

York Extension

(Continued from Page B15)

goals. Key Pennsylvania extension issues for the '90s include:

- water quality;
- nutrition, health and food safety, from basic home food preparation to the food processing industry, and related issues such as pesticide usage;
- profitability in agriculture, incorporating such diverse areas as herd management, disease control and financial planning;
- conservation and management of natural resources, especially in areas such as forestry;
- community development, including public policy, leadership skills and agriculture preservation efforts.

— developing human resources, ranging from 4-H volunteer recruiting and training to child care givers to working in tandem with various social and community agencies.

- family social and economic well-being.

To meet such a diverse range of needs by the extension service, Roxanne is a firm disciple of delegating responsibilities to the county's staff of trained specialist agents.

"They are very knowledgeable and all have a lot of expertise in their specialty areas. Empowering them to do what they know best adds credibility to extension," believes Roxanne. "A county agent used to have to know everything about everything. Technological advances have made it impossible to stay abreast of all the diverse areas of agriculture."

Four full-time agriculture agents and two York-based agents serving the region have their own specialty areas, but work together closely in conducting combined educational programs.

Jennie Hess, dairy and 4-H agent, organizes and coordinates numerous educational programs, workshops, newsletters, and farm visits addressing a range of dairy industry issues, from production to marketing. She also coordinates the 4-H dairy cattle and dairy goat



With slide programs often in hand, ag engineer Dan McFarland assists farmers in the five-county region in designing efficient and economical housing systems.

programs and activities.

Tim Beck, livestock and community development agent, handles the full range of both adult and youth 4-H programs in the areas of beef, sheep, swine and horse production. He also works closely with community development issues, including land preservation efforts.

John Rowehl, agronomy agent, works with general field crops management, especially in the areas of potato, grain, and hay production, through numerous meetings, demonstration plots, and newsletters, and with related 4-H projects. He is currently conducting an assessment of the needs of county growers for a crop management association.

Tom Becker, the horticulture agent, works with the diverse needs of both commercial horticulture production and home gardeners. Currently on sabbatical for advanced degree studies, Tom's horticulture responsibilities are being partially handled by graduates of his Master Gardener training programs.

Dan McFarland serves the region of York, Lancaster, Franklin, Cumberland and Adams counties as an agriculture engineering



A former county 4-H member, Tim Beck returned to York from Kansas six months ago as the livestock and community development agent.

agent. He works primarily with design systems for dairy, swine, and beef housing, as well as programs emphasizing farm and home safety.

Regional farm management agent Roland Freund also serves the five-county area. He provides counseling and training in financial management and estate planning, both one-on-one for individual farm families, as well as in group programs and seminars on agriculture profitability.

Merrill Crone is the county gypsy moth coordinator and extension 4-H livestock assistant. In addition to his management of the gypsy moth tracking and spraying programs, Merrill is the staff liaison to the 4-H Center board and works with various 4-H programs and activities.

Joann Lamberson is the extension agent for family living. She coordinates and prepares educational programs conducted through volunteers, leader groups and media outreach, ranging from child care to nutrition and food safety, from home business operation to financial planning.

Extensions 4-H assistant Jodi Myers works with area schools on the 4-H embryology program and coordinates 4-H programs for the Children's Home of York. She implements the two major 4-H fundraisers in the county, is the extension contact for the county's Teen Pregnancy Coalition and works closely with the 4-H Fair board and numerous project clubs.

Part-time staffer Eileen Smith works with nutrition and health. She has trained leaders for the "New Weigh of Life" weight-loss



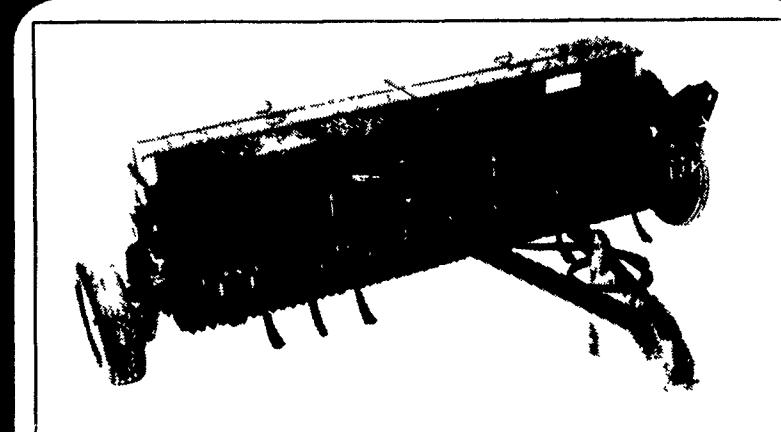
As York's agronomy agent, John Rowehl's job includes some hands-on demonstrations, like soil sampling.

programs and is conducting exercise and nutrition programs for elementary and middle schools.

"Extension is well known in the York area; our previous county directors have done a good job. We'll continue to be involved as in the past and stay in the forefront of the community," Roxanne promises.

Sometimes Roxanne takes her job home with her - to the 4-Hers in her family. She and her husband John, whom she praises as "very supportive" of her work, have two daughters, ages 15 and 11. Both have numerous interests, including school sports, but are following their mother's footsteps as York County 4-H members.

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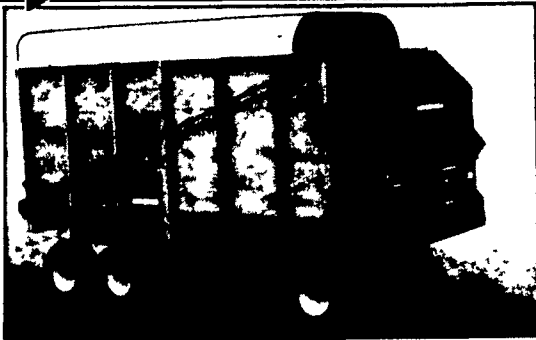
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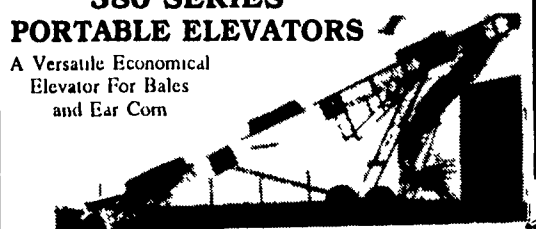


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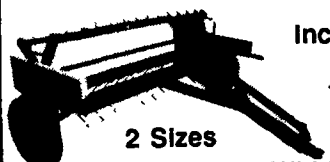
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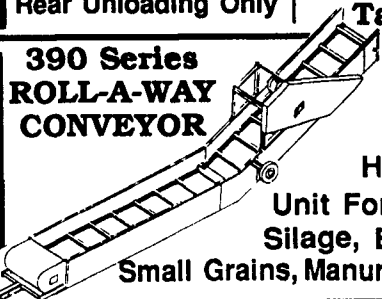
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