

# Nutrient Management Is CMA Annual Luncheon Topic

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Farmers who want to learn how Pennsylvania's recently implemented Nutrient Management Act may affect their operations should attend the 10th annual luncheon of the Pennsylvania Crop Management Association.

The luncheon is to take place Jan. 26 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in State College, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

State Rep. Jeffrey Coy is to be the keynote speaker. He is to discuss how the Nutrient Management Act originated, what its objectives are and who will be affected.

Michael Krempasky, director of DER's Bureau of Land and Water Conservation, will discuss nutrient management implementation and enforcement. John Longenecker, director of the State Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Plant Industry, will dis-

cuss certification of nutrient planners.

Other speakers include Dr. Lamartine Hood, dean of Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, Sen. Roger Madigan, and Dr. Al Turgeon, head of the agronomy department in the college.

The meeting also will provide an opportunity for members of the Pennsylvania Crop Management Association to feature their nutrient management programs.

The association was established in 1984 to work with local non-profit crop management associations (CMAs) in promoting sound cropping practices. Members pay acreage and membership fees in return for agronomic crop consulting services, which include soil sampling, weekly crop scouting, yield checks, field-specific computerized record-keeping and assistance in developing nutrient

and pest management strategies. Members pay an average of \$5.75 per acre for services.

"Not only have CMA farmers been developing nutrient management plans for years, but they also use a computer-based record-keeping system for documenting field-specific nutrient practices," said Jan Pruss, manager of the college's crop management program. "The association is proud of its

work in promoting management practices that sustain farm profitability and water quality."

Currently, nearly 500 farmers have 84,000 acres enrolled in CMAs. Ten local associations are affiliated with 34 Pennsylvania counties. As a result of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) approving integrated crop management cost-sharing for every county in Penn-

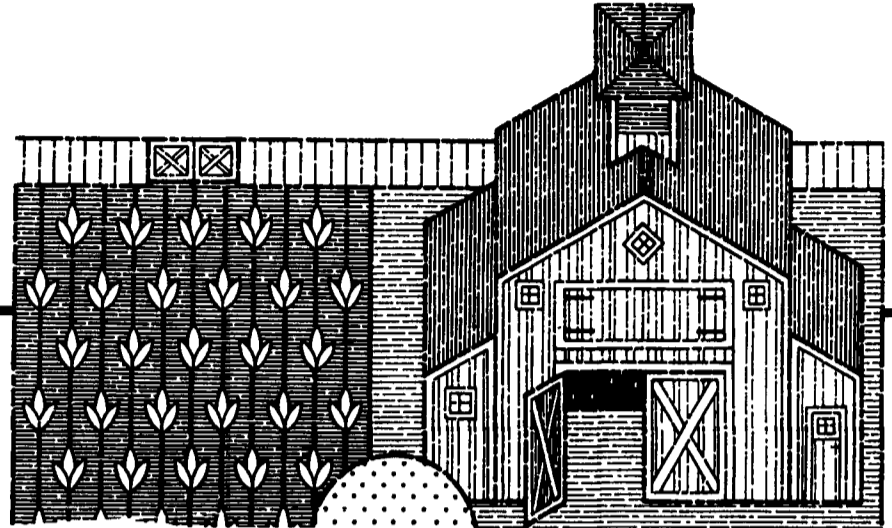
sylvania, CMAs hope to significantly increase membership in 1994.

Farmers who join will be eligible for cost-sharing where county offices of the ASCS approve the integrated crop management practice.

To register for the annual Pennsylvania Crop Management Association luncheon, contact Jan Pruss, at (814) 863-1020.



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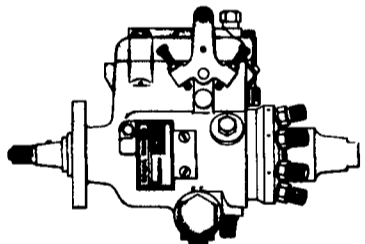
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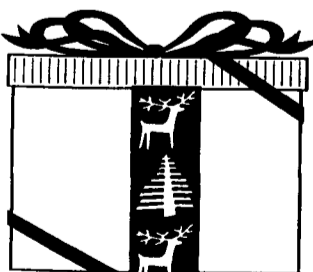
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