



OPINION

Attend The Farm Show

Pennsylvania has good reason to be proud of its farmers and agribusinesses. Agriculture has been the leading force in our state economy for 300 years. Our farms are some of the most productive in the world with cash income from farm marketings in 1991 of \$3.49 billion and farm exports from the Keystone State now totaling \$347 million annually.

In addition, agriculture stimulates \$38 billion in economic activity and provides jobs for 20 percent of Pennsylvania's work force. The incredible efficiency and productivity of Pennsylvania's farmers and agribusinesses have kept farming number one.

Now it's time for the 77th Pennsylvania State Farm Show in Harrisburg to showcase our great industry. As an educational forum, the Farm Show has been instrumental in keeping farmers and consumers abreast of advances made in agriculture. For suppliers of equipment and services, the Farm Show gives farmers a chance to compare products and agribusinesses the opportunity to develop markets. In addition, the Farm Show provides a good place for organizations to hold annual meetings and discuss key issues and plan for the future.

Everyone in farming can find something something of interest at the Farm Show. According to Boyd Wolff, Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture, a record \$202,250 in premiums is being offered this year.

"I hope you will be able to join us this year as we pay tribute to our number one industry and the farm families who keep it number one," Wolff said.

And we hope you will be able to attend the Farm Show too.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, January 9

Pa. State Farm Show, Harrisburg, thru January 14.

Leader's Conference, Linganore United Methodist Church, Unionville, Md., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Baby Lamb Survival Conference, Dept. of Ag, Rt. 92, Tunkhannock, 9:30 a.m.-noon.

Sunday, January 10

Monday, January 11

Raleigh DHIA Records Workshop, White Horse Fire Hall, White Horse, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 12

New Jersey annual vegetable meeting, Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, thru Jan. 14.
Evergreen Plant Identification, Lehigh Co. Ag Center, Allentown, repeats Jan. 13, 19, 20.
Pa. Flying Farmers, Farm Show Complex, Room D, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Dairy Cow Nutrition Short Course, Cecil County Extension, Elkton, Md., 10 a.m.-2 p.m., repeats Jan. 19.

Wednesday, January 13

Vet. Assoc. annual dairy meeting, Country Table Restaurant, Mount Joy, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Pa. Auctioneer's Assoc. annual convention, Marriott Hotel, Harrisburg, thru Jan. 16.
Soil Fertility Workshop, Washington County Extension Office, Washington, Pa., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Raleigh DHIA Workshop, Kinzers Fire Hall, Kinzers, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 14

Ag Issues Forum, Willow Valley Conference Center, Willow Street, 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m.
Soil Fertility Workshop, Westmoreland County Extension, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., repeats Feb. 4.
Farm Financial Management

Workshop, Mahantongo Fire Hall, Pitman, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.
Dairy Cow Nutrition Short Course, Caroline County Extension, Denton, Md., 10 a.m.-2 p.m., repeats Jan. 21.
Franklin County Crop Management Association annual meeting, St. Thomas Fire Hall.

Friday, January 15

Pa. Christmas Tree Growers Assoc. meeting, Embers Convention Center, Carlisle, thru Jan. 16.

Saturday, January 16

Franklin County Holstein Assoc. meeting, Lemaster Community Building, 7 p.m.
Dauphin County Holstein Assoc. meeting, Western Sizzlin, Harrisburg, noon.
New Jersey Bred Equine Breeder awards dinner, Freehold Garden Hotel and Conference Center, Freehold, N.J.
Mercer County Dairy Day, Vo-Tech Center, Mercer, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sunday, January 17

Monday, January 18

Northeast Winter Dairy Management Schools (West), Sheraton Inn, Batavia, N.Y., thru Jan. 19.
Northeast Winter Dairy Management Schools (East), Ramada Inn, Watertown, N.Y., thru Jan. 19.

Eastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, thru Jan. 21.

Crop Production Satellite Seminar, Forage Crops, Penn State. Raleigh DHIA Workshop, Robert Fulton Fire Hall, Wakefield, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Westmoreland County Holstein annual meeting, Knights Court, New Stanton, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 19

NYS Farm Direct Marketing Con-



NOW IS THE TIME

By John Schwartz
Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Secure

Pesticide Credits

Many private pesticide applicators licences will need to be renewed this year.

One of the requirements for renewal is securing update education credits. The private applicator must secure 6 core credits and 6 category credits during a three-year period.

If your licence expires March 31, 1993, you must have secured these 12 credits by March 31. If you need either core or category credits, start making plans to attend meetings now.

There will be many opportunities to secure credits over the next 10 weeks. Watch the Lancaster Farming and extension newsletters for meetings that will be offering pesticide credits.

Do not wait to March 15 to start looking for credits, because your opportunities will be very limited. Start attending meetings now and have your credits completed by March.

If you do not have the 6 core and 6 category credits by the time your licence expires, you will not be able to renew your licence. You will then be required to make up the deficient credits and take the test again or wait one year before you take the test again to secure your licence. In the meantime, you will not be able to buy and apply restricted pesticides.

