



# OPINION

## Keep Downed Animals At Home

The fact that 75 percent of Pennsylvania's agricultural income comes from animal agriculture is only part of the reason farmers should be concerned about animal rights and animal welfare issues. Economics is only one of three main concerns. The other two issues are social acceptance and empathy for the animals.

Everyone should know that healthy animals living in good environments with freedom to exercise in uncrowded conditions produce better quality food and more of it. It doesn't make economic sense not to provide for the physical and instinctual needs of your farm animals.

And farmers must now live in a society that has a growing concern for animal welfare, food safety, and water use. This society is the farmer's customer. So the farmer needs to satisfy customer concerns as much as possible.

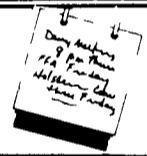
And while the society that is many generations removed from farming may now be able to understand, farmers do have a certain attachment to their animals. They do care for them emotionally.

That's why it doesn't help consumers to understand the farmer's cause when downed animals are sent to the stockyards and sale barns. While the numbers are few in comparison to the total number of animals involved it creates a situation where opponents of animal agriculture have a justifiable reason to promote their cause.

Right now, animal welfare groups are collecting video and still photographs of animals in stockyards and sale barns that show a very bad example. A push is on for national legislation to require every downed animal in stockyards to be humanely destroyed within a very short time.

While you could argue that photographs can be made to look bad by the angle or type of lense used, the fact remains that if these animals were not in the stockyards, they could not have been photographed in any way. The moral of this story is: don't send downed animals to market. Take the loss of one animal at home rather than create a situation that opponents of agriculture can use to destroy the livestock industry.

## Farm Calendar



- Saturday, August 22**  
Central Pennsylvania Holstein Championship Show, Huntingdon Fairgrounds, 3 p.m.  
74th Ephrata Fair thru Sept. 26.
- Sunday, August 23**  
Somerset County Fair, Arendtsville, thru August 29.
- Monday, August 24**  
10th annual Wayland Potato Festival, Wayland, N.Y.  
South Central District 4-H Dairy Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.  
Centre Co. 4-H Roundup, Centre Hall.  
Pennsylvania State Grange Pre-Convention Legislative Conference, Sheraton Inn, Harrisburg, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
4-H Roundup, Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall.
- Tuesday, August 25**  
Elizabethtown Community Fair, thru Aug. 29.
- Wednesday, August 26**  
Managing Woodlands for Wildlife, Elk and Cameron counties woodlot tour, PennDOT Roadside Rest, Rt. 120 west of Truman, 6:30 p.m.  
1992 Frederick County Ag Day, Eastalco Recreational Site, Buckeystown, Md., 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Annual Walker Farm Tour.
- Thursday, August 27**  
8th annual Old Tyme Days, Blaine Rentzel Farm, Manchester, thru Aug. 30; plowing contest seminar, 12 noon.  
Penn-Jersey Crop Management Field Day, Snyder Research

- Farm, Rutgers U., Pittstown, N.J., 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Regional 4-H Horse Production Show, Shippensburg Fairgrounds.
- Westmoreland Co. Ag Field Day, Westmoreland Co. Fairgrounds.
- First Southwest Pa. Ag Technology Day, Westmoreland Fairgrounds, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Farm Family Day, Westmoreland Ag Fair.
- Crop Management Field Day, Rutgers University, Snyder Research Farm, Pittstown, New Jersey, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Free ram breeding soundness examination, Washington County Fairgrounds, Washington, or the Greene County Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, 3 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Nutrient Management Issues Forum, 4-H Center, Bair, 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 28**  
Muncy Creek Antique Machinery Show, Lycoming Co. Fairgrounds, Hughesville, thru Aug. 30.  
Centre Co. Fair, Centre Hall, thru Sept. 3.  
Southeastern Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Show, Montgomery County 4-H Center, Creamery.  
Lehigh and Northampton Co. Farm Association annual breakfast with Congressman Don Ritter, Terrace Restaurant, Walnutport, 8:30 a.m.  
Pa. State Plowing Contest at Old Tyme Days, Rentzel Farm, Manchester, large plow 10:30 a.m., small plow noon, and anti-



**NOW IS THE TIME**  
By John Schwartz  
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

### To Watch For Pinkeye

Penn State extension veterinarian Dr. Thomas Drake reminds us, as fly populations increase during the hot summer months, dairy and livestock farmers should watch for signs of pinkeye in cattle.

Flies readily transmit the bacteria that cause pinkeye. They pick up the bacteria by feeding near the eyes of infected cattle, especially in the fluid that runs from the eyes, then fly to other cows, spreading the bacteria. If left untreated, the cow could become blind in the infected eye.

Controlling flies is the key to preventing pinkeye in cattle. A variety of products such as fly-repelling ear tags, oils, screens, and back rubbers are available.

If you notice pinkeye symptoms in your herd, antibiotics are the best treatment. Contact your veterinarian for the best treatment program for your farm.

Drake also encourages producers to put patches over infected eyes. This helps the animal to

recuperate more quickly by keeping the eye protected from painful sunlight, and the patch helps prevent flies from spreading pinkeye bacteria to healthy animals.

