

Quality Forage Theme Of Conference

TUNKHANNOCK (Wyoming Co.) — The 32nd annual Forage Conference, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council and Penn State University, will be held Tuesday, November 24 at the Shawdowbrook Inn.

The conference will explore the theme of "Quality Forage: Putting the Pieces Together" as it relates to different harvesting methods, including hay, silage, and pasture. The one-day conference will present a range of speakers from Pennsylvania and New York that represent both university specialists and forage producers.

A producer panel will discuss how they obtain quality forage through hay making, silage making, and grazing activities. In addition, those attending the conference will have an opportunity during registration to judge bales of hay and place them according to their quality. The placing will be compared with the results and placing based on NIRS analysis of the same bales. Representatives from businesses in Pennsylvania that have forage related concerns will also be on hand to discuss producer concerns and answer questions.

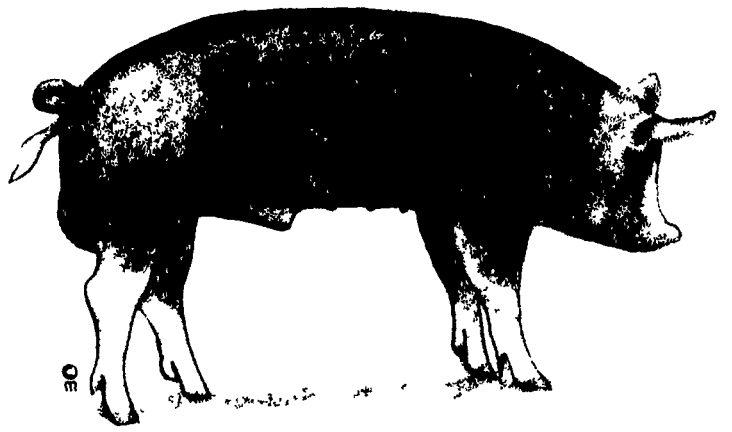
The conference will begin with registration at 9 a.m. at the Shadowbrook Inn. The Shadowbrook is located on Route 6 east of Tunkhannock. There is a \$15 registration fee, which covers the program and lunch. The fee can be paid at the conference, but participants should make reservations before November 13 by writing to Forage Conference, c/o Richard Hann, Milton Hershey Farms, P.O. Box 830, Hershey, PA 17033.

Those attending the Forage Conference will have an opportunity to judge bales of hay and rank them according to hay quality. The results from everyone attending the conference will be tabulated and compared with the results based on NIRS (near infrared reflectance spectroscopy) analysis of the same bales. The similarities and differences of the both the sensory and NIRS quality predictions will be discussed during the conference. In addition, Dr. Jerry Cherney, forage specialist at Cornell University, will present a look at forage quality and why animal producers should be concerned

with what they feed their livestock.

The hay judging will be a part of a day-long conference which will explore the theme of "Quality Forage: Putting the Pieces Together" as it relates to different harvesting

methods including hay, silage, and pasture. The one-day conference will present a range of speakers from Pennsylvania and New York that represent both university specialists and forage producers.



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