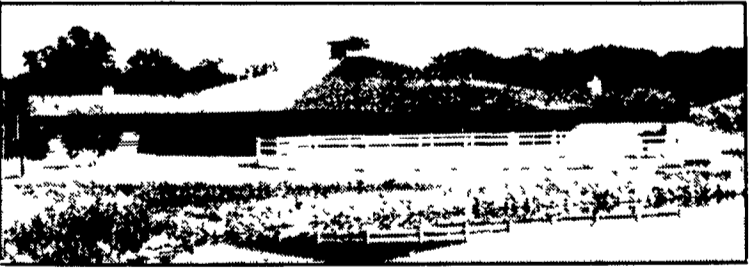
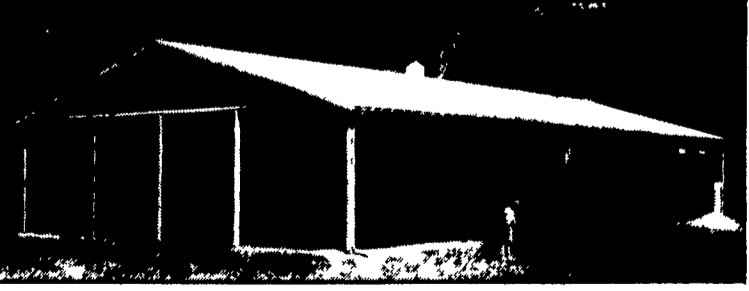
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