

# Lancaster Farming

VOL. 37 No. 40

Six Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, August 15, 1992

60¢ Per Copy

\$19.00 Per Year

## Ag Progress Days To Open August 18

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)—A wide range of programs—from equine education to food processing to wood products manufacturing—will be featured at the 24th annual Ag Progress Days sponsored by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, August 18-20.

"Ag Progress Days is a fun-filled, educational event for the entire family," says Dr. Lamartine F. Hood, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. "Through numerous exhibits, farm machinery demonstrations and tours of Penn State's research areas, visitors will have the chance to see the important role agricultural sciences play in our society."

Held at the university's 1,500-acre Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center at Rock Springs near State College, the three-day event attracts tens of thousands of people each year.

This year's theme, "Exploring the New World of Agricultural Sciences," will highlight many of the new ways that agricultural scientists help producers and manufacturers to offer better food and fiber products to the public.

Ag Progress Days is one of the largest outdoor showcases of agricultural research and technology in the East. More than 250 commercial exhibitors will display and

**AG PROGRESS DAYS**  
AUGUST 18-20, 1992 / ROCK SPRINGS, PA



demonstrate approximately \$20 million worth of agricultural equipment.

Machinery demonstrations scheduled throughout the day will highlight no-till planters, primary and secondary tillage, mowing, dry hay baling and bale handling and wrapping equipment.

Beginning at 10 a.m. every morning, Penn State faculty and extension agents will present programs on aspects of production agriculture, including poultry composting, manure marketing, nutrient management and on-farm composting. Other programs will provide information on nutrition and health.

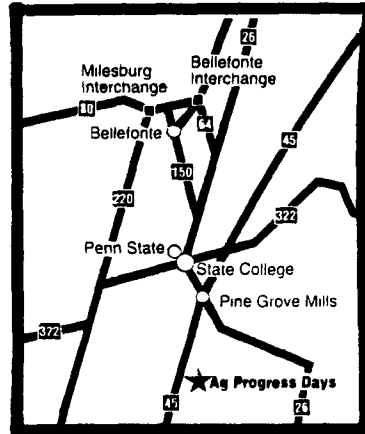
Wednesday evening's presentations will focus on urban youth education and theater arts, backyard composting and pesticide handling for homeowners.

The College Exhibits Building will feature demonstrations and displays of value-added agricultural products. One exhibit will show how wood harvested from Pennsylvania forests is converted into kitchen cabinets and will explain the importance of the wood products industry to the

state and national economy.

Other exhibits will show how raw food products are transformed into processed foods with improved nutritional value, added convenience and longer shelf life. Faculty members and food industry representatives will be on hand to talk about future food trends and the importance of food manufacturing to the Pennsylvania economy.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the artificial insemination industry in Pennsylvania, a special exhibit will show



memorabilia from the early days of this important breeding technique. Visitors can learn about the status of the industry today and see how applied reproductive biology will be conducted in the future.



Those who want to maintain their state pesticide applicator license can earn up to three update credits by attending special presentations on weed life cycles, choosing and using spray nozzles for pesticide application and methods of testing for pesticide residues. Sessions will begin at 10 a.m. each morning in the College Exhibits Building theater.

On Wednesday at 6 p.m., a session on pesticide handling for homeowners will provide two

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## GAO Calls For No Sale Of BST Milk, USDA Allows Ground Beef

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.  
Lancaster Farming Staff

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)—The Food and Drug Administration is being pressured to stop the sale of milk and meat derived from cattle treated with bovine somatotropin (BST), despite the acknowledgement that there is no danger to humans from eating foods containing BST, according to a report in the Tuesday Wall Street Journal.

In contrast, a Wednesday Associated Press story reported that, for the first time since 1922, the USDA is going to openly allow U.S. companies to import ground meat, because the USDA now has the "sophisticated" technology to check the quality of the meat.

The connection to a proposed free trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico and Canada was not ascertained by presstime.

For some time, U.S. meat and

milk producers have expressed frustration over the fact that the same safety and inspection regulations to which U.S. producers are held are not imposed on foreign country meat producers, yet products from those meats are allowed to be imported, competing with domestic production.

Foreign-produced ground meat was restricted from import since 1922. In 1970, the laws were changed, but not to the point of

making it profitable to import non-domestic ground meat.

The USDA claims its testing is now so good that, despite the fineness of the grind, federal inspectors can catch efforts to mix in or substitute ground meat from animals other than those domestic species.

Meanwhile, the call for the ban on meat and milk derived from BST cattle results from investigators with the General Accounting

Office (GAO), which is an agency of the U.S. Congress.

The GAO has asked the FDA to stop the sale of meat and milk from BST-treated animals, and also to "withhold commercial approval of bovine growth hormone, or BGH, because of increasing concern about indirect health effects on humans," according to the published report.

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## Water Study Impacts Farmers

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff  
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

—Unless efforts are made by farmers who maintain land in the Conestoga Headwaters to stop the degradation of tributaries, within 20 years the silt and sludge that has been building on dams in the Susquehanna could brim over, dumping millions of pounds of pollutants into the Chesapeake Bay.

Efforts undertaken by the USDA, through the results of fieldwork conducted on hundreds

of Susquehanna Valley farms by the Rural Clean Water Project, were revealed last week.

About 180 conservationists, USDA, USGS, and DER personnel, in addition to farmers and agribusiness representatives, listened to reports provided by those participating in the 10-year project.

The Conestoga River, a major tributary of the Susquehanna, stands in "a class by itself," according to Lloyd Reed, hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, who spoke at the meeting.

Near limits

The Conestoga contributes a lot of the sediment, clay, nitrogen, and other materials deposited to near-overflowing limits at the Susquehanna dams.

During a wet year, said Reed, more sediment is transported than during dry years. In addition, the Conestoga dumps about 10 million pounds of nitrogen per year, or about 33.40 pounds/acre/year. Phosphorus dumping equals about 2.4 pounds/acre/year, according to

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## Animal ID System Important

JACK VAN ALMELO  
NeDHIA Director  
of Marketing

ITHACA, NY — When dairy herds expand there are many things they outgrow. An obvious one is the barn. Then you might think of feed storage, milking facilities and heifer housing. If you were listing components that would be outgrown in an expansion

you might even get down to manure spreader. There are plenty of technical books, magazine articles and relatives with suggestions to help plan the physical aspects of an expansion.

One of the last components of the farm modified to handle the increasing herd size is the animal identification system. You won't find any tables in technical books.

There are not many articles in magazines. You may have some relatives with opinions. It just isn't an exciting subject - unless you have found yourself with a doubled herd size and an outgrown ID system. Then you just might get excited about ID.

Animal ID is the anchor to which you tie your animal information. (Turn to Page A50)



At the Lancaster County Poultry Queen Pageant, Melissa Dawn Yoder, center, was crowned Pennsylvania Poultry Queen; Mary Sauder, left, was appointed Lancaster County Poultry Queen; and Melissa Dariene Yoder, right, serves as alternate. Turn to page B26 for pageant details.