



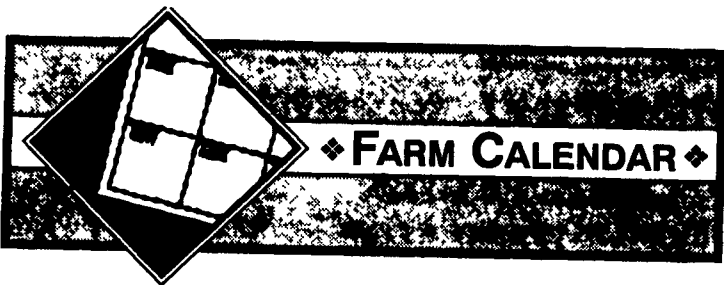
OPINION

Jump In The Pick-Up Truck

Now is the time to plan to go to Ag Progress Days. Starting on Tuesday and running through Thursday, Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences' annual showcase event will provide you with plenty to see and do this year at Rockspring in Centre County. Exhibits demonstrate how commodities are harvested, processed, and turned into finished products. Did you know that Pennsylvania is the largest food-processing state in the Northeast?

Along with machinery of various brands working side by side in the field, the show offers many features with great visual elements, including horse exhibitions, an insect zoo, live hawks, snakes, owls, llamas, and young livestock. A tractor ride-and-drive area offers an opportunity to test-drive the newest tractor models and is popular with farmers. Working combines are part of the promised addition to this year's event. And a tractor roll-over demonstration will remind you again to be careful around farm tractors and other equipment.

Jump in the pick-up truck or the family car and join us at Ag Progress Days. Parking and admission to the event are free. We hope to see you there.



Saturday, August 10

Pa. Holstein South Central Championship Show, Shippenburg Fairgrounds, Shippenburg, 9:30 a.m.
Md. Holstein annual picnic, Windsor Manor Farm, New Windsor, Md., 11 a.m.

7th Annual Summer Plowing Show, Old Time Plow Boys Club, Pa. German Cultural Heritage Center Farm, Kutztown U., Kutztown, thru Aug. 11.
York 4-H Fair barbecue, 4-H Center, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday, August 11

Washington County Ag Fair, thru Aug. 18.
Bullskin Township Community Fair, thru Aug. 17.
Huntingdon County Fair, thru Aug. 17.
McKean County Fair, thru Aug. 17.
Montour-Delong Community Fair, thru Aug. 17.
Mercer County summer picnic, David Philson Farm, Fredonia, noon.

Monday, August 12

Dayton Fair, thru Aug. 17.
Kutztown Fair, thru Aug. 17.
Lawrence County Fair, thru Aug. 17.
Venango County Fair, thru Aug. 17.

Tuesday, August 13

Ag Progress Days, Rockspring, thru Aug. 15.
Warren County Farmers' Fair Association Open Sheep Show, 10 a.m.
Pa. Hay Show at Ag Progress Days, deadline for sample delivery 10 a.m.
Huntingdon County Holstein Show, Fairgrounds, Huntingdon, 9 a.m.
Cornell University Fruit Field Day, N.Y. State Ag Experiment Station, Geneva, N.Y., 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Beaver Capon School, Penn State Beaver Campus, Monaca, 11 p.m.
Plastic pesticide container recycling, Reading Bone Fertilizer, Bangor, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Plastic pesticide container recycling, George Seiple and Son, Easton, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Plastic pesticide container recycling, Reading Bone, Coplay, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Southeast Pa. Regional Vegetable Field Day, Kohler Farms, Prospectville, 3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Wednesday, August 14

Lancaster County 4-H Swine Roundup, Manheim Fairgrounds, sale 7 p.m.

21st Annual Performance Tested Boar Sale, Ag Arena, Penn State, State College, 6 p.m.

Annual PFGC picnic at Ag Progress Days, Harpster's Evergreen Farm, 6:30 p.m.

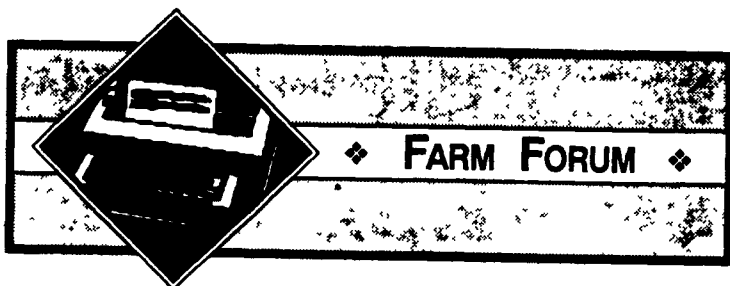
Ag Progress Days Bus Trip from Chester County extension.

Pond Management Workshop, American Legion Building, Milford, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 15

Horticulture and Crop Science Field Day, Ohio State's Waterman Learning Laboratory, Columbus.

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Editor:

I was so pleased, but certainly not surprised to see that Nelson Ebersole had contributed a Holstein calf for the 4-H Club youth. There are few people who are as genuine, sincere and caring as this gentleman. Nelson is a businessman, but he has never lost the "common touch." He truly cares about his fellow man as well as being a steward of the land. I have always been impressed with how knowledgeable farmers are about so many topics. Nelson displays a matter of fact knowledge of so much and conveys that

information so easily to others. That, I'm sure, has made him so successful in his real estate dealings. His honesty is what makes him so comfortable with himself and others.

Nelson knows that our future rests with our children, and he is doing his part to help them succeed. Just imagine what could be accomplished if we all did things to help.

Thanks for sharing with us, all the good deeds, that make the whole world better.

