

Festival Features Swiss Origin Of Pa. Barn

SCHAEFFERSTOWN (Lebanon Co.) — Schaefferstown's annual Folk Festival and Antique and Classic Tractor Show July 16-18 at the Alexander Schaeffer Farm will center on the discovery of the Swiss origin of the Pennsylvania barn.

Professor Robert F. Ensminger, after 15 years of research, has recently published his book, entitled "The Pennsylvania Barn." Ensminger will be the main speaker and will also show slides of the European prototype of Pennsylvania barns, including the precise area in Switzerland where they are located.

The Forebay Bank Barn became the favorite of Pennsylvania farmers and spread west through the Farm Belt to become the American barn. It became so popular that a number of bottom barns were raised one story to convert them to bank barns.

The Pennsylvania Dutch log house's use and origin will be discussed by Robert Bucher. He will present a review of European literature relating to the origins of Pennsylvania houses and will explain why our European immigrants did not build their houses and barns together as a single unit.

Schaefferstown's third annual



Farmall will be the feature tractors at this year's Antique and Classic Tractor Show at the Alexander Schaeffer Farm.

antique and classic Tractor Show will be held Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17 starting at 9 a.m. each day. On Friday, tractor contests feature teeter-totter, slow race, and crank up. At noon, a parade will be held, followed by more contests from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. and tractor pulls from 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

On Saturday, more tractor contests are scheduled, including teeter-totter, slow race, and crank up until 11:30 a.m. At noon, a

parade is scheduled, and tractor pulls commence at 1 p.m. Awards will be presented beginning at 4 p.m.

Other activities include cooking demonstrations of Dutch foods, tasting, and recipes. Other attractions are house tours, baking in the 1771 bake oven, sheep to shawl, sawmill, crafts, sausage sandwiches, the Dutch kitchen, and raspberry shrub.

(Turn to Page A39)

Dry Cows

(Continued from Page A19)

has been reported to help control the incidence of subclinical hypocalcemia, clinical milk fever and droopy cow syndrome (defined as cows not cleaning in a timely manner and not eating and milking as well as they should in early lactation).

Dr. David Beede, from the University of Florida, spoke to the Texas Nutrition Council recently regarding DCAD. He reported that even well-managed herds, with cows in proper body condition and relatively low incidences of clinical milk fevers and ketosis produced an additional 500 to 1,000 pounds of milk in the follow lactation when anionic salts were fed.

Beede also reported that there was an improvement in fertility as measured by pregnancy rate at 200 days postpartum and days open.

Feeding DCAD rations during the dry period is not for all herds. If you want to use a dry cow ration that has been balanced using the DCAD concept follow all the following guidelines.

•Work with a competent nutritionist.

•Analyze all feeds for Na, K, S, and Cl, in addition to the standard analysis.

•Select forages low in K (This may necessitate buying or raising forages specifically for the dry cows.)

•Monitor all feed intakes. This make the use of pasture systems for the close-up group difficult to use.

•Monitor palatability problems after the addition of the anionic salts as they are low in palatability.

•Use a TMR for best results.

•Continue balancing for other nutrients.

•Keep total non-protein nitrogen at less than .25 percent of total crude protein and keep degradable intake protein below 70 percent.

•Typically feed DCAD rations for three to four weeks prepartum.

•Be aware that DCAD is not 100 percent effective.

•Proceed with caution.

Failure to follow these guidelines, particularly in regards to farm specific ration formulation and intake monitoring, can do more harm than good. Proceed only under the guidance of a nutritionist.

Dry cow management is critical to the long term success of your operation. Develop a plan to monitor body condition, dry cow treat all quarters of all cows, group cows, feed to develop rumen musculature, introduce lactation ration ingredients to close-up dry cows, and consider the use of DCAD in formulating the dry cow ration if you can follow the guidelines.

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