

Landscapes, Lawns, Gardens At Ag Progress

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)—Whether you plan to sell your house in the near future or live there in your golden years, having a beautiful landscape can improve its market value and make it a nicer place to live. You can learn how to improve your home's landscape at Penn State's Ag Progress Days, August 15-17.

The College of Agricultural Sciences Exhibits Building, on West 11th Street, will feature displays of interest to homeowners, landscape contractors and grounds maintenance professionals. Top-

ics will range from computer-assisted landscape design to the selection and care of ornamental plants and turfgrass.

Landscape your home doesn't have to cost a lot of money all at once, and it can be a good investment. According to a recent study at Clemson University, professionally landscaped homes can fetch a 4 to 5 percent higher price on the market than homes with less landscaping.

"Whether you do it yourself or hire a professional, landscaping can be accomplished in stages

over several years," said Dan Stearns, assistant professor of landscape contracting. "This can make the project more feasible and affordable. Our exhibits will show the various stages of the landscaping process."

Those who want to create their own landscape, or better understand how landscape professionals work, can learn the steps of landscaping—taking an inventory of site characteristics; constructing walkways, decks, and other hardscape features; choosing plants and other materials; and adding the finishing touches to a completed landscape.

Also shown will be a computer-aided design (CAD) system, which many landscaping firms now use to develop computerized landscape designs.

"CAD systems allow landscape professionals to develop and alter landscape designs with the click of a button," Stearns said. "They can demonstrate to a homeowner what a newly planted landscape

will look like in five years, 10 year, 20 years, or longer. Many firms have found the system to be a useful marketing and educational tool."

"We're featuring landscape improvement from several vantage points, including planting and maintaining ornamentals and caring for turfgrass," said J. Robert Nuss, professor of ornamental horticulture. "Visitors can see how numerous trees, shrubs and flowers can fit into their landscape and can learn how to maintain a high-quality lawn."

Those who are inspired by the landscaping exhibits can visit the

Landscape, Lawn and Garden Tent, next to the College Exhibits Building. "Penn State faculty and cooperative extension agents will be on hand to give advice on indoor and outdoor plants, turf, flowers, tree fruit, small fruit vegetables," Nuss said.

"People can see examples of annual flowers that have been selected for trial in the All American process at Penn State," Nuss said. "A display will provide information on the All American system of plant improvement and selection."

For more information, call (800) PSU-1010 toll-free from July 10 to August 17.

East Central District

(Continued from Page E30)



Jersey junior champions at the East Central District 4-H/FFA Dairy Show. Back, from left, SUN Area dairy maids Jennifer McWilliams and Jolene Adam, reserve junior champion Jersey Melissa McWilliams of Beavertown, SUN Area Dairy Miss Tina Adam, junior champion Jersey exhibitor Shaun Landis of Milton, and SUN Area Dairy Princess-Becky Dugan. Front, from left, SUN Area dairy misses Kim Adam and Amanda Shaffer.

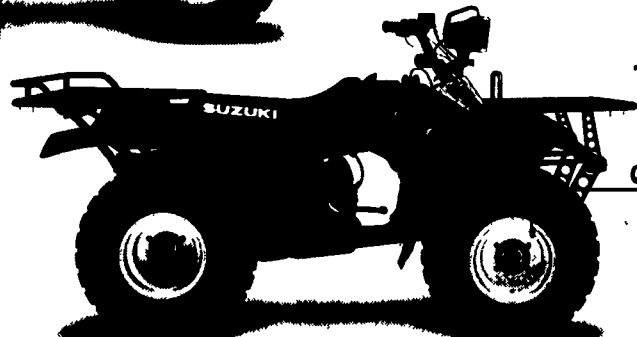
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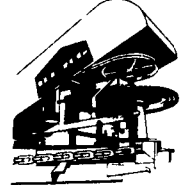
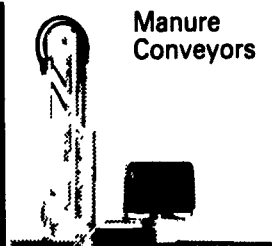
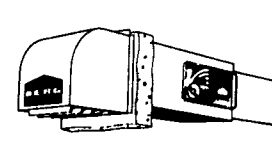
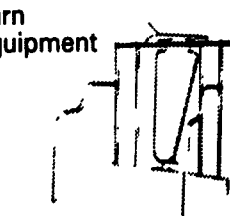
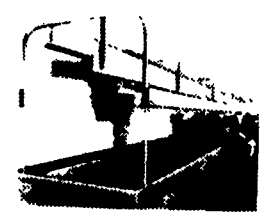


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