

Penn State Garners First Placings At NESA

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Each spring, college students from Pennsylvania to Maine gather for the Northeast Student Affiliate (NESA) of the American Dairy Science Association and the American Society of Animal Science.

This year's meeting was held during the last weekend in February and hosted by Penn State's Dairy Science and Block and Bridle clubs.

Sarah Johnson and Shannon Peterman co-chaired the event,

which began with registration and a social in the Agricultural Sciences and Industries Building.

Institutions represented at this year's meeting included University of Connecticut, Cornell University, University of Delaware, Delaware Valley College, University of Maine, University of Vermont, Vermont Technical College, and of course, Penn State.

Competition began on Saturday with a judging contest. Students judged a total of eight classes, including 3-year-old Holstein

cows, American Quarter Horse yearlings, Dorset yearling ewes, market hogs, Simmental heifers, Leghorn laying hens, hams, and frankfurters.

Penn State students garnered the first six placings and eight of the top 10 individual placings.

Nineteen four-person teams competed in the judging contest, with Penn State taking first, second, and third. The following students made up the Penn State teams (individual placings shown in parentheses): First place A Team included John Penny (2nd), Daryl Bomgardner (10th), Brenda Mahaliak (3rd), and Cathy Pavelski (5th); second place B Team included Tom Gibney (6th), Andy McIntire, John Foster (13th), and Chad Henry (1st); third place C team included Scott Myers (4th),

Bryan Dean, Jen Trout (8th), and Adam Tanis (17th).

In quiz bowl competition, the Penn State A team, made up of Henry Zerby, Andrew Morley, Thad Will, and Jason Ahola, placed first. The B team, including Jeff Hostetter, Jayne Hess, Vince Smith, and Ryan Mattocks, placed second. And the C team, with Ben McConaughy, Matt Espenshade, Brian McAllister, and Brenda Horgan, finished fourth out of 17 teams.

In the paper presentation contest, Marel Raub placed first with her topic, "The Impact of the Nutrient Management Act on Pennsylvania Dairy Farms." Michele Ruffing spoke on dispelling false propaganda being spread against the use of animal products. Her talk, "Fight Back," brought her a

fourth place. Jen Furl also presented a talk, "Stray Voltage and Its Impact on Cows and Lactation."

In the final two competitions of the weekend, Penn State also emerged victorious. Henry Zerby, a dairy and animal science major with dual minors in International Agriculture and Poultry Technology and Management, was selected as the NESA outstanding senior. This is the second time in three years that a Penn State student has been recognized with this honor.

In overall outstanding team competition, Penn State placed first, second, and fourth, overall, distinguishing Penn State as the outstanding student affiliate chapter in the Northeast region.

Next year's NESA meeting will be held at Cornell University.

Md. Announces Century Farm Program

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Governor William Donald Schaefer announced the creation of a Maryland Century Farm program to recognize Maryland farms that have stayed in the same family for a century or more.

"Our century farm families need to be recognized. They represent a durability and love of the land that is the heritage of Maryland," said Governor Schaefer. "Agriculture continues as Maryland's leading industry because of the hard work, dedication and innovation of our long time farm families."

The Maryland Century Farm Program will honor families whose farms have been in the same family for more than 100 consecutive years, contain at least 10 of the original acres, and gross more than \$2,500 annually from the sale of farm products.

