

Many Demonstrations Show The Technical Side Of Farming

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of the injector means normal manure solids, according to Reed, not garbage.

However, Reed said that the metal parts of the rotor distribution actually help to break up some of the solids. The rotating parts are protected from wear by a pad, that after wear, occasionally needs to be shimmed out.

The rotary system also needs to be lubricated prior to each day's use. There are lubrication ports for each disc and for other parts that require lubrication.

Another characteristic of the injector system is that each of the six sets of pairs of injectors can move left to right, so that contoured cuts, even circular cuts can be made.

Several people who have been actively following nutrient management efforts at the state level witnessed Tuesday's demonstration. Although not in a position to pass judgement on the equipment, they said the concept may be applicable to some current and conceivably future farming operations in Pennsylvania.

A related piece of machinery was a type of water cannon that also was designed and manufactured in Ireland. Lantz Sourbier, president of Enopcon, Chambersburg, imports the equipment, and discussed its operation. He said it is a pulser jet irrigator that initially was designed as a means for discharging milkhouse waste water out into a field without having to drive into the field and without creating a mess.

He stressed that it is not a slurry irrigator, but a waste water irrigator that can handle the liquid resulting, for example, from a facility that uses a separator to remove solids from manure and then sends the waste water to a lagoon for further settling.

With the jet irrigator, which uses a 3 horsepower Valdor, three-phase (can use single) positive displacement pump.

The irrigator is triggered to fire after pressure reaches 500 psi and a pressure sensitive valve trips open.

According to Sourbier, the machine is not designed to dispose of waste water, but to manage its use. The rate of discharge, based on intermittent firings, is about 660 gallons per hour.

The pump is restricted by temperature also, he said. It is not intended for use in freezing weather. However, its benefits are that it can reach out hundreds of feet, requires little power and little labor and can make use of waste water for irrigation.

The irrigator is portable and the demonstration unit was in tow behind a four-wheel all terrain vehicle. It also comes with 900 feet of hose and is effective up to a maximum of three miles from the source of waste-water, depending on slope. He said that a booster pump is necessary after 500 feet of hose is used.

The tomato harvester system demonstration, held in a specially planted field close to the large parking area, drew a larger audience.

Jim Garth, a Penn State extension specialist, was announcer for the demonstration. He said that the equipment demonstration was a joint project between two Pennsylvania agricultural concerns. Pic Rite Inc., of Lewisburg, manufacturer of the harvester, and Furman Foods, of Northumberland County, worked together on the project.

The several-acre field was planted mid-May with tomato variety, Heinz H9478, at a density of 10,500 plants per acre. Two weeks prior to the demonstration, the field was sprayed with ethrol, an agent that induces fruit reddening. Garth said that the timing of the demonstration was about a week prior to what would be considered optimum harvest conditions.

He said they expected to harvest from 32 to 35 tons per acre in the field and the harvested tomatoes were to be taken to Furman's cannery for processing.

The machine was Pic Rite model 190, and weighs 14,000 pounds and can transport from eight to 10 workers. Garth said the harvester can travel up to three miles an hour while harvesting and pick 30 tons of tomatoes per hour.

The machine is outfitted with a self-contained hydraulic system, with a four-stage hydraulic pump driven by the tractor PTO.

The machine seemed more on the order of a space vehicle in that it is self-leveling and at the same time, the head of the harvester also flexes to ride smoothly.

The price of the vehicle was estimated to run from \$85,000 to \$90,000 depending on the options selected.

Garth said that there were four things he wanted the audience to see: the head flexing, the hydraulic sliding tongue, the self leveling, and then a demonstration of the self-leveling while the head flexed, to show that the head follows the contour of the ground.

The demonstration run through the field harvested two rows of tomatoes before shutting down to allow the crowd to come into the field to inspect the machine.

With one man on the harvester, one man driving the tractor pulling the harvester, and another man driving another tractor with a wagon in tow to collect the harvest, the made quick work of the two rows.

As the crew went along the row, the color sorter sent the red tomatoes on to a conveyor which unloaded them into the wagon, while at the same time, green tomatoes were sent tumbling out of a side chute and at the same time, the tomato plant residue was discharged out of the back.

Lancaster 4-H Honors Scrapbook Winners At Achievement Night

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

Ten Lancaster County 4-H'ers were scheduled to receive gold ribbon Baby Blue Book awards Friday night at the annual 4-H Achievement Night at the Farm and Home Center.

