

Animal Use Group Recognizes Expert

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — Pennsylvanians for the Responsible Use of Animals (PRUA) presented a Certificate of Outstanding Achievement to Dr. Temple Grandin, Ph.D., one of the country's top livestock management experts. Grandin, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colo., is known for her constructive efforts to promote safe and humane production, handling, transportation, and processing of farm animals.

Grandin recently traveled to the central Pennsylvania area to participate at the Animal Housing Expo held in Lebanon County. She told her agriculture colleagues that reducing animals' stress during

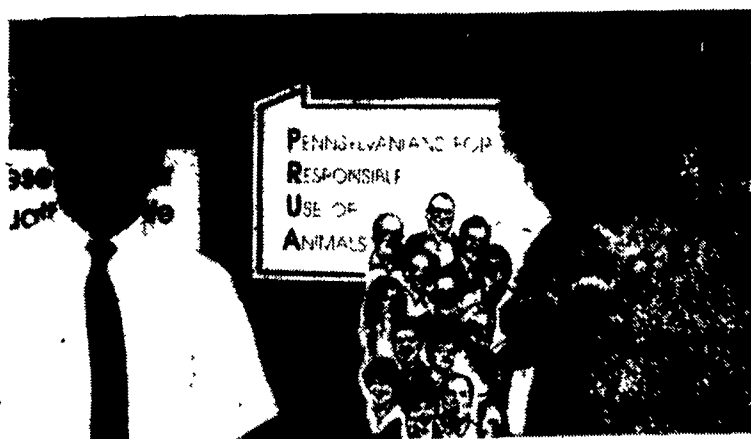
handling will improve productivity and prevent unwanted physiological changes. Toward this end, Grandin has developed the science of housing and moving animals safely and humanely. She has become the industry's top advisor on the design and construction of housing for farm animals.

Pennsylvanians for the Responsible Use of Animals (PRUA) supports Grandin's progressive work in the humane management of farm animals. PRUA is a coalition of animal user groups and individuals who support the humane use of animals to enhance human life. More than 25 groups and several hundred individuals from Pennsylvania's agricultural, bio-

medical/veterinary research, entertainment and professional wildlife management organizations participate in PRUA.

Members of the group encourage humane treatment of animals used for food, clothing, education, entertainment, and biomedical research as well as animals whose welfare is the responsibility of Pennsylvania's scientific and wildlife community.

PRUA offers a forum for member organizations to work together and to provide factual information to the public, schools, media, elected officials, and those responsible for the care of animals to further a better understanding of their proper use and treatment



Karl Brown, president of Pennsylvanians for the Responsible Use of Animals (PRUA), discusses animal welfare and humane management practices with Dr. Temple Grandin, nationally known animal housing and handling expert from Colorado State University.

so informed decisions can be made at all levels.

To receive more information about Pennsylvanians for the Responsible Use of Animals, contact Kenneth Brandt, P.O. Box 61, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, (717) 367-5223.

September Is For Seeding

NEWARK, Del. — The lazy, languid days of summer are over, and September is a time of renewed activity. Schedules get crammed with club meetings, night classes, and social engagements. With all the hustle and bustle, you're probably not spending as much time putting about the lawn and garden. But, if you want a great lawn next spring, you need to work on it today.

"September is the ideal month for rehabbing a lawn or starting a new one," said University of Delaware Cooperative Extension horticultural agent Jo Mercer. "A lot of things are working for us at this time of year — warm soil, relatively cooler air, more reliable rainfall, and less competition from weeds."

But don't just start spreading lime or scattering seed with abandon.

"People really need to do a soil test before they do anything else," said Mercer. With the test results come detailed instructions on ways to improve your soil.

After receiving your results, plot out a strategy. What are your lawn's flaws? Assets? Can the lawn be saved or will you need to start from scratch?

Mercer's rule of thumb is that if more than 50 percent of the grass is in bad shape, then it's best to begin a new lawn. However, if less than 50 percent is in poor condition, it's usually possible to beef it up by spot-seeding and other measures.

Choose your grass seed carefully. If you are starting a new lawn, Mercer recommends turf-type tall fescue for its low maintenance and ability to withstand heat. But if you are spot-seeding a Kentucky bluegrass lawn, think twice before introducing tall fescue. It can look clumpy and untidy among bluegrass.

Whether you are re-seeding or just spot-seeding, you'll first want to rototill and apply fertilizer and lime in the amounts recommended by your soil test. Immediately before seeding, hand-rake to remove stones and smooth the surface. After seed application, mulch lightly and water.

"It's imperative to water every day while the seeds are sprouting," said Mercer. "Initially, the seeds will need frequent watering for short periods of time. Later, as the roots grow into the soil, you can switch to longer, more infrequent waterings."

If your lawn doesn't require seeding, concentrate on building up the structure of the grass, said Mercer.

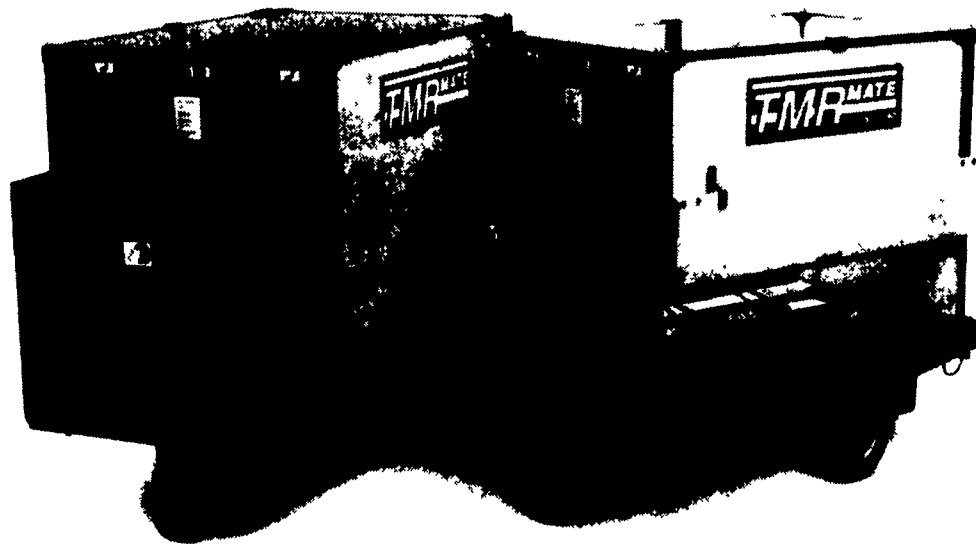
In other words, bring out the fertilizer. Fall, not spring, as many would believe, is the ideal time to fertilize. In addition, you may want to work on broadleaf weed control through the application of herbicides.

Whatever you decide to do for your lawn, get out and do it now. As Mercer said, "This is the window of opportunity to make a difference in how your lawn will do in the future."

For more information on site preparation, turfgrass selection, planting procedures, and post-planting care, consult "Successful Lawn Management," a 20-page bulletin offered by cooperative extension. The bulletin and the soil kits recommended by Mercer are each \$5 and can be purchased at any extension office.



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