### To Become Familiar With Lyme Disease

Lyme Disease is a relatively new tickborne disease.

The disease is carried by the deer tick. This tick is smaller than the common dog tick and is typically found in bushy vegetation approximately three feet from the ground.

The initial symptoms occur within one month of being bitten by an infected tick. The primary symptom is a red circular rash which develops at the site of the bite and expands over a period of weeks. However, not all infected people develop the rash.

Other symptoms may include headaches, fever, fatigue, and swollen glands within 2 to 10 days of exposure. Lyme disease responds quickly to treatment at this stage. If left untreated, the rash and symptoms will gradually go away.

However, months or years later, secondary symptoms such as migraine headaches, arthritis, dizziness, weakness, and memory loss may occur. At this stage the disease is much more difficult to

treat. Remember, ticks should be removed by grasping them at the head parts with tweezers and pulling them straight out. Using heat or chemical methods to remove the tick may cause it to regurgitate its stomach contents and increase the risk of infection.

### To Salute

#### The American Farmer

During the past 30 years, the American Farmer has increased productivity unequaled by any other industry. Corn yields now average 120 bushels per acre, an increase of over 100 percent since 1960.

Soybean yields have topped 40 bushels per acre, an increase of 40 percent during this same period of time. Wheat yields in the United States have neared 40 bushels per acre, an increase of nearly 60 percent.

The per-acre yield of crop production of all crops is up 58 percent since 1960.

The gains in animal agriculture are very similar. The greatest advances were in milk production, which has doubled, and poultry production, which has tripled since 1960.

*Feather Prof's Footnote: "Do not follow where the path may lead — go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."*



**SATISFACTION, NOT PRIDE**  
August 23, 1992

## Farm Forum

### Editor,

I am a member of the 4-H Sausage Stuffers Club. For my project this year I raised two pigs. My project is coming to a close and on Wednesday, September 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the Grange Fair Grounds I will be selling my pigs. I would appreciate any support that you would be able to give me.

Thank you.

**Brent Connelly**  
PA Furnace

que class 1:30 p.m.

- Saturday, August 29**  
Susquehanna County Holstein Sale, Harford Fairgrounds, noon.  
Southeast Pa. 4-H Horse Show, Berks Co. 4-H Community Center, Leesport, 8:30 a.m.  
Pa. State Plowing Contest, Olde Tyme Days, Rentzel Farm, Manchester, garden tractor 9:30 a.m., horse plowing (walking) 11 a.m., and sulky 12:30 p.m.  
Bucks County Holstein Club Field Day and Picnic, Galen Leatherman's, 11 a.m.
- Sunday, August 30**  
Governor's Volunteer Appreciation Day, Maryland State Fair, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Monday, August 31**
- Tuesday, September 1**  
Allentown Fair, thru Sept. 7.  
York-Adams CMA meeting, York 4-H Center, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 2**  
Crops Expo 1992, York County

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### Background Scripture:

2 Timothy 3:10 through 4:8.

### Devotional Reading:

2 Corinthians 6:3-10.

At first glance, the writer of 2 Timothy seems to be rather lacking in humility: "Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra... yet from them all the Lord rescued me" (2 Tim 3:10) And once again: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness..." (4:7,8).

Those two passages are filled with a lot of "my's" and "I's," and the tone seems rather self-congratulatory. I would feel rather embarrassed to say to someone, "Look what I have accomplished and try to be like me". Yet, the more I have pondered these words, the more I have realized that the writer of this epistle is not on an ego trip. He believes that he has fulfilled the tasks that God gave to him and he takes great satisfaction in that knowledge. "Great satisfaction," but not pride. He is not so much pointing at himself as through himself. He knows his example is good because he emulated Jesus Christ. It is Christ whom he is exalting, not himself. **SATISFACTION, NOT PRIDE**

What the writer of 2 Timothy is feeling is satisfaction, not pride. In his letter he has given all the praise and thanks to God for what has been happening through him. He is satisfied in feeling that he has accomplished what God expected of him. He faces the pos-

sibility of death with the sense of not having left anything undone. That he could say, "I have fought the good fight," was because Christ helped him to fight it. That he could say, "I have finished the race," was an acknowledgement that Christ helped him do so. Nor was this any less true in his claim to have "kept the faith". Yes, he has done all of these things... but by the help of God! And his assurance that "Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge will award to me on that day..." is dependent, not upon his merit, but Christ's faithfulness. **HONORS, PRIZES, AWARDS**

Every once in a while I get a letter asking me to fill out a form giving biographical information. I am asked to list my degrees of higher education, honors, prizes, awards, and special recognitions. Of course, the more one fills in on these lines, the more impressive the biography. But it occurs to me that, although it is of some satisfaction to list these items, none of them are even half so satisfying as the writer of 2 Timothy must have felt when he could write: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith".

Desirable as our lifetime trophies may be, they are not everlasting satisfactions. These are things that, like material possessions, we cannot take with us. They have been bestowed upon us by the world and are of importance only in this world. The only lasting satisfaction we can enjoy in both worlds is the knowledge that we have fulfilled the purpose for which God created us.

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