

# E-I-E-I-O

(Continued from Page A30)

made. The solution was the development of a manually operated sorting device that simplifies the task (see "Development Of A Simple Forage And TMR Particle-Size Separator").

In keeping with the mission of the Department of Dairy and Animal Science to facilitate transfer and application of relevant information and to develop and implement programs in the public interest, the Dairy Cattle Nutrition Extension Group is working on a "cafeteria menu" of educational programs that can be tailored to individual needs in the feed indus-

try. A recent offering was November's Dairy Feed Industry Seminar, an educational program on timely issues and topics related to nutrition and feeding management. Nearly all of those attending at one of four sites said the material was "practical and useful," and rated both speakers and the program overall "outstanding."

Plans call for a repeat of last February's highly successful Dairy Nutrition Teleconferences and Workshops, offered at 35 locations in Pennsylvania and six nearby states. The workshops, which reached more than 500 people, combined local hands-on activities

conducted by extension agents and interaction with University faculty via satellite. As a result of these workshops, Penn State experts have been invited to present papers at two national symposiums in 1995.

This year's sessions — expected to reach nearly 700 farmers at nearly 50 locations across eight states — will take participants, via satellite, through a feed mill, on farm tours, and even inside the rumen of a dairy cow!

Using satellite communication for technology transfer, extension specialists can deliver information to far more people in a matter of hours than what used to take two people nearly a month of statewide travel. In preparation for their role as facilitators at the satellite conference down-link sites, county agents attend inservice sessions — many also via satellite — that prepare them to lead the workshops. In turn, they benefit from the additional training and are better prepared to educate at the local level.

Among other activities of Penn State's Dairy Cattle Nutrition Extension Group will be a Nutrition Inservice in March to teach troubleshooting skills to feed mill owners, sales representatives, and veterinarians. Smaller workshops are also in the planning stages for feed industry professionals.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Jud Heinrichs, (814) 863-3916.

While Dick Adams's legacy obviously will continue to influence the feeding of dairy cattle in Pennsylvania and beyond, the torch has been passed on to a new group of authorities whose partnered efforts will bring Penn State's resources to an even wider and more diverse audience.

## Adams Steps Back, Not Down

Richard S. Adams became a legend during his nearly 40-year tenure at The Pennsylvania State University. His efforts on behalf of dairy producers were multiplied many times by the close working relationships he forged with county extension personnel, industrial nutritionists, veterinarians, and farm organizations over the years. Adams assisted dairy farmers thousands of times with myriad serious problems. His innate ability to inform, motivate, and organize people resulted in widespread adoption of many novel practices and programs that proved successful on dairy farms.

Adams was recognized as a top dairy cattle nutritionist at local, state, national, and international levels. Even Lyndon Johnson and Bill Clinton have sought his advice on matters agricultural.

Since his retirement early in 1992, Adams has functioned in more of a "behind-the-scenes" role in Dairy and Animal Science Extension. These days you're just as likely to find him on stage with a popular local band, The Bavarian

Stompers, or serving as hunting-camp cook. Much of his summers are now spent at his favorite place in the world — a small inn on an island off the coast of Maine which he manages alongside his long-time partner, wife Marilyn.



Richard S. Adams  
Emeritus Professor  
Penn State

## Research Findings

Development of a simple forage and TMR particle-size separator

### Participants

Jud Heinrichs, Dennis Buckmaster, and Brian Lammers

### Objective

Develop a simple device to measure forage and TMR particle size and characterize particle-size distribution so feed recommendations can be made.

### Approach

Characterizing and interpreting particle size allows consultants and farmers to refine feeding programs. An existing ASAE standard instrument requires use of a motorized device with five sieves and a bottom pan. Penn State's simplified, manually operated device mimics this with only two sieves and a bottom pan.

### Rationale

Forage particle length affects both silage fermentation and utilization by ruminant animals. Dairy cows require fiber for maintenance of rumen function. Rumination and cud chewing stimulate production of saliva, which buffers the rumen.

### Summary

Forage particle length, as well as distribution of particles in a TMR, can be important factors in formulating diets for dairy cows. This is of particular importance when the forage portion is low or when total dietary NDF is marginal and coming largely from by-product sources. Measuring forage and total diet particle length is a useful nutritional tool, together with forage analysis and ration formulation.

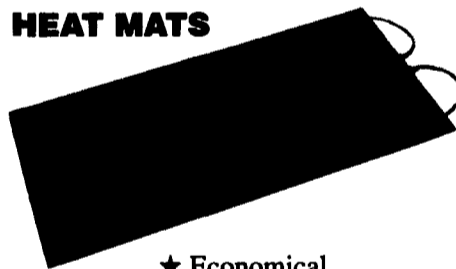


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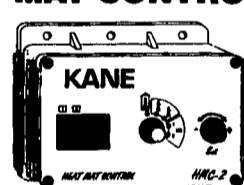
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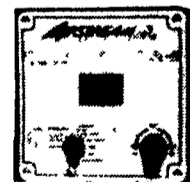
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