

Symposium Focuses On Preventive Medicine

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Why do vaccinations sometimes fail to prevent disease in cattle herds? What happens when drugs are not used according to the label directions? How do producers decide what their herd's vaccination program should be?

These and other questions about preventive medicine in beef cattle herds will be discussed at the Eastern Cattlemen's Symposium, March 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Penn State Meats Lab at University Park.

Held in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Beef Expo, the symposium will bring together veterinarians, meat scientists, producers, and regulators to discuss cattle health issues.

"The discussion will start with the economics of a preventive health program," said symposium organizer Dr. John Comerford, assistant professor of dairy and animal science at Penn State. "From there, we'll address a number of concerns and challenges to herd health."

Dr. Merlin Kaeberle, professor of microbiology and immunology at the Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine, will discuss the effect of the animal's environment on vaccine performance and the reasons vaccines sometimes fail to prevent disease. Dr. Dean Elliot of the Troy Veterinary Clinic will analyze vaccination programs for dairy-beef calves. Dr. Kurt Wohlgemuth, manager of technical services for Smith, Kline-Beecham Animal Health, will discuss vaccination programs for cow herds and young calves, focusing on available products and how they are best used.

Dr. William Henning, Penn State assistant professor of animal science, will explain how producers can avoid causing carcass damage during injections, a problem that costs the beef industry millions of dollars annually.

The implications of not following the label directions on cattle drugs will be examined by Dr. Gerald Guest of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine. He will discuss the need to maintain a high level of integrity in using these drugs.

The symposium will conclude with a panel discussion of how veterinarians and producers can work together more efficiently to prevent disease in cattle. The discussion will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

The registration fee of \$20 includes a copy of the symposium proceedings and "Keystone Ribeye Steak on a Roll" for lunch. Preregistration is encouraged since seating may be limited. Registration forms

for the symposium are available from Penn State Cooperative Extension

county offices and members of the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association,

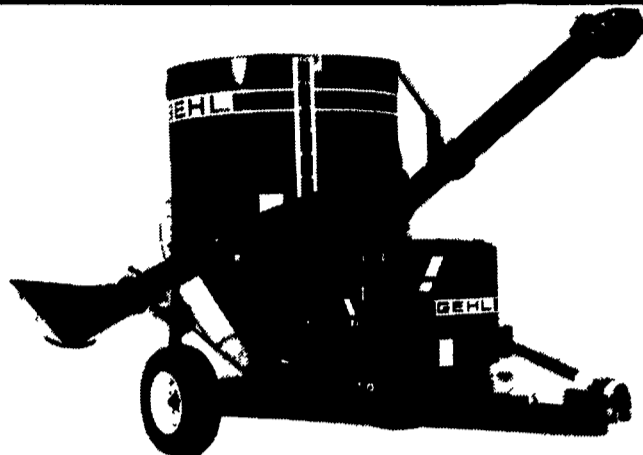
or by calling Dr. John Comerford at (814) 863-3661.



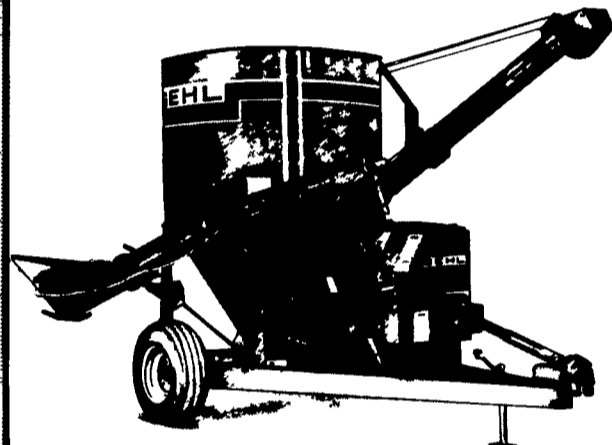
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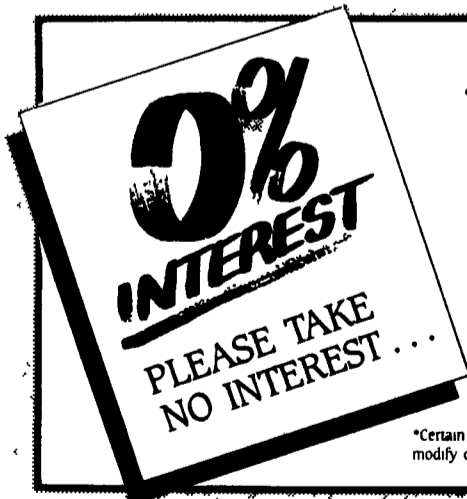
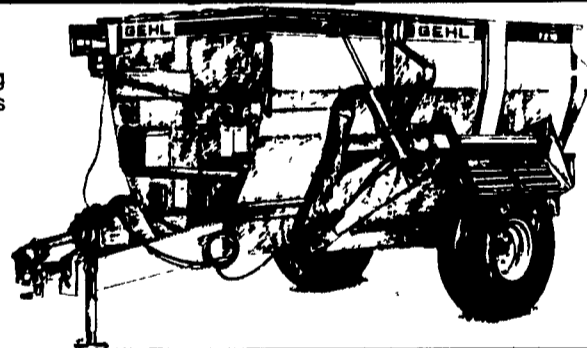
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