

Livestock Ledger

By
Chester D. Hughes
Extension Livestock Specialist

Sheep Shearing School

One thing is certain each year when it comes to raising sheep... shearing time!

Traditionally in Pennsylvania, the bulk of sheep are shorn in the spring and, as usual, extension agents get calls from flock owners searching for someone to perform the shearing task. Perhaps a way to solve this problem is for shepherds to learn the art themselves.

For the seventh time in eight years, the Lancaster County Sheep and Wool Grower's Association and Penn State Cooperative Extension will conduct a two-day sheep shearing school for area shepherds. During the past seven years, 116 individuals have been instructed in the art of sheep shearing at the Lancaster County school.

The school will be held on Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days at the Rod Nissley sheep flock near Campbelltown, Lebanon County. Mike Fournier, Bucks County extension agent, will serve as instructor for the school.

Cost for the school is \$15 for members of LSCWGA and \$25 for non-members. Shearing equipment will be provided by Penn State University.

For more information and registration details, call Chester D. Hughes, Lancaster County extension livestock agent, at (717) 394-6851 before April 4.

Lamb Marketing Cooperative Meeting

The mission of the Pennsylvania Sheep and Lamb Marketing Program is to strengthen and support the state's sheep industry through market development and livestock research. An extensive study of retail, ethnic, and mail-order market opportunities for Pennsylvania lamb was conducted by the Program's Market Development Steering Committee.

From this, sufficient market demand was found to warrant further business planning for a cooperative marketing association and a statewide survey was conducted to determine production practices, number of lambs sold, and interest in being involved in a lamb marketing venture.

Survey results indicated that 69 producers that marketed 8,853 lambs are interested in a marketing cooperative by the apparent willingness to finance it with up-front initial investment. Survey respondents appeared willing to adjust lambing schedules and alter management practices to provide

a consistent supply of lamb on a year-round basis.

Currently, the steering committee is conducting meetings across the state to discuss the marketing cooperative idea with sheep producers. A meeting for southeast Pennsylvania is being hosted by the Lancaster County Sheep and Wool Grower's Association and Penn State Cooperative Extension at 7 p.m. on April 11 at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

This marketing alternative session entitled "Getting The Most From Your Lambs" will be conducted by Larry Yager, Penn State extension marketing specialist. His guests will be John Shoemaker, Allensville and Charlie Cathcart, Dry Run, members of the Green Valley Lamb Marketing Cooperative.

This is an important meeting for southeast sheep producers to attend if there is a true desire to organize a lamb marketing cooperative in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania Beef Expo Educational Symposium

The Pennsylvania Beef Expo will be held at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg this year and again features an educational program for cattlemen. The Educational Symposium and Cattlemen's Conference will be held on Friday, April 8.

Following is the symposium schedule.

- ### Schedule of events — 9:00 a.m. Registration and Opening Session
- #### Breakout Sessions
- I. Handling Newly-Arrived Feeder Cattle
Vaccination and Health Programs
... Dr. Sam Baringer, West Virginia University
Update on Growth Promoting Implants
... Dr. Lowell Wilson, Penn State University
Starting Calves on Protein and Silage
... Dr. Steve Loerch, Ohio State University
 - II. Pasture and Forage Updates
Pasture Management Principles
... Dr. Marvin Hall, Penn State University
How to Make Rotational Grazing Work
... Mr. Peter LeVan, Penn State University
Matching Pastures to Animal Needs
... Dr. Harold Harpster, Penn State University
Harvesting and Storage of Big Bales of Hay: What is Best for Me?
... Dr. Dennis Buckmaster, Penn State University
 - III. The Nutrient Management Bill and Beef Production in Pa.
A Description of the Nutrient Management Bill
... Dr. Doug Beegle, Penn State University
The Political Perspective of Production Regulation for Beef
... Rep. Sheila Miller, Member, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Meeting the Requirements of the Bill in Beef Production
... Mr. Leon Ressler, Penn State University
(Turn to Page C4)

Poultry Pointers

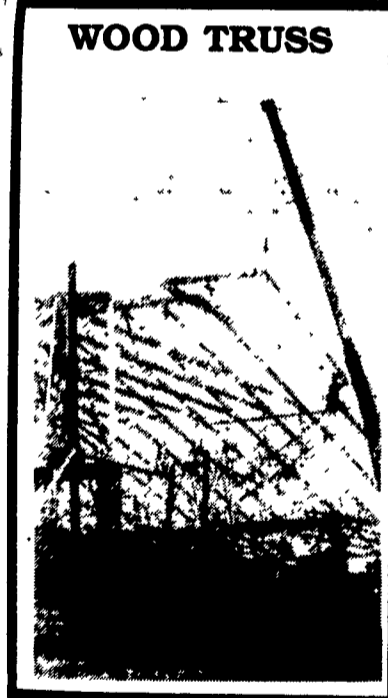
(Continued from Page C2)

viral trials or for growing various genetic stocks in preparation for moving into the cages are also located in this building.