Vicki Swayne Manheim



Now Is The Time
By John Schwartz
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Attend Ag Progress Days
The 1996 edition of Penn State's Ag Progress Days will be August 13-15 at Rockspring, nine miles southwest of Penn State on Rt. 45.

This is a free event that showcases the latest technology and research in agriculture. Admission and parking is free.

The grounds will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday. There will be a tractor ride and drive area, more than 300 exhibitors, field demonstrations on fence building, combine harvesting, mowing, composting and baling, and tours.

Plan now to attend Ag Progress Days and meet old friends, learn something new, and see the latest in agriculture.

To Check Tobacco Fields For Blue Mold

According to Robert Anderson, extension agronomy agent, blue mold, a potentially destructive fungal disease of tobacco, has been found in Lancaster County tobacco.

Checking fields are important for two reasons. First, there is a foliar-applied fungicide labeled for use in Pennsylvania this year that does an excellent job of stopping the spread of the fungi. Secondly, and a very important reason, is to identify the infection and report it.

Reporting the occurrence of blue mold is critical in finding ways to combat it in the future. You should check fields as soon as possible, looking for yellow spots on the leaf. If a yellow spot is

found, it is necessary to check the underside of the leaf for the fungi.

Blue Mold will appear as a blue gray fuzzy growth on the underside of the leaf. Farmers who think they have blue mold should contact Robert Anderson at the Lancaster County Cooperative Extension Office at (717) 394-6851.

To Think Safety

Some safety reminders for this summer season.

To reduce heat stress, drink plenty of liquids on hot days to replenish body fluids lost to perspiration. Also, wear clothes that breathe and will permit excess body heat to escape.

To prevent skin cancer, wear head and face protection that covers the ears and back of the neck to

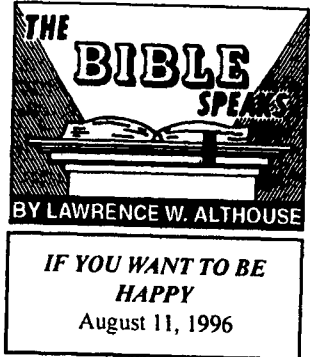
prevent serious sunburn injury.

Re-apply sun block during periods of high body perspiration when performing farm chores.

Children between ages 1 and 16 are at the greatest risk of suffocation in flowing grain. If children are playing on, riding on, or trying to remove grain in grain transport vehicles, they may become engulfed in the grain.

Parents and children need to be aware of the potential hazards of flowing grain. Flowing grain will pull people into the grain pile and cause death by suffocation. Keep people off grain piles, including transport vehicles. Caution today could save a life.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "Challenge: Dare to confront what can only be imagined."



IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY
August 11, 1996

Background Scripture: Psalms 119 1-16, 45, 105, 129, 130

Devotional Reading: Matthew 7 21-28

The late Methodist Bishop Gerald Kennedy told of a young married man who read all the psychoanalytic and self-helps he could find. One day, his young wife, who tried to live up to all that he found in these books, rebelled, saying "Now that we've found real happiness, couldn't we have some fun, too?"

There's a deep underlying suspicion that real happiness and fun are incompatible. Perhaps it depends upon our definitions of "fun" and "happiness." Harry Emerson Fosdick found that "Happiness is not mostly pleasure, it is mostly victory." Victory comes first, followed by pleasure, bringing happiness. In that order. Fun that is not founded upon victory is very fleeting and does not amount to happiness.

But what kind of victory? The Psalmist who wrote Psalm 119 would say that victory is living by the law of God—in a sense, being victorious over ourselves and the world. This is contrary to contemporary wisdom that regards the law as a burden that stifles our pleasure. But, when we live for pleasure alone, we soon find it a pretty unpleasurable experience. True pleasure consists in living in harmony with God. So, the Psalmist begins Psalm 114 with these words: "Blessed/Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways" (119 1-3).

ANACROSTIC

This is the longest psalm in the Bible and it is constructed as an acrostic, a design whereby there are 22 strophes (sections) of eight lines each, and each of them beginning with one of the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet. God is addressed or referred to in every one of its 178 verses. It is a repeated tribute to the law, using a variety of terms to stress the richness of it: law, testimonies, ways, precepts, statutes,

commandments, promise and word. Alexander Maclaren said this psalm reminded him of a violinist who had but one string to play upon—the law of God—but who out of that one string brought perfect music.

One of these in the psalm is the repeated testimony of the Psalmist that the law is a delight, not a weight around his neck. "In the way of thy testimonies I delight as much as in all riches" (v.14). "How sweet are thy words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth" (103).

Why does the Psalmist delight in the law of God? Because it leads him to live in a way that brings him the joy of obeying and pleasing God. "Thy testimonies are my delight, they are my counselors" (v.24). "I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep thy word" (v.101). "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (v.105).

ADVERSITY & LAMENT

But this is not a psalm of unceasing delight, because, like us, the Psalmist's faith is constantly tested with adversity and the psalm is a list of woes: persecution, false accusations, temptation, and intellectual doubt. "Even though princes sit plotting against me" (v.23). "Godless men utterly deride me" (v.51). "They draw near who persecute me with evil purpose" (v.150). His love of the law has not insulated him from the troubles of the world. He is not having unrelenting fun!

So, throughout the psalm, his laments contend with his words of praise: "O forsake me not utterly!" (v.8). "How long must thy servant endure? When wilt thou judge those who persecute me?" (v.84). "I am sorely afflicted, give me life, O Lord, according to thy word" (v.107).

He believes in the law and has found it his only salvation. But tribulation threatens to shake him off the path he means to follow. So he prays for victory—and in victory he will find his happiness. That's why God's law is his delight.

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