Those receiving gold recognition for their project books are, first through third year, Megan Holloway, Kirsten Kauffman, and Ken Cramer; fourth through sixth year, Barb Hall, Carol Hollingsworth, and Samara Shuster-Edelson; and seventh year and up, Kim Lefevre, Kandi Mullen, Lynette Leaman, and Maggie Strausbaugh.

More than 200 4-H'ers and their family and friends, representing more than 60 county clubs, were expected to attend the recognition festivities, according to Zoann Parker, extension 4-H agent.

"This is a prestigious event, to win at the Lancaster County level," said Parker. She said the honor means a lot to those participating, since the 4-H'ers are "competing against their peers."

4-H'ers from across the county participated in the event, which takes into account all their years of membership in the club, from 8 years old through 19. To compete, 4-H'ers are required to keep an extensive record book, also called a scrapbook, of their participation in 4-H events, project record keeping, and indicate the ways in which they have contributed to 4-H and to the community at large.

Parker commends the 4-H'ers who participated in the event. She said that the summer has been typi-

cal of a "very, very strange year," with the record number of school days lost because of snow. Because so many schools were open so late in the summer season, Parker said that it was hard to schedule and participate in many activities, and many families had difficulty adjusting.

Lancaster 4-H members who will represent Pennsylvania at the national congress in Florida are Eric Wenger, Mark Tracy, Kirsten Kauffman, Joy Young, Kandi Mullen, and Sara Strickler. Scholarship winners are Jesslyn Oberholtzer, \$1,000; Heather Ranck, \$1,000; Lynette Leaman, \$500; and Mark Leaman, \$200.

Forty-four 4-H members traveled to Penn State for the recent 4-H Achievement Days.

Following is a list of 4-H'ers honored.

ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT LIST OF HONORS

4-H Achievement Days

Senior Archery, First Place Team: Tim Everett, Chris Reeder, Kandi Mullen, and Mike Hartman. Junior Archery, First Place Team: Brian Druck, Josh Sheetz, Derek Stoner, and Jason Young. Fashion Review, first place, Cara Regitz. Junior Air Rifle, second place team, Ken Cramer, Melissa Koser, and Kristen Koser. Junior Livestock Judging, second place team, Gerald Boyd, Regina Landis, Dean Livengood, and Travis Donough. Senior Livestock Judging, second place, Tracy Bollinger, Jay Hess, Dale Livengood, and Lisa Reiff. Senior Meats Judging, Amy Bollinger, Keith Bollinger, Peter Hoffines, and Mark Tracy. Junior Horse Judging, Katie Nagle, Erin Smith, and Jodelle Stahl. Public Speaking, third place, Kari Moyer. Club Scrapbook: Boots and Saddles and Saddle Cinches.

Sheep Dressing Contest at 4-H Fair: Kathy Musser, Kerra Allen, Michael Musser, Sara Zurlin.

Senior Showman Contest Winner: Emily Algoe. Junior Showman: Amy Bollinger.

Honor Roll Winners: Junior: 1. Jessica Schmidt. 2. Nicole Sheetz. Senior: 1. Mike Hartman. 2. Kirsten Kauffman. 2. Josh Sheetz.

This inflatable tractor attracted visitors' attention during Ag Progress Days.



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W. Va. Livestock Roundup

Jackson Mills 4-H Camp, WESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

400 calves groomed and halter broken, steers and heifers. A large percentage of show quality calves with club calf genetics, complete health requirements and on grain.

Saturday, September 17:

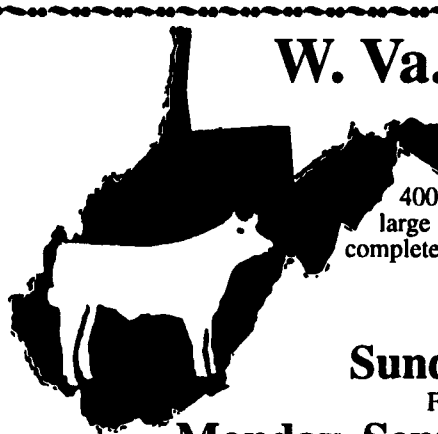
4-H/FFA Steer and Heifer show plus showmanship.

Sunday, September 18:

Farmer and Overall Champion Show plus grooming contest.

Monday, September 19:

Sale, 10:00 a.m.



A family oriented program planned for the benefit of the beginner as well as the professional.

For more information contact:

Phil Osborne, W.V.U. Extension (304) 293-3392
Sandy Smith, President (304) 538-2397
Mike McClintic, V. President (304) 392-5648
Meals and Lodging (800) 287-8206