

# Beware Of Residues On Clothing

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Many farmers and gardeners in Pennsylvania will be applying pesticides to protect their plants from insect damage this growing season. Appropriate dress is vital, but it's also important to wash contaminated work clothes properly, said a safety specialist in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

"Don't overlook precautions like these when using pesticides," said Dr. Dennis Murphy, professor of agricultural engineering. "Some safety guidelines may seem drastic and time-consuming, but they will help to protect the health of you and your family."

If you will be applying pesticides, be sure to select appropriate clothing. "Start with a wide-brim hat, long-sleeved shirt, long pants and chemical resistant gloves," Murphy said. "Use unlined rubber, latex, neoprene or nitrile gloves. Never use leather or cloth. Wear sturdy work shoes or rubber boots, not sneakers or sandals."

Always wear appropriate per-

sonal protective equipment (PPE) when handling pesticides. "The pesticide label lists required protective clothing, as well as the product manufacturer's name and address," Murphy said. "It may be necessary to wear goggles, a face shield or a respirator depending on the label's guidelines."

Your work clothes probably will absorb some pesticide residues. "Treat any piece of clothing contaminated by pesticide residues with extreme caution," Murphy said.

"Research has shown that a single washing with no pretreatment can leave 18 to 48 percent of the pesticide in the fabric. Some pesticides are oil-based, which makes removing stains and residues even more difficult."

To avoid health risks, keep contaminated items in sealed plastic bags until they can be washed. "Wash clothes with pesticide residues as soon as possible, but always wash them separately from other laundry," Murphy said.

"Wear rubber gloves to sort and

load contaminated clothes into the washer. Discard any item that has been thoroughly saturated with concentrated pesticides. Be sure to unfold cuffs and empty pockets to remove pesticide granules, and use pretreatment or stain remover to remove oil-based residues."

Setting the washing machine

properly will help remove residues. "Use hot water, a full water level and a normal wash cycle," Murphy said. "Use about 1.5 times the normal amount of heavy duty detergent and run contaminated clothing through two to three full cycles to remove all residues. Run an empty cycle with hot water

and detergent before the washer is used again."

When possible, hang the clothing on a line to dry rather than risk contaminating the dryer.

Clean non-washables such as hard hats, goggles, and boots with hot, soapy water. Store them away from pesticide storage areas.

## Braund Valley Captures

(Continued from Page E10)

Daughter-Dam: 1. Pack Herd Holsteins; 2. Braund Valley; 3. Aldefer.

Spring Calf: 1. Elm Brook JPR Jasmine, owned by Amberleigh Yurkanin, of Columbia Cross Roads; 2. Elm Brook Eventide Carrie,

owned by Danny Peters, of Columbia Cross Roads.

Spring Yearling: 1. Sample Hill Bond, owned by Melissa Hillyard, of Ulster; 2. Elm Brook Trouba Paisley, owned by Heather Yurkanin, of Columbia Cross Roads.

Winter Yearling: 1. Elm Brook Blend Tyra, owned by John Yurkanin Jr.

Dry Cow Four Years and Under: 1. Foust Hill Emory Maria, owned by Melissa Hillyard; 2. Elm Brook RVC Galena, owned by John B. Yurkanin.



The Brown Swiss champions of the Troy Fair are displayed by, from the left, Amberleigh Yurkanin with the reserve junior champion; Melissa Hillyard with the junior champion; John Yurkanin with the reserve senior and reserve grand champion; Ben Hillyard with his senior and grand champion; Jani Burke, county dairy princess and Danielle Pepper, an alternate princess.

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