

Multi-Use Livestock Complex Gains Support

MEADVILLE (Crawford Co.) — The Crawford County agricultural community is pooling its energy and resources to bring to reality a multi-use livestock complex at the Crawford County Fairgrounds.

With the approval of the county commissioners, the building steering committee is raising funds so construction can begin as soon as spring weather breaks.

According to Ron Kerr, Titusville, and Bob Rose, Cochran, cochairmen for the steering committee, the fundraising goal of \$175,000 will come from the support of individuals, farms, agribusinesses, and organizations who care about the youth of Crawford County.

The complex will include three existing buildings and two new buildings with clear-span con-

struction to provide for maximum versatility and use. One new building will house the beef cattle during the fair and the other will be a show arena with easy access from the cattle barn as well as the sheep and swine housing areas.

Changes needed to be made to reduce the chance of accidents with livestock and the general public, said Kerr. During the 4-H and FFA livestock show, cattle are lead some distance from the barns

to the existing Youth Show Arena.

The current facilities for sheep and swine are limited which restricted the number of youth able to participate in the programs. With the new facility, adequate space will be available for all the market livestock shows and ample room for participants and buyers during the livestock sale.

Some other use of the new clear-span arena include indoor

horse and pony shows, sports shows, tourism shows, machinery and industrial trade shows, and many educational programs. The committee plans the complex to be as versatile as possible within their budget restrictions.

Bruce Stainbrook, Meadville, fundraising chairman, reports that to date money and pledges total \$70,000 with additional in-kind contributions including grading, trucking, gravel, and cement already promised.

Many businesses are making their contributions through the advertising signs that will be used around the arena, said Rose. Each sign will be at least one 4-foot by 8-foot piece of plywood that has been painted by specified artists. Businesses must contract for at least a five-year period at \$100 per year plus fees for the materials and labor to paint the signs. Rose hopes that most of the agricultural businesses and organizations support the project in this way.

Any individual or business that wishes to contribute to the project should send contributions to Crawford County Livestock Building Fund, Fred Wagner, treasurer, Courthouse, Meadville, PA 16335.

For additional information contact Ron Kerr at (814) 438-3831 or (814) 827-1506.

No-Till Available In Montgomery County

CREAMERY (Montgomery Co.) — The Montgomery County Conservation District is geared up and ready to assist county crop producers through the no-till program.

The Conservation District will have the following equipment available to producers for the 1993 planting season: grain drill (1) - 10 feet wide - 7" row spacing for \$10/acre and corn planter (1) -

4-row - 30" spacing for \$10/acre.

The program not only encourages the use of the no-till system, but also provides the users with a hands-on experience with the latest refinements on the modern equipment.

Since its inception in 1983, the district sponsored program has logged more than 8,400 acres, for a soil savings of approximately 42,015 tons. No-till has become a popular tool for conservation tillage because it reduces the amount of soil lost.

The no-till method may not benefit all farming techniques as conditions and soil type may vary. However, no-till equipment has evolved to a high degree in the past 15 years which has proven to be an asset to many farmers. In addition, time on the field is reduced

and fuel and machinery costs are lowered, which reduces the cost of crop production.

The savings are realized by the practice of planting in existing grass or crop residue which eliminates exposing the soil to the impact of rainfall, and concentrated water runoff which washes away soil as well as soil nutrients.

As in conventional farming, herbicides are used to control unwanted vegetation. However, once under control, crop rotation and best management practices may reduce the use of herbicide application.

For additional information or scheduling of the no-till equipment, contact Donald Fitzpatrick at the Montgomery County Conservation District office at (215) 489-4506.

Woodrow Provides Scholarship

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — George V. Woodrow of Onancock, Va., recently established a \$25,000 scholarship in his name with Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

The George V. Woodrow Scholarship provides recognition and financial assistance to outstanding students in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Consideration is given to all full-time undergraduate students enrolled or planning to enroll in the college with superior academic records or who demonstrate promise of superior academic performance.

The college's scholarship committee selects a number of recipients each year and determines the amount awarded to each. Students who remain eligible may receive the scholarship more than once.

Woodrow received an associate

degree in agricultural business at Penn State in 1921. While a student at Penn State, Woodrow was a member of the Delta Chi Fraternity and also worked at the University Creamery, where he helped make cheese and ice cream. After leaving Penn State, he worked as a building inspector for Radnor Township in Delaware County.

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