

Forage Quality Highlight Of Conference

TUNKHANNOCK (Wyoming Co.) — On Tuesday morning, Nov. 14, the '95 Quality Forages Conference will get under way at the Shadowbrook Inn and Convention Center.

Livestock farmers will not want to miss this event. The conference will bring together speakers, specialists, and producers from around the northeast United States.

The conference is being organized by a committee involving regional Penn State Cooperation Extension offices and the Endless Mountains and Pocono Resource Development and Conservation Services. The Pennsylvania Forage and Grasslands Council together with Northeast Farm Credit, ACA are sponsoring the meeting and providing refreshment breaks. Ag business and service providers will be on hand to exhibit their trades.

Forage quality is, and will continue to be, of utmost importance in an area like northeastern Pennsylvania where the primary market for our forages is through a livestock enterprise.

At this time, over one-half million forage producing acres exist in northeast Pennsylvania. Since the late 1980s, that acreage has decreased approximately 10 percent while livestock numbers have remained comparatively constant. The ability of farmers in this region to market quality forages through livestock products will have a very large and direct influence on the economic well-being of their farms, agribusinesses, and the greater economic community at large.

Forage producers attending the meeting, whether they graze animals or rely on machine-harvested crops, will better understand how management affects forage quality.

The conference aims to cover all aspects of forage management from production to harvesting to storing and to feeding quality forages.

Preregistration is required. The \$12 registration fee will provide refreshments, lunch, and the conference proceedings to each individual. Registrations must be mailed or delivered to the Susquehanna County Cooperative Extension office, 31 Public Avenue, Montrose, PA 18801, by Monday, Nov. 6.

Following the keynote address by Dr. Sid Bosworth, professor of agronomy from the University of Vermont and formerly associated with the Penn State Agronomy Department, participants can choose among breakout sessions in one of two conference tracks. One track will follow a program more suited to producers who pasture their livestock while another

track will focus on the mechanically-harvested issues of managing quality forages.

The agenda is as follows:
95 Quality Forages Conference
Tuesday, November 14

8 a.m.

Doors Open for Sponsors and Exhibitors.

9 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.

Registration, and Visits with Exhibitors.

9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Introductions - Tom Murphy, Lycoming County Extension Agent.

Keynote Address - Dr. Sid Bosworth, Agronomy Professor, University of Vermont.

10:15 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Pasture Track — Pasture Fertility - Dr. William L. Stout Jr., USDA Pasture Research Laboratory, Penn State University.

Mechanical Track — Alternative Forage Systems - Dr. Harold

Harpster, Professor of Dairy and Animal Science, Penn State University; Dave Hartman, Columbia County Extension Agent.

11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Pasture Track — Forage Species - Traditional and Non-Traditional - Darrell Emick, NYS Grasslands Specialist, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Mechanical Track — Sampling and Testing Forages - Dr. Sid Bosworth, Professor of Agronomy, University of Vermont; Nick Place, Susquehanna County Extension Agent.

Noon - 1 p.m.

Lunch.

1 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Pasture Track — Frost-seeding, No-till, and Pasture Renovation - Lynn D. Hoffman, Senior Research Associate and Manager of the Russell E. Larson Agronomy Research Farm, Penn State Uni-

versity.

Mechanical Track — Methods of Mechanical Feeding - Options - Dr. Harold Harpster, Professor of Dairy and Animal Science, Penn State University.

1:45 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Break.

2 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Pasture Track — Supplemental Feeding - Dr. Lawrence Muller, Professor of Dairy and Animal Science, Penn State University.

Mechanical Track — Storage Options - Dr. Dennis Buckmaster, Professor of Agricultural Engineering, Penn State University.

2:45 - 3:15 p.m.

Panel Discussion.

3:15 p.m.

Adjourn.

The Shadowbrook Inn and Convention Center is located on U.S. Route 6 approximately 2 miles east of the red light in Tunkhannock at the intersection of U.S. Route 29. Any questions can be directed to your local extension office.

Penn State Advisory Council Hears Good News, Takes Legislators On College Tour

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

MIDDLETOWN (Dauphin Co.) — The Penn State Agricultural Council heard college and university officials report some good news at their semi-annual meeting Wednesday afternoon. Two items were especially gratifying. Enrollment is up, and Graham Spanier, Penn State University's new president, has become an outspoken advocate of the College of Agricultural Sciences, especially in relation to funding from the state legislature.

Associate Dean James Mortensen said overall enrollment is

up, as is almost every major in the ag sciences programs. The total number of students is now over 3,300, and this makes Penn State the largest ag sciences college in the Big Ten. Enrollment is up more on the 17 outer campuses than it is at the main campus in State College.

Mortensen announced the agribusiness day to be held Nov. 2 on the main campus and said the College of Ag Sciences has the largest scholarship program of all the colleges at Penn State University.

Rich DiEugenio, from the office of government affairs at Penn

State, praised President Spanier for his attention to the budget needs for ag research and extension. The budget squeeze has caused layoffs in ag extension because the legislature has not increased funding for a number of years. But he said we now have Spanier's leadership as an advocate who calls attention to the plight of the line items in the budget that are needed to increase funds to the college.

While President Spanier has asked for a reasonable 4.9 percent increase for the total University program, he has singled out ag research and extension line items

to receive 11.4 percent increase. He is making the case about what has happened because of this lack of funding as he travels across the state and as he meets with legislators in Harrisburg.

Dean Lamartine Hood agreed, saying we are blessed with a leader in President Spanier who understands the unique needs of your college. He said he believes Spanier is committed to change what Hood called the longstanding downward spiral. "Spanier is persistent, repetitious, clear, and committed to what the college is all about," Hood said.

Other discussion included a report on the process of selecting a new dean for the College of Ag Sciences. Council president Jay Rush announced a meeting set for Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon for the council's board of directors to hear from the ag community what considerations should be made in selecting the new dean. More information about this meeting can be found by calling Pat Heuser, director of industry relations at Penn State. Phone: (814) 863-9646.

Following the council meeting, members boarded a bus to the state Capitol to pick up legislators for the ride to Reading in Berks County and a reception and banquet. The overnight event was planned to acquaint state and local government officials with the college. President Spanier was the keynote speaker.

After lodging overnight at the Sheraton Berkshire, the legislators were given a tour of the Penn State Berks campus and later made a stop at Way-Har Farms for a tour of the dairy operation and retail store with Bill and Lolly Leshner on the trip back to Harrisburg.

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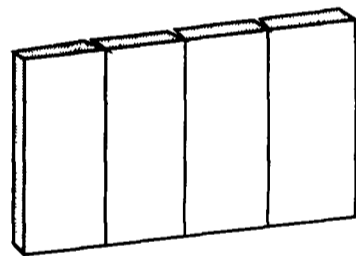
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