

American Forage And Grassland Council To Hold Conference

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC) will celebrate its 50th anniversary at a working conference to be held March 6-9 here at the Lancaster Host Resort.

The agenda for the AFGC Conference includes a trade show; premium hay judging; a showcase

of Pennsylvania agricultural products; invited speakers; a young scientist program, including scientific papers and posters on forage and grassland projects; a professional tour of Lancaster County; and a special tour for spouses. Dean Kleckner, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, is the featured speaker for the conference.

The AFGC promotes the profitable use of forage as a prime resource in the efficient production of feed, food, and fiber. It provides a forum for all interested parties in the private and public sector to get together in the exchange of information on the optimum production and utilization of forages. It also collects, analyzes, and disseminates technical and

economic information relating to forages.

Dean Kleckner Featured Speaker

Dean Kleckner, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, is slated as the featured speaker at the upcoming American Forage and Grassland Council Conference.

Kleckner serves on the U.S. Trade Advisory Committee. He was first appointed to that group by President Reagan and twice re-appointed by President Bush. Kleckner was a member and the only farmer on the U.S. Advisory team to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) when the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations was launched in 1986.

In 1988-1989, he served on the National Economic Commission.

That commission was formed to advise the president and Congress on ways to reduce the federal budget deficit while promoting economic growth. Kleckner also served on the board of directors of the National Livestock Producers Association and the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

He has been president of the American Farm Bureau Federation since 1986 and is serving his fourth term in office. He has been active in rural health issues serving on a commission on health care costs, and on the boards of Blue Cross and the Iowa Health Policy Corporation.

Kleckner and his wife, Natalie, operate a 350-acre corn, soybean, and hog farm in Rudd, Iowa. He annually markets about 1,800 hogs.

Shorthorn Breeders Hold Meeting

PROSPECT (Butler Co.) — The Pennsylvania Shorthorn Cattle Breeders Association held its annual dinner meeting at the Garden Gate Restaurant recently. Speaker was Donald Hunter, livestock extension agent, Butler-Lawrence counties. Hunter had a slide presentation taken in Oregon when he was associated with Port-

land Community College. Directors elected for three-year terms included Cindy Schneider, Butler; Bradley Eisiminger, Waynesburg; Richard Peoples, Volant; and Harold Kennedy, Valencia. Officers elected to serve in 1994 are Bradley Eisiminger, president; George Six, vice president; Mary Lou Peoples, treasurer; and

George Hunter, secretary. Members voted to hold the 1994 state show at the Washington County Fairgrounds on July 23. Don Cowden, Hickory, and David McElhaney will coordinate this event. The annual spring sale will be held at the Mercer 4-H Park on May 7.

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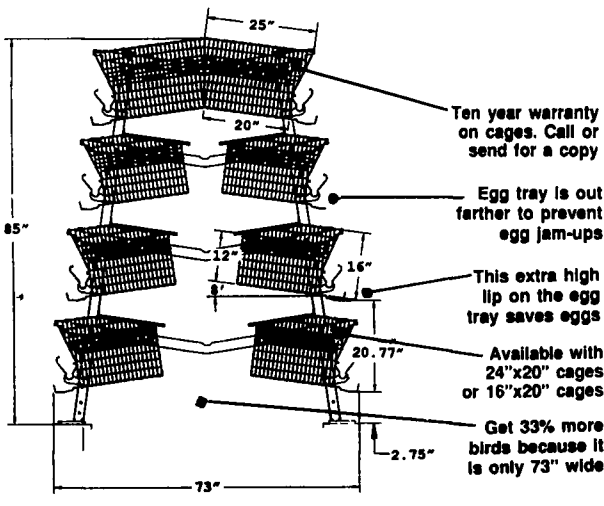
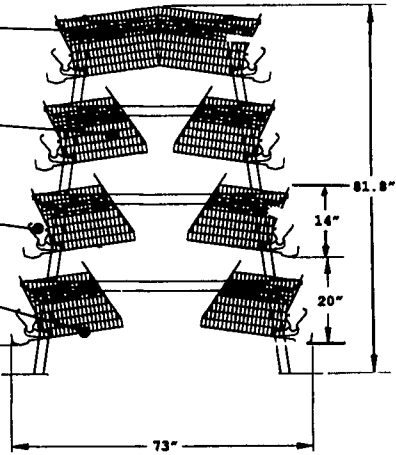
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Trade and Hay Show

Approximately 50 AFGC members will have booths and special exhibits at the indoor trade show. Exhibits will feature a variety of products, from the latest in seed varieties to recent advances in hay and forage harvesting mechanization.

Ford New Holland will have a special exhibit highlighting 50 years of growth in hay and forage mechanization. That exhibit will include the first automatic twine-tie, pickup baler — the New Holland Model 76, in addition to one of the company's newest balers.

A portion of the trade and exhibit area will be devoted to the display of quality hay samples submitted by entrants from all over the United States. Forage project posters, prepared by young scientists, will also be displayed in the exhibit area.

The Pennsylvania Night Dinner, showcasing Pennsylvania food specialties, will be held in the exhibit area. The dinner will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association, the Pennsylvania Apple Growers, the Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers, and the Pennsylvania Dairy Industry. The complimentary dinner will also give all attendees a chance to sample traditional Lancaster County Pennsylvania Dutch fare.

Professional Tour

The AFGC Professional Tour will focus on forages and their role in nutrient management. Visitors to Amish and "English" farms will see and hear how Pennsylvania's nutrient management legislation is affecting farming practices.

The tour includes a visit to one of Ford New Holland's Pennsylvania manufacturing plants. Located in the town of New Holland, the plant is responsible for all round and square baler production, in addition to the manufacture of a number of other products.

Time will be spent with company engineers to discuss how industry is responding to nutrient management concerns. Then tour participants will visit a local agriculture analysis laboratory and see how it has modified its services to meet the nutrient management needs of farmers.

The Spouse Tour

AFGC describes its Spouse Tour as three days of fun and informative activities arranged to make the conference a family affair.

Activities include visits to the Nissley Vineyards and Winery Estate, the Pfaltzgraff pottery factory and outlet, and the historic Lancaster Farmers Market and Heritage Center.

Spouses will also get a chance to "twist their own pretzels" as they visit the Julius Sturgis Pretzel House in Lititz — America's first pretzel bakery. Then they'll tour the Ephrata Cloister, an 18th century religious communal society.

Tour participants will be able to sample local cooking at restaurants such as the Kitchen Kettle in Intercourse. Then, they'll have time to walk through the many shops in the area.

For more information contact the American Forage and Grassland Council, P.O. Box 94, Georgetown, Texas 78627, or call AFGC headquarters at (800) 944-AFGC.

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