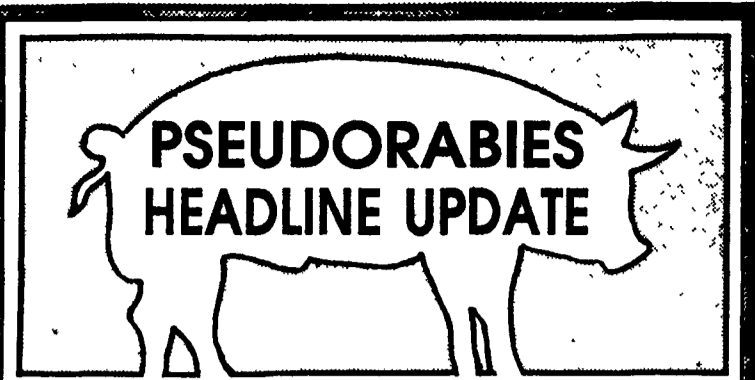


# ASCS Announces Crop Program



**PSEUDORABIES HEADLINE UPDATE**

A column to update hog producers on the Pennsylvania Pseudorabies Eradication Program.

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Emergency disaster legislation signed recently by President Clinton authorizes USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) to pay 100 percent of each eligible disaster claim filed by producers who sustained quantity and/or quality losses on their 1993 crops because of weather-related disasters.

"Eligible producers may apply for disaster assistance through March 4, 1994," ASCS official Richard Troutman said. He said

the 1993 crop loss benefits will be paid to eligible producers after the producer submits all required information to ASCS.

To be eligible for disaster benefits, producers with crop insurance must have had losses greater than 35 percent. Producers without crop insurance must have had losses greater than 40 percent.

"Farmers who lost over 65 percent of their 1993 crops must purchase multiple peril crop insur-

ance on the same crop for 1994," Troutman said.

The ASCS disaster program provides cash payments for production losses on participating program crops of wheat and feed grains; nonparticipating crops; soybeans, sunflowers, and tobacco; and all commercial nonprogram crops.

More information on 1993 crop loss benefits may be obtained from the local ASCS office.

## THE PENNSYLVANIA VACCINATION PROJECT FOR GROW/FINISH HOGS

Dr. Amy Nesselrodt  
USDA/APHIS  
Veterinary Services

In 1989, at the request of the National Pork Producers Council, the Cooperative State-Federal-Industry Pseudorabies Eradication Program began.

The goal was to eradicate pseudorabies from this country by the year 2000. Guidelines were established to assist states in reaching this goal.

The guidelines outline five stages of PRV eradication which demonstrate the progress states make toward eradication. At Stage V, the final stage, a state is declared free of pseudorabies.

Currently, Pennsylvania is in Stage II. It is the immediate goal of the Pennsylvania Pork Producers to advance the state into Stage III and then meet the goal of pseudorabies eradication in Pennsylvania by the year 2000.

Producers in Pennsylvania have been working hard to eliminate PRV from their herds. Unfortunately, in spite of their efforts, new herds continue to become infected. The major source of new infections continues to be area-spread.

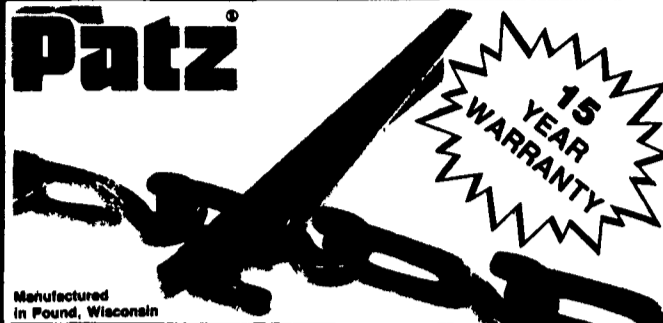
Pseudorabies virus, which is shed in mucus from infected animals, can, under the right environmental conditions, travel through the air and infect other herds. One tool which is available to prevent such spread of virus is vaccination. More than 95 percent of quarantined herds are vaccinating their breeding animals but less than 50 percent of the currently 100,000 quarantined grow/finish animals are being vaccinated. These unvaccinated, infected animals serve as a reservoir for the virus and can act like "virus factories," spewing virus particles into the air.