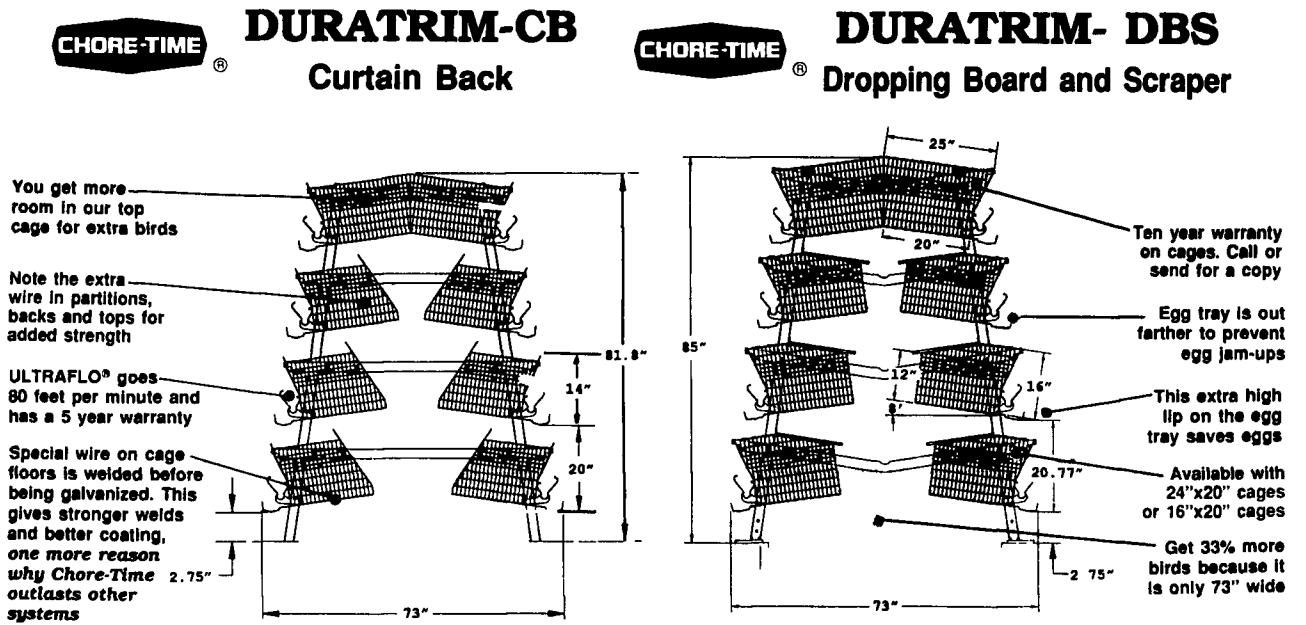
"I urge all those who think they may qualify to fill out an application. Century families will participate in an annual awards ceremony and receive a certificate from the Department of Agriculture and recognition by the governor," said Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Robert L. Walker.

Applications may be obtained from the Maryland Department of

Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401, or from local cooperative extension service offices.

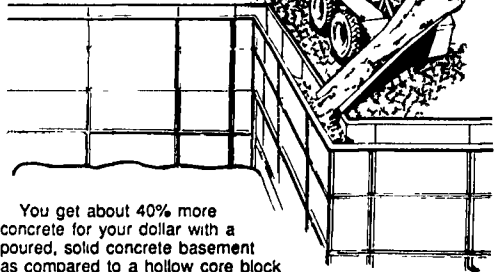
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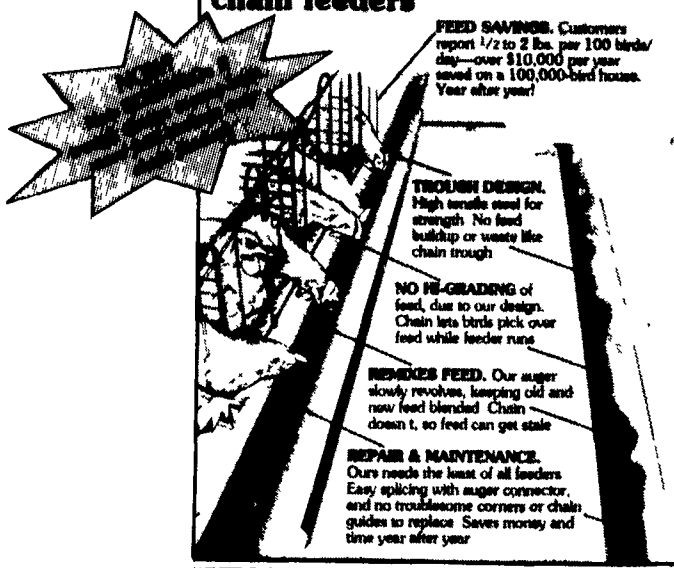
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