

Demonstrations, Machinery, Food Attract Thousands To Ag Progress

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More than 50,000 people visited Penn State's Ag Progress Days this week. Those who were looking for new ideas in production agriculture were not disappointed but the

annual event also expanded activities for children and homemakers. "It's a family activity. Our whole family loves it," said Linda McCullough of Newville. She, her husband Neal, who is a state DHIA director, enjoy learning about all the ways that agriculture is chang-

ing. Their three children and a neighborhood friend were more impressed with Happy Valley Farm Petting Zoo, the machinery that they could climb over, and the food.

During the three-day event,
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Shane Gray, 4, and his brother, 6, think they are lucky that they could take off from playschool and visit Ag Progress with Aunt Carol Baker of State College. The boys like to sit on tractors and make believe they are farmers.



Mrs. John Sabol of Carlisle planned to enter her Grape-nut Ice Cream in the contest, but was greatly disappointed to find that she was missing a part to her ice cream maker. After the contest, another contestant churned her mixture and the crowd was eager to taste it.



Tim, 2, and Andy, 4, find it's easy riding while parents Paul and Debbie Taylor of Ringgold pull the wagon. The Ringgolds, who have a small vegetable farm said that this is the first time in six years they have attended Ag Progress. While the parents love everything in general about the event, the children were more impressed with climbing over the tractors.



The equipment and demonstrations keep these three from Strasburg coming to Ag Progress every year. "You learn more here than at Farm Show," said Leroy Weaver, right. Bob Weaver, left, said that he likes seeing new ideas such as the wrapping of bales this year. Henry Stoltzfus, center, said it's really the ice cream that draws him to the annual event.



Jordan Nyman gets a Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture promotion sticker on his shirt from Lesa Tressler, with the PDA Bureau of Market Development.



The dairy farm family of Neal (missing from photo) and Linda McCullough of Newville visit Ag Progress for the first time in recent years. While the parents enjoy seeing all the different ways agriculture is changing, the children were impressed with other activities. From left, Nate, 5, liked the six-wheelers; Katie, 8, and Betsy, 10, the food, and friend Christopher Kann, 7, the calf.



Albert Hack believes that Guernsey milk makes ice cream taste better. This was the first time this farmer from Berwick entered the contest. His Strawberry Ice Cream brought a third place win and \$100.