White Oak Mills Holds Open House

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster County) - An open house, mill tour, and pork barbecue meal attracted more than 800 dairy, swine, and poultry producers and their families to White Oak Mills recently.

White Oak Mills, a poultry and livestock feed manufacturer serving Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware, held an open house at its Elizabethtown headquarters to celebrate the completion of its recently remodeled and expanded computerized mill.

White tents, weighted by attractive displays of White Oak Mills feed bags, straw bales and fall decor, provided a friendly, pleasant atmosphere as agricultural industry people and White Oak Mills employees shared fellowship. Flowers and ivy arranged in carved pumpkins decorated rows of tables in one tent, where customers enjoyed a pork barbecue and dairy product meal served by White Oak Mills employees.

In another tent, customers congregated in front of appealing booths to learn of White Oak's extensive services and products, while White Oak's nutritionist and geneticist answered producers' questions. Meanwhile, the company's ProGenetics division exhibited its newest line of Pietrain and Danish Durocs and F1 gilts as additional groups gathered for mill tours.

A representative from Carl S. Akey, a leading animal nutrition consulting company headquartered in Lewisburg, Ohio, also participated in the open house and discussed a new licensing agreement, which the Akey company recently signed with White Oak Mills. Granted to only select feed manufacturing companies, the licensing agreement allows the Pennsylvania-based company to produce and market Akey premixes. White Oak Mills then passes the savings on to its customers.

Open house attendees also had an opportunity to tour the mill facility from start to finish. Following White Oak's railroad tracks, on which quality ingredients are delivered daily, tour groups were first given a brief history of the 19-year-old familyowned company started in Manheim, by brothers Mark and John Wagner.

White Oak Mills, after 10 years of remodeling and expanding its current Elizabethtown operation, now has constructed a new feed mill to more efficiently meet its customers' needs. Producing 180,000 tons of feed per year, White Oak Mills prides itself on

many newly developed White Oak products. Personalized Fortification Blends, manufactured utilizing White Oak's new premixes, is a unique vitamin and mineral product balanced to match protein and grain sources on the farm. Other new products include Turbo Protein AV, which provides dairy cows with a high-quality, amino acid-balanced protein source, and Nutri-Catalyst, a rumen modulator designed to improve fermentation and digestion. Additionally, White Oak's calf starters, formulated to contain palatable, nutrient-rich ingredients for better intake and growth of calves, are being improved as a result of recent research by Dr. P.V. Reddy, White Oak Mills' dairy technical services director.

In addition to manufacturing nearly 650 feeds, concentrates, mineral premixes and specialty items created for virtually all animal types, White Oak Mills handles private label manufacturing and packaging for numerous companies.

Tour guides also emphasized White Oak's dedication to quality control standards, which are practiced throughout the manufacturing plant. Mill management, purchasing and laboratory personnel closely coordinate quality control, with communications, education, documentation and a set of carefully written procedures proving vital to the program's success. First, White Oak Mills' purchasing department implements quality control standards so to guarantee that only the finest ingredients are used to manufacture White Oak products. Then, before feed ingredients are unloaded from incoming railcars or trucks, welltrained mill receivers enforce the ingredient standard program through proper inspection, sampling and testing of each ingredient.

Amidst rows of White Oak Mills' bagged products, tour groups observed how premixes such as White Oak Mills' Personalized Fortification Blends are fine-tuned and customized, complete with the producers' own tags, to complement each producer's constantly changing needs. Akey premixes also maximize the premix manufacturing plant.

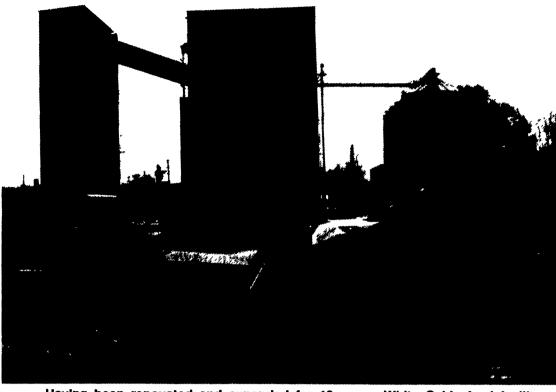
White Oak Mills' expansion provides the company with additional manufacturing capabilities. Pelleted pig starters, prestarters and other specialty products are created with its new pellet mill, while high molasses horse and textured calf feeds are now manufactured with its new Tender

Blender, specially designed to gently coat and process feeds for baby calves.

More efficient than the older manufacturing facility, White Oak's new mill utilizes a compu-

feed load-out bins in the new

ter to precisely control the amount drive-through truck load-out facilof ingredients to be weighed and ity, while automated bagging sysmixed according to precise formu- tems package bagged feed. White las. Finished feed products are Oak Mills trucks then deliver the then transported to one of 32 bulk quality finished feed directly to its customers.



Having been renovated and expanded for 10 years, White Oak's feed facility includes a new truck load-out facility, left, pellet mill, and a mineral premixer to better meet its customer's individual needs.



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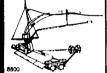
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Groups gathered on White Oak Mills railroad tracks to

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