

# Nutrient Monitoring

(Continued from Page A20)

rather than the 75-day or so now in use? Some varieties have shortened the time between silking and maturity.

• Using additional nitrogen fertilizer on silage corn. Trials have indicated that the protein content of corn silage increases more dramatically with nitrogen than yield does. Silage growers can add an additional 20 pounds of nitrogen per acre for silage corn.

• Technology to increase overall plant density per acre. The upper limit on plant density per acre for this area may be 34,000, as contrasted to northern states such as New York, where 40,000 plants per acre are possible with the shorter, cooler grower seasons.

Regardless, more research will be needed and more answers will

be provided to growers in the coming years, according to the corn specialist.

Also at the field day, emphasis was placed on correct timing of herbicide applications to small grains for effective weed control. For farmers who may be experiencing real problems with weeds, waiting to apply herbicide could cost in lost yields, according to Bill Curran, assistant professor, weed science and Penn State weed specialist. Growers should measure benefits vs. cost.

Elwood Hatley, Penn State agronomist, spoke about some of damage to wheat from fungus disease and sawflies. Marvin Risius, professor of plant breeding at Penn State, spoke about the various oat and barley variety trials under way. There was sawfly damage also to oat varieties at the test site.

## Vegetable, Small Fruit Field Day July 20

**ROCK SPRING (Centre Co.)** — Penn State researchers will be showcasing their vegetable and small fruit field research plots at this year's Vegetable and Small Fruit Field Day.

The open house at the University's Russell Larson Agricultural Research Center will be July 20. It is sponsored by the University and the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association.

The schedule for the day will be as follows:

8:00 a.m. Registration opens.

9:15 a.m. Wagon tours of research plots begin. Researchers be present to describe their projects on the horticulture and entomology farms. Bus tours to the plant pathology farm will also be offered.

12:30 p.m. Lunch served. A light lunch of a hoagie sandwich, fresh vegetables and dip, chips and melons is planned. Visitors can also talk with the exhibitors or inspect the variety trial plots.

2:00 p.m. Field equipment demonstrations begin including: Air-assisted electrostatic boom sprayer, No-till vegetable transplanter, Precision seeder for plastic mulch, Raised bed mulch layer with drip irrigation attachment, Monosem precision seeder, Thermal weed control, Pesticide container rinsing, Plastics disposal.

5:00 p.m. Field Day ends.

Many of the projects are partially supported by research grants from the Pennsylvania Vegetable Grower Assoc. and the Vegetable Marketing and Research Program.

To preregister, call PVGA by July 18 at (717) 473-8648. Walk in registrants will be charged an extra \$2. Preregistration is important to obtain good estimates of the food needed. The registration fee of \$8 for PVGA members and \$13 for non-PVGA members covers the association's costs for the lunch, morning and afternoon refreshments, bus rental and other expenses. Children under 18 will be charged \$5 for registration.

## Kutztown Fair Animal Entries

**Kutztown Fair Welcomes Animal Entries**  
Steers, market hogs, dairy cattle, sheep, goats and more are invited to the 123rd edition of the Kutztown Fair on August 8-13. This annual agricultural festival hosts some of the toughest animal competitions in eastern Pennsylvania.

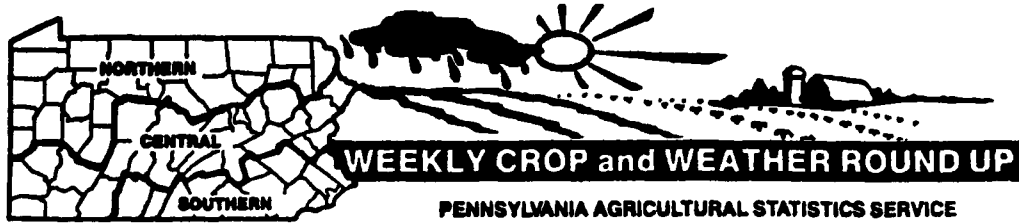
Berks and Lehigh County youth who participate in a bonafide 4-H and FFA animal project are encouraged to participate in the Kutztown Fair. This friendly competition is the culmination of a year's work for the participating youths.

Deadline for dairy cattle and livestock entries is July 11. Mail your entry to Donald W. Reinert, 76 Blue Rocks Road, Lenhartsville, PA 19534. Entry blanks are made available in the premium catalog. Please use an official entry form or photocopy.

Premium books are available at area stores and businesses, or contact the Kutztown Fair Office at (610) 375-7244 for a copy.



For farmers who may be experiencing real problems with weeds, waiting to apply herbicide could cost in lost yields, according to Bill Curran, assistant professor, weed science and Penn State weed specialist, left. At right is Dwight Lingfelter, extension assistant.



FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 19

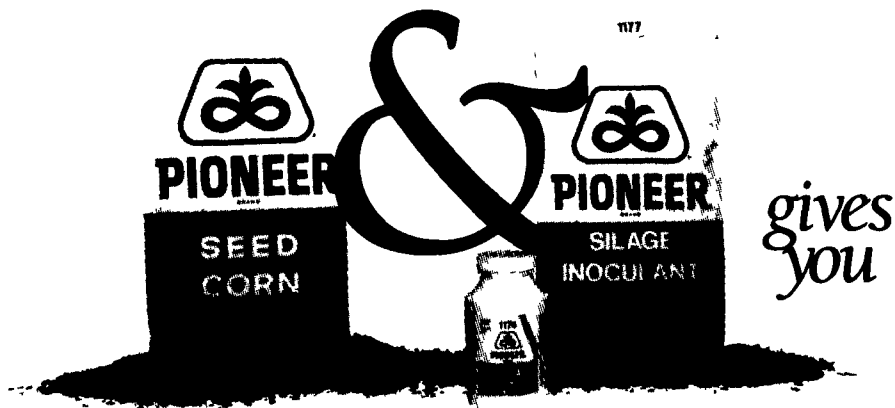
**GOOD WEEK FOR FIELDWORK:** There were five days suitable for fieldwork. This was the hottest week of the season and many crops suffered because of the lack of moisture and the hot conditions. Localized thunderstorms provided 2 to 3 inches of rainfall in some areas. Soil moisture was rated short by 40 percent of our respondents, adequate by 51 percent, and surplus by 9 percent. Activities included planting soybeans, transplanting tobacco, making hay, spreading fertilizer, hauling manure, and caring for livestock.

**CROPS:** Most areas of the state experienced unstable weather resulting in poor hay making conditions. Hay regrowth was slow because of the hot, dry weather. In areas that received rainfall, corn was growing rapidly. In other areas, corn suffered from lack of moisture. The corn height averaged 9 inches across the commonwealth.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture feed available was good but regrowth was slow because of the dry weather.

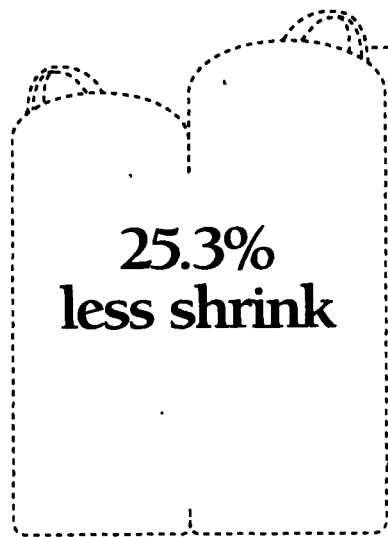
**VEGETABLES:** Infestations of Colorado potato beetles increased last week. Strawberry harvests continued with many reports of thrip damage.

**MILK AMERICA'S HEALTH KICK**



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