If you have any questions, contact your local cooperative extension office.

To Take Steps To Higher Yields

At Farm Show this week, many farmers will be recognized for achieving high crop yields.

Now is the time to learn how you may achieve higher yields. One way to gain this knowledge is to attend winter meetings sponsored by cooperative extension, young farmer programs, and agribusinesses.

Regardless of the crop you grow, there are several basic practices that, when followed, will increase yields.

First, know the soils in which you are growing crops and match crops to soils. Second, use quality seeds from high performing varieties based on comparison trails.

Third, plant sufficient seeds to obtain the optimum plant population.

Knowing the optimum plant population for the variety you are planting and the soils you are planting on will help to make this decision easier. Fourth, tend to soil fertility and lime needs. Fifth, control pests (weeds, insects, diseases, etc.) when they reach economic threshold.

By attending winter meetings, you learn the latest information on these and other topics that will help you to make profitable decisions.

To Test Standby Generators
The recent snow and ice storms reminds us electricity may be interrupted to our farms up to several days. Will your standby generator function when you need it? Your standby generator for confinement animal housing should be tested every week. The test should include: 1. Will the generator start when the current goes off? 2. Will it operate under maximum load, i.e. when fans, feeders, and lights are being used? 3. Does your alarm system let you know the electricity is off? and 4. Do you have enough fuel to run the generator for several

Background Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3-25.
Devotional Reading: 1 Peter 2:1-10.

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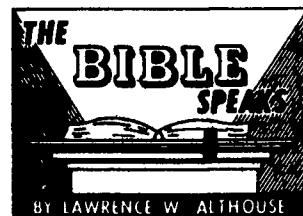
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WHAT CAN YOU TRUST? January 10, 1993

Background Scripture:

1 Peter 1:3-25.

Devotional Reading:

1 Peter 2:1-10.

One of the recurrent themes in the 1992 presidential campaign was "Who can you trust?" Actually, it is a question that goes far beyond which candidate you voted for as President of the United States.

I think that very often we are overly discouraged and even cynical because we forget that no human being is ever 100 percent trust worthy--neither President nor mere citizen of the United States. Even Jesus' closest disciples let him down in his greatest hour of need. So, discouraged with human trustworthiness, some people ask instead, "What can you trust?" Some answer with a plethora of material things. But things are even less dependable than human beings, because, as Jesus put it, "moth and rust consume and thieves break in to steal". And, we might add: the best of investments can go belly-up in a hurry.

KEPT IN HEAVEN

The writer of 1 Peter is obviously struck by two polarities. On the one hand is the transitory nature of just about everything in this world. Quoting Isaiah 40:6, Peter says: "All flesh is like grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord abides forever" (1 Peter 1:24, 25). At the same time, he speaks about the one thing/person in whom we can trust: "You have been born anew, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God"(1:23).

My wife, Valere, had an uncle who didn't trust banks and put his savings in a metal box that he buried under the floor of his garage. Years later, ready to claim his bounty, the uncle dug up the garage floor and the box--only to find

days?

In addition, when a storm strikes, do not depend on your automated systems. Take the time to visit the barns on a regular basis to make sure everything is functioning correctly.

By being proactive rather than reactive, you may prevent a disaster. The time and problems associated with cleaning up a disaster should be incentive enough to make farmers anticipate problems and prevent them.

To Support Pennsylvania 4-H At Farm Show

Help support the state 4-H program by contributing to the Ton of Change Project at this year's Farm Show.

Change will be collected at the 4-H booth located outside the large arena. By giving your change, you will be helping to fund the many outstanding leadership, citizenship, and educational programs of 4-H.

We would appreciate you helping 4-H achieve its goal of collecting a ton of change at the Farm Show.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "Always give people more than they expect to receive."

that time and the elements had reduced the money to worthless fragments of paper.

So, when 1 Peter speaks of the Christian's inheritance as "imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you..." that is very good news! At last there is something in which we can trust! Neither time, nor the elements, nor human sinfulness can take away that inheritance and we can live confidently because we know our inheritance is safe. Everything else may fail, but not our "living hope".

A LIVING HOPE

What does he mean by a "living hope"? The fountain of this hope is Christ who, by the power of the resurrection, lives in us. "By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to the inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading..." Although others may fail us, and despite the perishability of all else, that which is the basis of the hope by which we live our lives is Christ resurrected. "Through him you have confidence in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God" (1:21). It is important, however, that we realize that, while our hope will be fulfilled, it does not keep us from crosses along the way. Actually, the good news of Jesus Christ is, not that we are saved from facing tribulation, but that we will be victorious over tribulation because of the living hope we have in Jesus. As Peter says, "now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials" (1:6). But the hope is greater--infinitely greater--than the trials. As someone once said, "Life with Christ is endless hope, without Him a hopeless end."

Lancaster Farming

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