

Livestock Tent Focuses On Animal Health

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)—Visitors to Penn State's Ag Progress Days, will be able to get answers to questions about health, reproduction, nutrition and environmental issues related to cows, sheep, swine and other animals by touring the event's Dairy and Livestock Tent.

"The tent provides an opportunity for faculty and staff from the veterinary science and dairy and

animal science departments to meet with people and share their knowledge and research results," says Dr. John Comerford, assistant professor of animal science and coordinator for the Dairy and Livestock Tent.

"Visitors will have a chance to ask questions and to learn about new developments in animal agriculture," Comerford says. "This

year's displays cover a wide range of topics."

The veterinary science department booth will feature their activities in teaching, research, extension, and diagnostic services," says Dr. Dale A. Moore, research assistant in veterinary science. "We'll have an interactive videodisc display on animal health topics and a demonstration

of how blood is used in diagnosing disease."

Visitors also can get answers to questions at an "Ask the Veterinarian" section of the booth.

An educational display commemorating the 50th anniversary of Pennsylvania's artificial insemination (AI) industry will provide information about the past, present and future of the science of applied reproductive biology. Faculty from the dairy and animal science department will be on hand to answer questions and explain AI's benefits. The exhibit also will feature memorabilia from the industry's early days.

Other exhibits in the tent will focus on different aspects of animal productions. Dr. Kenneth

Kephart, associate professor of animal science, will examine the effects of air quality on swine production. Dr. Lowell Wilson, professor of animal science, will detail current Penn State veal production research.

Drs. Dan Deaver and Clair Engle of the animal science department will discuss estrus synchronization in sheep. For younger visitors, Dr. Robin Keyser, assistant professor of agricultural and extension education, will present an overview of 4-H animal science projects. Dr. Mary Beth Bennett, project associate in dairy and animal science, will discuss ongoing research and educational projects related to animal welfare issues.

Keep Your Garden Healthy

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)—If dandelions or slugs are getting the best of your lawn and garden this year, you may want some expert advice.

You can learn more about making your garden healthy by visiting the Landscape, Lawn and Garden Tent at Ag Progress Days.

"This year the tent will feature displays on backyard composting and irrigation," says Dr. J. Robert Nuss, Penn State professor of ornamental horticulture and coordinator of the Landscape, Lawn and Garden Tent. "Visitors will see examples of what can be composted and the correct way to construct a compost pile."

Homeowners will learn how to

water their lawns and gardens using irrigation techniques that save valuable water resources.

Penn State faculty and county extension agents will be available for most of the day to give expert advice on plant and insect problems.

"We'll answer any question that a homeowner, gardener or grower might have," says Nuss. "Experts will talk with visitors about indoor and outdoor plants, turf, flowers, tree fruit and small fruit." Visitors may bring in samples for the experts to examine.

"To get a clear idea of the problem, we need a large sample in good condition," says Nuss. "Don't just bring in a dead leaf."

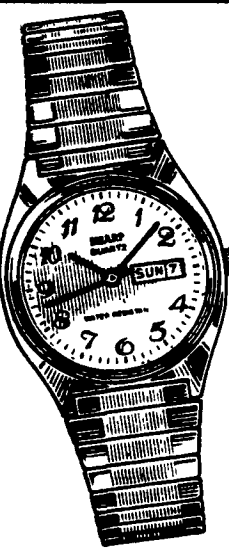
He advises visitors to bring samples that represent various stages of the problem, and to bring insects in jars, since damage may be hard to diagnose. Samples can be disposed of at the tent.



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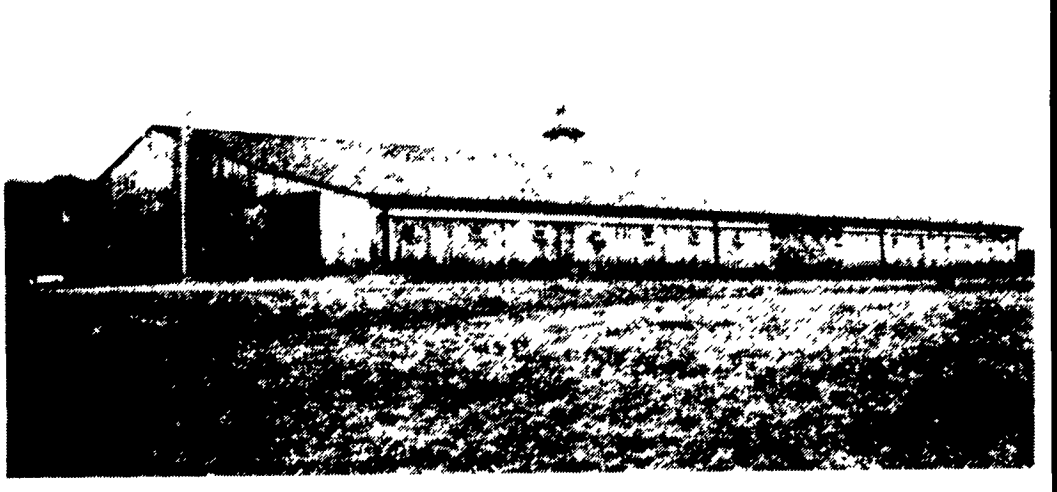
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