The Processing Building is setup for slaughtering broilers and turkeys. Batch rather than in-line equipment will be used as relatively small numbers of birds will be processed at any one time, generally for determining yield and for collecting various tissues and organs for further analyses.

In addition to the above mentioned rooms and equipment, each building contains a laboratory where preliminary analyses can be conducted, as well as sample preparation for more involved studies to be performed in the departmental laboratories on campus.

The Poultry Science faculty is proud of its new facilities and is looking forward to showcasing them to the poultry industry and the public on Thursday, May 19. Therefore, if you have not already done so, make your plans now to be our guest on May 19 for the formal dedication ceremonies of the Penn State University Poultry Education and Research Center.



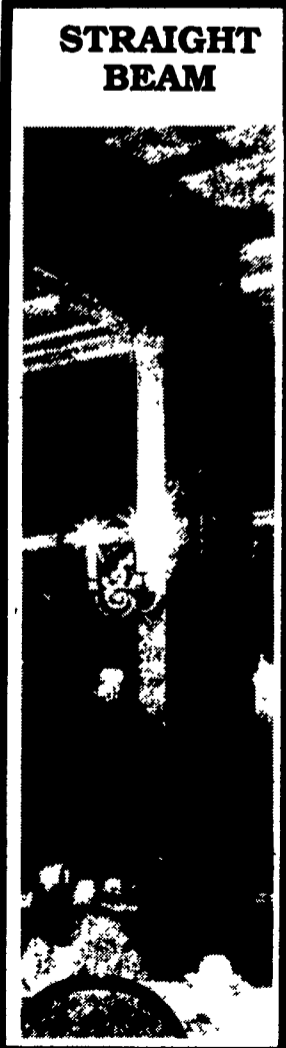
WOOD TRUSS

Family Farm to Architectural Innovation

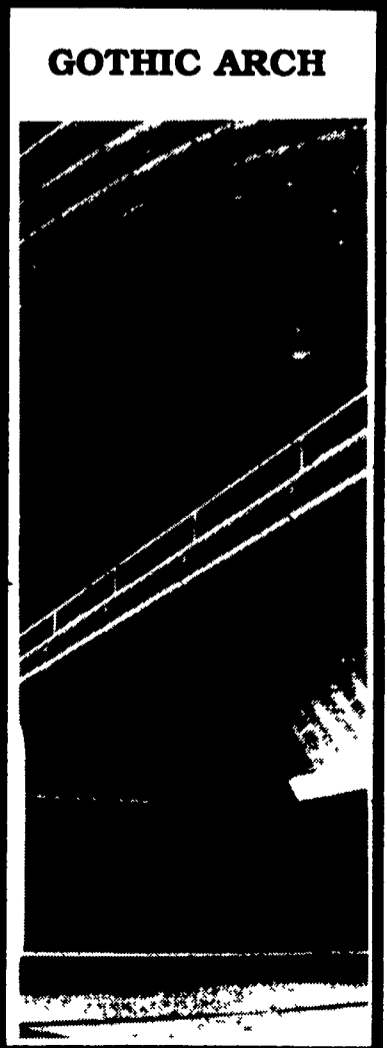
Over Thirty-Five Years Of Quality Service



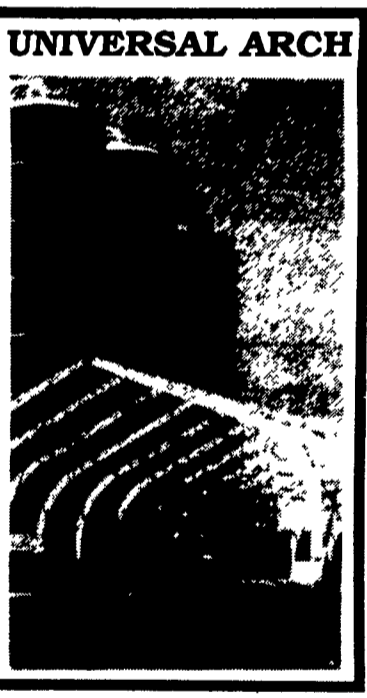
TUDOR ARCH



STRAIGHT BEAM



GOTHIC ARCH



UNIVERSAL ARCH

RIGIDPLY RAFTERS
INC.

MANUFACTURERS OF
LAMINATED RAFTERS
and WOOD ROOF TRUSSES

701 E. Linden St., RICHLAND, PA 17087

Telephone: 717-866-6581
Fax: 717-866-7237

- MANUFACTURERS OF
- GLU-LAM ARCHES
 - GLU-LAM BEAMS
 - GLU-LAM TREATED POSTS
 - ROOF TRUSSES
 - FLOOR TRUSSES
 - T&G AND V-GROOVE DECKING
 - WE CUSTOM DESIGN OR MATCH EXISTING BUILDINGS
 - COMPLETE LINE OF POST FRAME BUILDING MATERIALS
 - CRANE SERVICE



The Symbol Of Quality In Engineered Timber

Everyone at Rigidply Rafters, Inc is fully committed to serving our customers and providing them with the finest products available. The excellence that we strive for is to show our appreciation for our customers continued loyalty to Rigidply Rafters. You deserve the best!