In order to promote vaccination of grow/finish animals, the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council is sponsoring the "Pennsylvania Vaccination Project." Producers with quarantined grow/finish herds are strongly encouraged to participate in this project. The success of preventing area spread of pseudorabies is dependent on maximum participation.

Participating producers will be asked to attend an initial informational meeting. Individual vaccination programs will be designed based on the situation of each individual farm. Management practices which include a vaccination program will be evaluated for performance and economic benefit.

It is anticipated that the results of the program will reduce the rate of new pseudorabies infections because of reduced virus circulation among grow/finish herds. With less circulating virus, all infected herds should have a better chance in eradicating the disease from their herds. It is hoped that with this intensive attack against PRV, Pennsylvania will soon be able to move into Stage III of the National PRV Eradication Program.

The project will also examine the economic value of vaccinating grow/finish pigs by looking at performance. Personnel from Penn State's Department of Veterinary Science, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will direct this program with the assistance of local practitioners. The project will allow for partial funding of cost of vaccinating grow/finish animals against pseudorabies on quarantined farms. Program personnel will provide guidance on vaccination techniques and will periodically visit the farms to check performance records.



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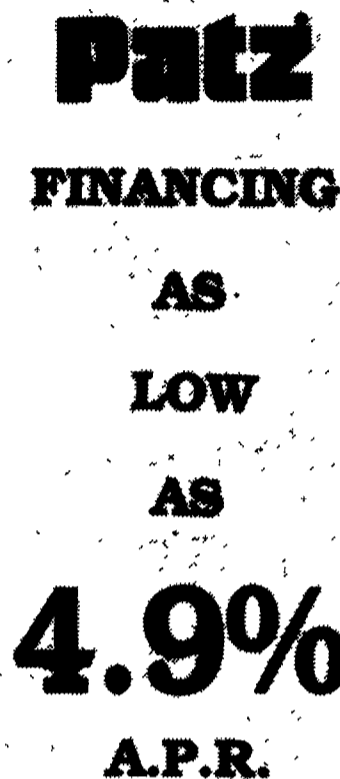
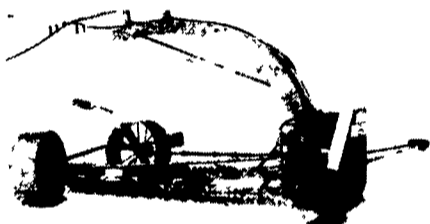
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- On trailer and truck models, the discharge door and discharge augers are controlled hydraulically.
- 8 sizes from 190 to 575 cubic feet.

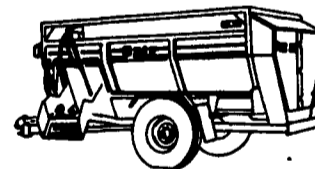
### Tumble Mixers

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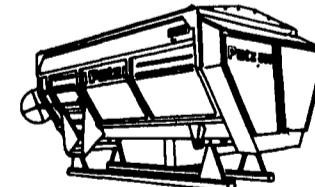
Affordable financing from Patz Financial Services

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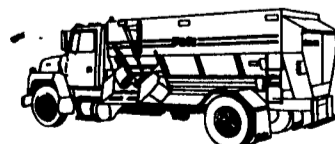
All Mixers Manufactured By Patz



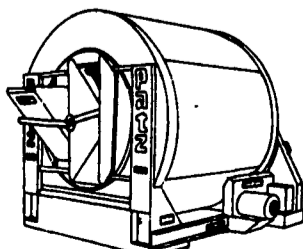
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Stationary auger mixers



Truck-mounted auger mixers



Tumble mixers

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