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Lancaster Farming

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Ag Progress Days Scheduled August 17 To 19

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) — Farmers, agribusiness persons, educators, politicians, and Penn State alumni are among the many visitors expected to attend Ag Progress Days here at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center.

The free event, sponsored by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, will take place next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the site on Rt. 45, nine miles southwest of State College. Last year, the exposition attracted about

40,000 visitors to the three-day event, and this year, program organizers indicated that as many as 50,000 could attend.

"Coming to Ag Progress Days is like visiting a major university, a museum, a petting zoo, a horse show, a farm equipment show and more all in one spot," said Robert Oberheim, Ag Progress Days manager. "No matter what you're interested in, there's something here to interest you."

The theme of this year's event, "Conserving Our Resources

Through Science," highlights the efforts of agricultural scientists and farmers to preserve water and soil quality while providing a safe and abundant supply of food.

Educational displays in the College of Agricultural Sciences Exhibits Building will highlight the importance of clean drinking water for consumers. Exhibits will focus on groundwater movement and quality, community water supplies, maintaining a private well, household water testing and treatment, water conservation, and

other topics.

History buffs can see what life was like during agriculture's "muscle power" era by visiting the Pasto Agricultural Museum, which showcases more than 300 rare and antique farm and household implements. Visitors also can see the latest agricultural equipment at more than 300 commercial exhibits. Many machines will be demonstrated in the field at the event.

Children can see old-time toys, musical instruments, puzzles and dolls at Kids Back Then, a program that will run continuously in

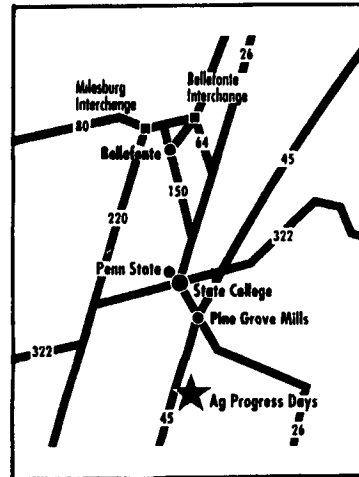
the Ag Progress Days Youth Building. They also can participate in games and stunts, and can learn to make toys from common items.

Storyteller Jan Kinney will entertain children and adults in the College of Agricultural Sciences Exhibits Building Theatre. For more than 50 years she has been collecting stories, with more than 200 in her repertoire. She will appear for a half hour to 45 minutes each day at noon.

Animal lovers can see live owls, hawks, turtles and snakes at the Shaver's Creek Environmental Center exhibit. Happy Valley Friendly Farm, an educational center and petting farm, will give visitors a chance to touch and bottle-feed calves, lambs, kid goats, chicks, bunnies and miniature pot-bellied pigs.

Horse lovers can visit the Equine Exhibits Tent, which has displays and equipment from various segments of Pennsylvania's \$4 billion horse industry. The equine educational program features breed exhibitions, training clinics, riding demonstrations and draft horse hitches and carts.

(Turn to Page A26)



Warning Labels Now Mandatory For Raw, Partially Cooked Meats

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
 Managing Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — All raw or partially cooked meat or poultry sold in America after October 15 must be labeled with safe handling instructions. The government ordered the labeling this week through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) because of a food poisoning outbreak in the West last January and to fulfill the requirements of settlement of a lawsuit initiated by Jeremy Rifkin's "Beyond Beef Coalition."

The western outbreak of food

poisoning that was traced to undercooked hamburger left several children dead and hundreds of people ill. The parents of a 17-month-old boy who died from an E. coli infection during the western outbreak appeared at a news conference with Agricultural Secretary Mike Espy to emphasize the required label's message:

"Some animal products may contain bacteria that could cause illness if the product is mishandled or cooked improperly," the warning says. "For your protection fol-

(Turn to Page A22)

National DHIA, Holstein Association Hold First Joint Session

MADISON, Wis. — The directors of the National Dairy Herd Improvement Association (NDHIA) and the Holstein Association of America agreed to initiate a series of efforts designed to raise the quality of data used in the U.S. genetic evaluation program. This agreement was reached July 31 during the first joint session ever

held between the two boards. The efforts are expected to include other segments of the industry, such as the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association, DHIA Affiliates, USDA and artificial insemination firms, in strengthening the cooperative agreements in place in

(Turn to Page A23)



This scene of an Ag Progress Days past is representative of what is expected next week when the 1993 show is scheduled to feature 300 commercial exhibitors as well as many educational demonstrations and farm organization meetings. In addition, field demonstrations will give farmers the opportunity to see competitive farm machines in side-by-side operation.