



MAKING THE 1996 PA. FARM SHOW THE BEST EVER!

As young people from around the commonwealth prepare their junior breeding and market animals for the 1996 PA Farm Show, I am certain they have their own ideas about what they expect from their mid-winter experience in Harrisburg.

Most want to win, but all of them want to exhibit.

Most of us associated with junior livestock programs in Pennsylvania realize that the young people who exhibit livestock are winners. But what will it take to make the 1996 Pennsylvania Farm Show junior livestock shows the best ever?

I am certain there are several things that come to mind, but let me share four items that I believe will provide the foundation for a tremendous display of junior livestock projects at Farm Show.

Safety

Our first priority always should be safety! Consider the following situations:

- Traveling to and from the show ring, a heifer is "spooked," and what happens next is anyone's guess. What should we do? Gather the heifer... remain calm... find an isolated spot out of the general flow of people.

- Driving hogs to and from the show ring, a pig gets its head down between the legs of a 4-year-old and the next thing you know the pig is trotting down the alley with a screaming, scared youngster draped across its shoulders. What should we do? Grab the child around the torso (grabbing him by the arm or leg could cause more harm)... remain calm... let someone else gather the pig.

- The gate to a sheep pen has been left open slightly... as a Suffolk yearling ewe pushes on the open gate, the gate begins to fall to the ground because it was improperly fastened at the other end. What should we do? Grab the gate and securely fasten the hinged end... remain calm... let someone else gather the ewe and return her to the pen. A falling gate will probably cause more damage than a ewe in the alleyway. This episode is not so absurd, as an

improperly secured gate at KILE fell on a youngster and broke his femur.

Take care of the most dangerous aspect of the situation first!

General rule number 18 on page 11 of the Pa. Farm Show Premium List states, "Any movement of animals from one place to another within the Farm Show Complex must be done with two people controlling the movement, one person to lead or control the animal, the other to position him/herself to provide cautionary warnings to the public."

Whenever we mix animals and humans in unfamiliar surroundings, especially with the number of spectators who visit the Farm Show annually, we undoubtedly experience some potentially dangerous situations. Remain calm!

Timeliness

A quick glance at the schedule of events for the Pa. Farm Show clearly indicates that there is a considerable number of events occurring simultaneously.

Become familiar with where and when specific activities are to be held. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to know where to be at a given time. This would include the following Junior Livestock rule on page 36 of the Pa. Farm Show Premium List:

Exhibitor Responsibility — It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to see that their animal is present at the specified time and place for weighing, showing, and selling.

A schedule of activities pertinent to the junior livestock shows (arrival, check-in, weighing, showing, and selling) are listed below. If you have questions, refer to the premium list or consult the appropriate chairperson of the species.

Cooperation

Most exhibitors and staff have considerable time commitments at Farm Show and are not looking for something else to occupy their time, but situations arise where a "helping hand" is welcomed graciously.

Exhibitors help other exhibitors fit, lead, show, etc., and the sharing of volunteer staff is not uncommon.

To make the 1996 Pa. Farm

Show the best ever, lend a helping hand when asked or, better yet, volunteer to help. The staff at Farm Show will appreciate the extra effort and other exhibitors will be grateful as well.

Sportsmanship

Graciously accept defeat, and humbly embrace victory!

Disbaraging remarks about the judge, a competitor's animal, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, show officials, or any other aspect of the Pa. Farm Show only serve to undermine the positive attributes of the show and its purpose.

Remember, the judge will be hired to provide us with his opinion of the animals presented before him on a given day in a particular arena. He may not be right, but he will be official, and we may even learn something in the process!

A friendly handshake goes a long way to ensuring the success of

Species	Item	Day and Date	Time
Junior Breeding	Beef Cattle	Arrival by Fri., Jan. 5	6:00 p.m.
		Check-In Upon Arrival	
		Showing Wed., Jan. 10	8:30 a.m.
Junior Breeding	Sheep	Arrival by Mon., Jan. 8	6:00 p.m.
		Check-In by Tue., Jan. 9	4:00 p.m.
		Showing Wed., Jan. 10	
		Arrival by Tue., Jan. 9	6:00 p.m.
		Check-In Tue., Jan. 9	3-6:00 pm
		Weighing Wed., Jan. 10	7:00 a.m.
		Showing Wed., Jan. 10	12:00 noon
		Selling Thur., Jan. 11	2:00 p.m.
Junior Market	Swine	Arrival by Mon., Jan. 8	10:00 a.m.
		Check-In Upon Arrival	
		Weighing Mon., Jan. 8	8:30 a.m.
		Showing Tue., Jan. 9	8:30 a.m.
		Selling Thur., Jan. 11	11:15 a.m.
Junior Market	Lambs	Arrival by Mon., Jan. 8	6:00 p.m.
		Check-In Upon Arrival	
		Weighing Mon., Jan. 8	5:00 p.m.
		Showing Wed., Jan. 10	8:00 a.m.
		Selling Thur., Jan. 11	1:00 p.m.
Junior Market	Animals Sale	Sale of Champ. Thur., Jan. 11	10:00 a.m.

junior livestock show. I hope to see a lot of people shaking hands, not fists, at the 1996 Pennsylvania Farm Show. Let's make it the **BEST FARM SHOW** ever!

Couple Gains National Post

NASHVILLE, TN — For the second year running, a Young Cooperator couple from Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association (MVMPCA) has been elected to national young Cooperator officer status.

Melvin and Barbara Marks, who operate a 50-cow dairy near Airville, were elected secretary couple of the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) Young Cooperator Advisory Council.

Each year, Young Cooperator representatives from each of five regions across the country are elected to serve on the council. The council itself then elects three officer couples from among its members.

"It's quite an honor for us to be serving as officers," says Barbara Marks. "As secretary couple, we look forward to filling a need to communicate with other council members as the year progresses."

The NMPF YC council is responsible for planning and implementing next year's NMPF

Young Cooperator program which will be held in Anaheim, Cal. The Markses are taking over the council position held by Maryland and Virginia Young Cooperators David and Terry Rice, Williamsburg.

The Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association is a milk marketing cooperative made up of 1200 dairy producers in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Delaware.



Maryland and Virginia Young Cooperators Melvin and Barbara Marks, left, recently took over the NMPF Young Cooperator Council secretary position held last year by Terry and David Rice, right, also of Maryland and Virginia Coop.

Happy New Year FROM Bobby Oldham Tobacco

We will be closed at our Quarryville location Mon., Jan. 1st New Year's Day. We will re-open Tuesday, Jan. 2nd at 8 A.M. to receive 609 tobacco at top prices. For premium prices, please grade your tobacco into 4 grades: tops, middles, bottoms, and out grade.

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