

Kensinger Receives Young Scientist Award

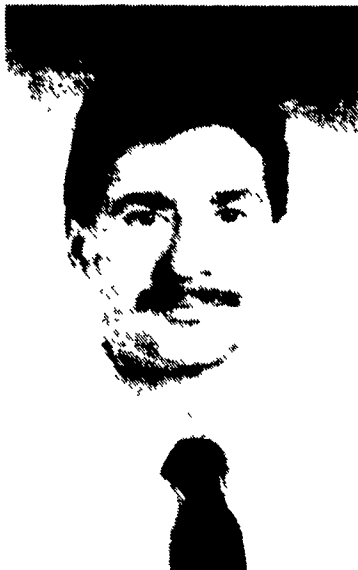
UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — The northeastern section of the American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association has presented Ronald S. Kensinger its *Young Scientist Award* at its recent meeting at the University of Maryland, College Park.

The Young Scientist Award recognizes Kensinger, associate professor of animal nutrition physiology in Penn State's Department of Dairy and Animal Science, for his contributions to the animal sciences in teaching, extension, and research.

Kensinger is one of a new breed

of scientists who did not grow up on a farm, but who seek to understand the issues facing animal agriculture and answer basic questions for animal producers through research. Kensinger's research on somatotropin, growth factors, mammary cells, and control of lactogenesis in the pig has helped to overcome some of the obstacles which limit the efficiency of animal productivity. He has received support from swine producer organizations, attesting to the value of this research.

He teaches at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and participates in a number of activities, including advising under-



Ronald S. Kensinger

graduate students, serving as associate director of the Intercollegiate Graduate Program in Nutrition, and participating in the Pennsylvania Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences.

Kensinger recently spent a year-long sabbatical leave at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where his work focused on contemporary techniques in molecular biology, making important scientific contacts, and further refining his skills in grant proposal preparation.

Through ongoing research at Penn State, Kensinger seeks to increase weaning the weight of piglets. A statistic of economic importance to pork producers — the

number of pigs weaned per sow per year — often determines if a farm is profitable. The goal of this research is to develop new methods to prevent poor milk production right after farrowing in sows and more effective methods of treating animals with this condition. The project is supported by grants from the Pennsylvania and the National Pork Producers Councils.

Kensinger has served on several committees at Penn State and has been a member of American Society of Animal Science's Biennial Growth Symposium Committee, as well as the editorial boards of the *Journal of Animal Science* and *Journal of Dairy Science*.

Ag Advocates Promote Agriculture

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — While other industries have cut back in response to the recession, agriculture has continued to grow. In the coming academic year, a group of Penn State students will work to inform the public about opportunities in the nation's number-one industry.

Thirteen undergraduates in the College of Agricultural Sciences will serve as ag advocates. They will support the college's efforts to enhance the image of agriculture and recruit highly qualified students. They also will help alumni and friends stay in touch with college programs and developments.

"More agricultural scientists are needed to improve food and fiber production in the United States," said Dr. Marianne Houser, instructor in agricultural education and adviser for the program.

"Students in the College of Agricultural Sciences receive training in diverse areas such as horticulture, veterinary science, and environmental resource management," she said. "Graduates have excellent career opportunities."

The 1993-1994 Ag Advocates come from both urban and rural

areas of Pennsylvania and represent several academic departments in the College of Agricultural Sciences. They are:

- Catherine Dawson of Allentown, a senior majoring in environmental resource management

- Aimee Eopechino of Hanover, a senior majoring in food science

- Michael Gainer of Erie, a junior majoring in agricultural science

- Christa Garcia of Allentown, a junior majoring in animal bioscience and minoring in wildlife and fisheries science

- Barbara Hart of Aliquippa, a junior majoring in animal bioscience

- Jayne Nadine Hess of Gettysburg, a sophomore majoring in agricultural science and minoring in English

- Jennifer Kay Hummel of Duncannon, a sophomore majoring in agricultural science

- David Lentz of Lebanon, a senior majoring in dairy and animal science

- Jeffrey Ozarski of Downingtown, a senior majoring in environmental resource management

- Shannon Peterman of Muncy, a junior majoring in agricultural

economics and rural sociology and minoring in dairy science

Tracy Szathmary of Morrisville, a sophomore majoring in agricultural engineering and minoring in environmental engineering

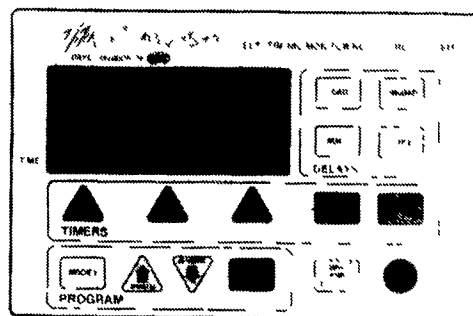
- Holly Shoener of Pine Grove, a senior majoring in agricultural and biological engineering

- Michelle Troutman of Richland, a freshman majoring in food science.

Ag advocates are selected on the basis of high academic achievement, interviews, and faculty recommendations. Dr. Larmartine F. Hood, dean of the college, initiated the program in the fall of 1988.



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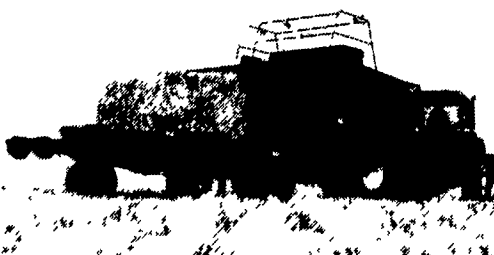
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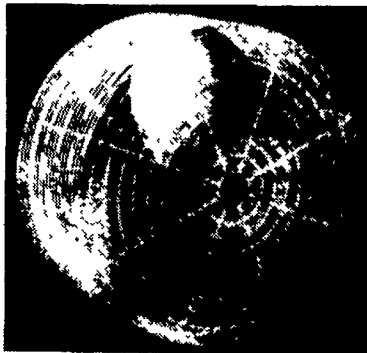
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