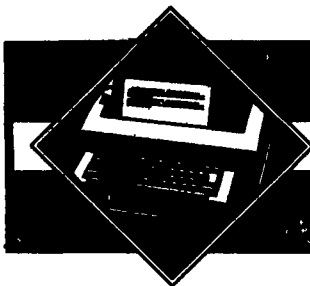


# FARM CALENDAR



# FARM FORUM

(Continued from Page A10)

**Friday, February 2**  
 Designed with Nature, Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center.  
 Lancaster (Raleigh) DHIA Record Meeting, Bart Fire Hall, Georgetown, 12:30 p.m.  
 Washington County Holstein Annual Meeting, West Alexander Church, West Alexander, 7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 3**  
 Ephrata Area Young Farmers annual banquet, Mt. Airy Fire Hall, 6:45 p.m.

**Sunday, February 4**

**Monday, February 5**  
 Adams County Crops/Nutrient Management Workshop, Adams County Extension Office, Gettysburg, 10 a.m.  
 Beef Production Seminar, Wesley Grange, 7 p.m., also Feb. 12.  
 Southeast Pa. Grazing Conference, Lancaster Host Expo Center,

Lancaster, thru Feb. 6.

**Tuesday, February 6**  
 Blair County Crops Day.  
 Beaver County Crops Day, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
 Pa. Young Farmers State Convention, Somerset Ramada Inn, thru Feb. 8.  
 Cattle Feeder Day, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.  
 Maryland/Delaware Peach School, Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, MD, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
 Dairy-MAP Finance Module, Adams/York farmers at Cross Keys Inn, also Feb. 13.  
 Beef Herd Management and Marketing In the '90s And Beyond, Part II, Holiday Inn, Belle Vernon.

**Wednesday, February 7**  
 Butler County Crops Day, Butler.  
 Clarion County Farm Records Made Easy Workshop, Extension Office, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Editor:**  
 As an organization involved in agricultural promotion, we are responding to your editorial of Jan. 13, 1996.

There is no doubt that all farm organizations could and should be doing more to insure that today's young people know more about the basics of life, agriculture. But many of these organizations have many other issues to address and their agendas don't focus on the public's lack of knowledge about agriculture.

The Agriculture Awareness Foundation of Pennsylvania was founded five years ago to very specifically address this issue. To date, Ag in the Classroom, AAFFPA has trained 307 teachers to include agricultural concepts in what they teach. The program will train an additional 100 teachers

this summer during an intense six-day workshop at Penn State. Many would say that's not enough, but the teachers go back to their classrooms and not only use the volumes of agricultural teaching materials and projects with their own classes but share this information with other teachers who use it with their classes. If these teachers only use the information within their own classrooms, they have touched 18,175 students over the last five years. But we know that isn't all they do. Some of the graduates of the program organize school-wide events which help students at all levels learn about where they get their food, clothing and shelter. Others prepare materials for other grade levels and make presentations to other classes. Many have spoken out about the program with colleagues while taking other courses.

This year regional workshops have been added to assist over 200 teachers, graduates of the summer program and others, receive additional information and knowledge about the relationship of agriculture to the environment. As a result of these workshops, materials will be published to assist any teacher include materials, activities and projects in their own classrooms.

Though the foundation is best known for the Ag in the Classroom program, it also supports a state-wide speakers' bureau. Finding people in agriculture who are willing to be trained as speakers, representing the industry as a whole is difficult at best. The foundation has applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for matching funds to train and equip speakers to be available anywhere in the state.

Many of the state and local farm organizations and agri-business support foundation with contributions, participating on the board of directors or volunteering for the state-wide speakers' bureau but that will never be enough. The foundation is a tool to be used to get the word out about the importance of agriculture. Its only function is to communicate that message to the public. Focus and support from the entire agricultural community will see that that is accomplished.

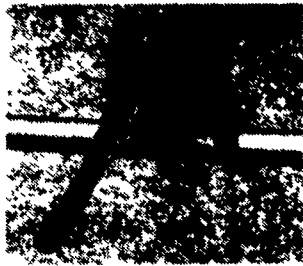
Carol Ann Gregg,  
 Education Coordinator, AAFFPA

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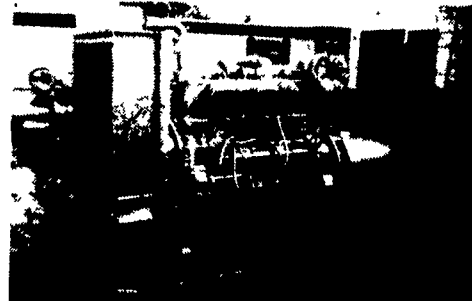
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