

# Nutrient Management Planners Graduate

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — PARS, Inc., an Elizabethtown distributor of fertilizers and seed, announces three recent graduates from the Nutrient Management Planner Seminar held in February at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

The three newly certified nutrient management planners are Glenn Wyble, a graduate of Delaware Valley College, who has worked for PARS for 15 years as a district manager in the Delaware Valley and New Jersey; Dale Good, a dairy farmer from Lebanon County who is also a part-time salesman for PARS; and Devon O. Howe, director of sales/marketing for PARS, and a graduate from West Virginia University's School of Agriculture and Forestry.

According to the policies established by the USDA, each of these men are on a preliminary approval list. Each must complete five nutrient management plans in order to become "fully approved." Each of these five plans will be reviewed by the Pequea-Mill Creek Office and must be submitted within one year.



Devon O. Howe

"We feel that Nutrient Management Planning is a real opportunity for us to help farmers understand the interrelationships of all nutrient sources on their farms. This would include nutrients from manures, legumes, and commercial fertilizers. Many growers don't realize that they can sometimes reduce inputs without sacrific-



Glenn Wyble

icing yield. With a little assistance, we can show them how to 'push a pencil' and save input costs and time," said Devon O. Howe, director of sales/marketing.

He said, "The nutrient management bill that recently passed has really heightened the awareness

for the need to examine nutrient inputs. We're seeing the impact already — with an increased interest in our programs. We market concentrated liquid fertilizers which are more efficient to use, and therefore require less volume of nutrients. In addition, our fertil-

izers can be put right in the row, or foliar applied, which means that the plant can utilize more of the material and there is a lower possibility of nutrient leaching. We're committed to finding the latest fertilizer materials which are environmentally sensitive."

## Scours Cause Great Loss Of Calves

HUNTINGDON (Huntingdon Co.) — Diarrhea (scours) can be caused by any number of microorganisms to which a calf is exposed and becomes susceptible. Several areas in calf care are important in preventing scours, including housing, a proper nutritional program, and supportive therapy.

Feeding programs must be monitored beginning at birth. Calves that are allowed to suckle on their own often don't get enough colostrum during the first two hours. Calves should receive about one gallon of colostrum (10 to 15 percent of their body weight) during the first 12 hours of life. Fresh, high quality colostrum should be fed to calves.

Colostrum quality can be measured with a hygrometer. Older cows generally produce a higher quality colostrum than first-calf heifers. Extra colostrum from older cows can be frozen, allowing a ready supply. For the first week, calves should only receive a milk-based diet. After that, calves can be offered a creep feed in increasing amounts as they grow. At four weeks, calves can be weaned to a grower ration.

Hygiene of feeding equipment is as important as what calves are fed. Microorganisms can be spread among calves when the same feeding equipment is used to feed more than one calf. Each calf should be fed with a clean, sanitized nipple and bucket.

Calves that are allowed contact with other calves are more prone to scouring problems. Hutches should be placed to avoid nose-to-nose contact. When calves are weaned, hutches should be cleaned and allowed to sit empty for several weeks.

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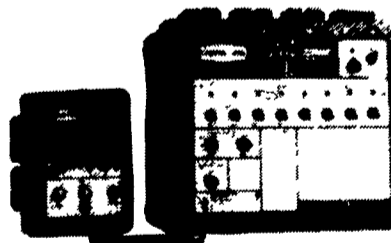
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