

Rodale Sets Composting Field Day

KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) — On February 24, an On-Farm Composting Field Day is scheduled on the farm of Jodi and Ron Snyder in Port Clinton.

The Snyders have an ideal setup for composting the manure from their 55-sow operation. The manure is pushed into a shed with a concrete floor and a tank for collecting any runoff. The runoff can be used to add moisture to the compost, or be used as a nutrient source for the pasture or field.

The Snyders have obtained leaves to use as their source of car-

bon for composting the swine manure. They use a manure spreader to mix the leaves and manure, and to form a windrow. The windrow is turned using a front end loader, or running the composting manure through the manure spreader.

At the field day the Snyders will describe their organically certified operation, the livestock and crops produced, and how they market their farm products organically.

In addition to seeing the compost operation and the discussion about the Snyder operation, Leon

Weber from the Rodale Institute will be discussing the basic compost process, and management of compost to promote the composting process. Cooperative Extension Agent Herb Wetzel will present information on using grass clippings in a swine lagoon to conserve nitrogen and minimize odors. Patricia Peck from the Department of Environmental Resources will discuss the DER requirements for farm use of leaves and grass.

Pre-registration is requested by calling Leon Weber at the Rodale Institute (215) 683-6383 or Herb Wetzel at Berks County Cooperative Extension (215) 378-1327. A program with directions will be sent to those who pre-register.

New Swine Biotech Topic Of Meeting

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — Attention pork producers! In order to receive the best price, you must produce what the consumer wants to eat today. This requires the application of modern biotechnology. What you think they need or what is convenient for your system to produce may not be the answer.

Topics to be discussed at a meeting on Feb. 23 at the Ephrata H.S. Ag Department include demographics, changes being

made at packing plants, grade yields, genetic potentials, and what the consumer wants today and why.

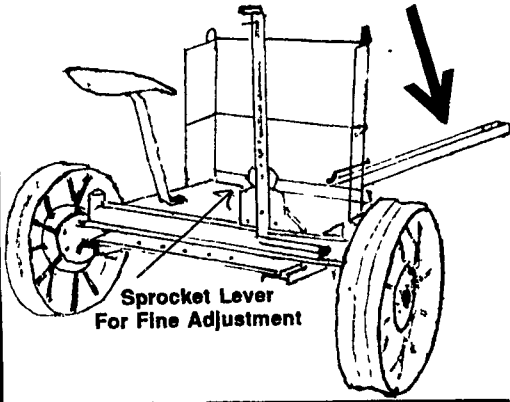
Speakers will be Michael Leiningner, Thames Bend sales representative; Jay Horst, Thames Bend East Coast representative; and Richard Stein, owner of Thomas Bend Penn Breeding Stock Co.

Learn more about the modern biotechnology taking place in the pork producing industry.

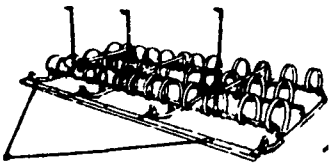
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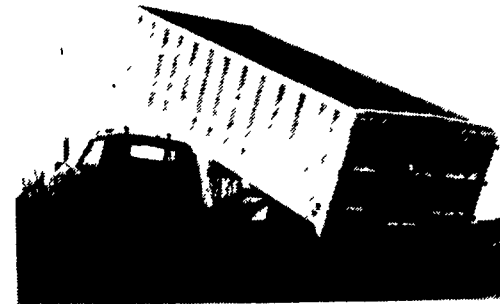
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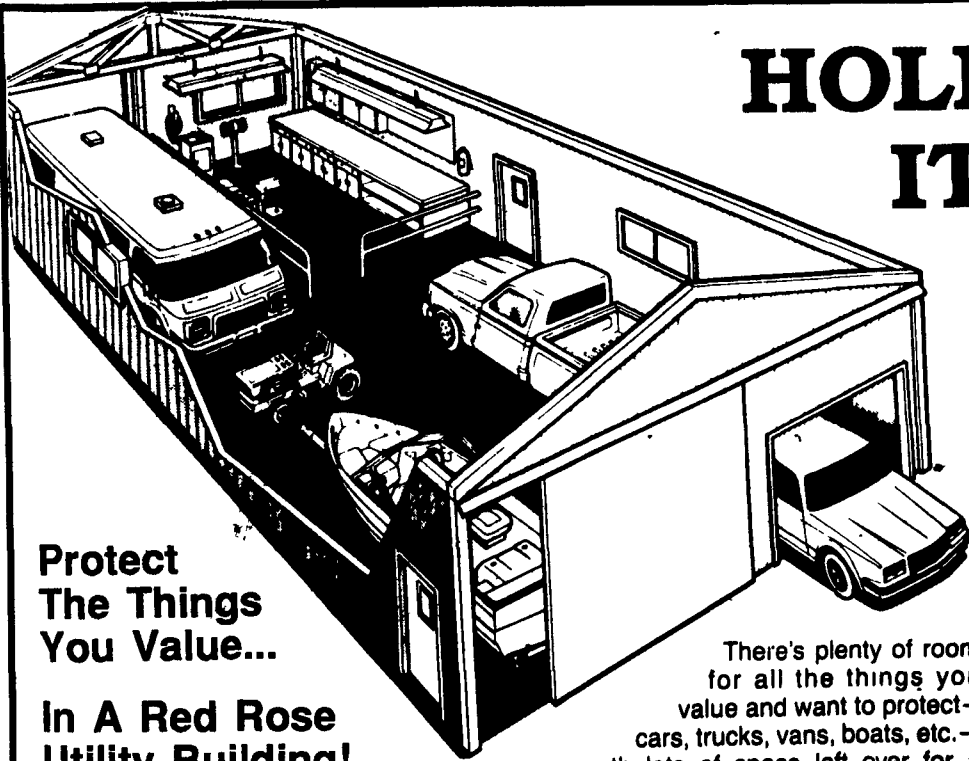
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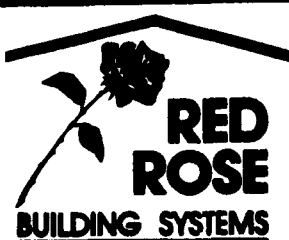
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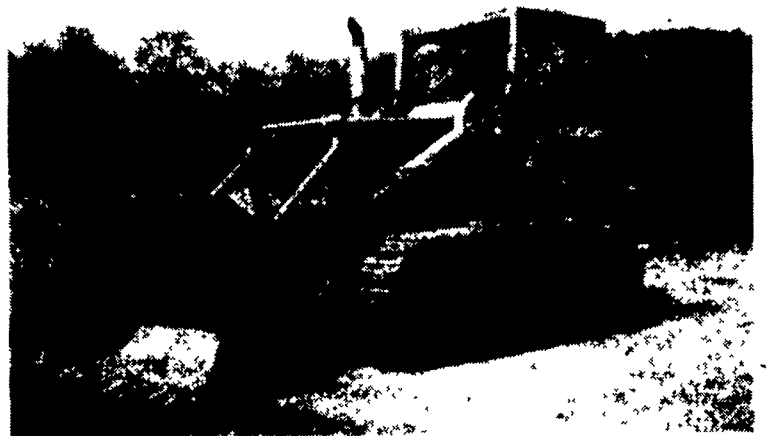
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