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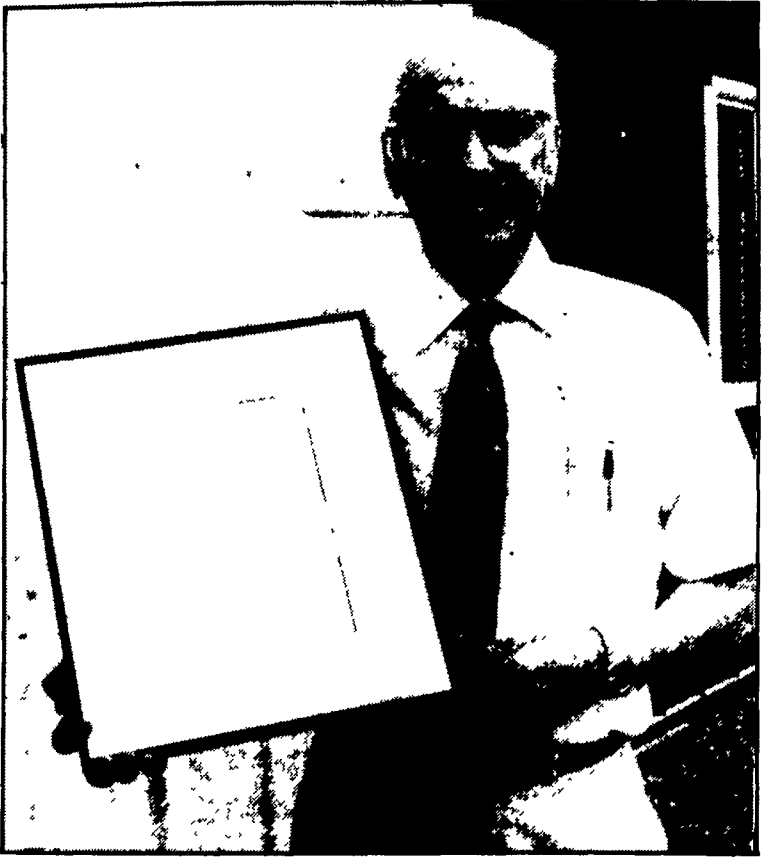
Penn State Alumni Society Holds Meeting, Pasto Honored, Hayes At Government Day

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor
ROCK SPRING (Centre Co.) - The new dean of Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, Dr. Robert Steele, gave his first college report; Dr. Jerry Pasto, founder and benefactor of the Pasto Agricultural Museum, received an unexpected commendation in the form of a resolution, and Samuel Hayes, Jr., Pennsylvania agriculture secretary, reiterated the Ridge Administration's support for agriculture. These were among the noteworthy events at the College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society's annual meeting, and the

Government Day luncheon held in the special events building at Ag Progress Days, Tuesday and Wednesday.
At the Alumni Society's meeting Steele said, "This is my first experience at Ag Progress Days. I'm very impressed. We are grateful for the alumni involvement and interest in the activities of the university and college. The support of the alumni is so critical to the success of what we do as a college. "Coming from Wisconsin, I noticed Pennsylvania is really recognized nationally and internationally as one of the very best. Look-
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The field demonstrations at Ag Progress Days provide a focal point for people to gather around to see competing machines do their work. Here the first field demonstration of the event is held Tuesday morning with hay making equipment the star attraction. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.



Dr. Jerry Pasto, creator and benefactor of the Pasto Agricultural Museum, received a resolution of honor from the board of directors of Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society at their annual meeting at Ag Progress Days.

Leadman Daughter Champion At Kutztown Fair

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor
KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) - A tall Leadman daughter became the grand champion of the Kutztown Fair Holstein open show, Thursday. Topping the five-year-old class, Daview Leadman Macy was shown by Erica Davis, Kutztown. The reserve grand champion was the first place dry cow, Reu-Hel Gabriel Surf shown by Trisha Geist, Mertztown. Both these champions were also top in the youth division.

Jason Troutman, Mohrsville, had the junior champion of both the open and junior divisions with Reu-Hel Bellwood Oco-ET, a senior calf. The reserve junior champion in the open show was the intermediate calf owned by Philip Werley, Hamburg. The reserve junior champion in the youth division was the junior calf owned by Jessica Luckenbille, Bernville.
Both the premier breeder and exhibitor went to Stumpland Farm, owned by John and Rita Stump,
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Precision Ag Tools Very Precise, Perhaps Practical

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) - "Just because you can do something, doesn't mean you should," is one of the recommendations from Penn State researchers working to understand the application and relevance of "precision agriculture" equipment for Pennsylvania farmers.
Penn State researchers and extension staff presented an over-

view and explanation on the equipment and how it is used and what it can do, this week during Ag Progress Days at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center in Rockspring.
What they weren't able to explain was how the equipment and approach to farming benefits the average Pennsylvania farmer.
But, the location and data collection equipment, as well as the software programs that can con-

vert the data into color computer maps with the ability to overlay maps for comparisons, has been used by Midwestern farmers for some time and by commercial crop variety researchers.
The question of whether it has practical application for the Pennsylvania farmer remains to be seen.
That is because the difference between using the precision agri-
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Research Indicates Planting Depth Crucial To Good Corn Stands

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) - Whether there's a drought in store for the season or not, corn growers should know the proper seed planting depth. If they don't, there could be big variations in standability and yield.
Penn State studies prove true, even during a drought, an old rule of thumb: if planting corn early, choose a shallower depth.
If planting late, plant deeper.
For corn planted only a week before Ag Progress Days, the "worst stands came from corn planted too shallow," said Mark Antle, research technician with Penn State's Department of Agronomy.
Antle reviewed some of the work on a demonstration test plot Wednesday in front of the Crops and Soils Tent at this year's Ag Progress Days.
The plot size, measuring 6 rows

at 15 feet long, studied six different planting depths, ranging from one-half inch to 2 1/2 inches. Corn used was Pioneer 3525, a 105-day medium-season variety using a no-till, two-row corn planter.
Antle indicated the effects of planting this late in the season and compared the stands. It was clear that the best row was planted at approximately 2 1/2 inches.
The test proved that growers "need to check planting depth carefully," Antle said. Growers need to adjust planting depth to time of planting and be careful not to plant too deeply or too shallowly.
The reason? Early plantings require warmth, and the moisture is usually readily available near the surface. Corn needs ready access to moisture. Late in the season, too shallow planting depths deny access of the seed to moisture.
This year proved especially challenging for growers who were

trying to get the crop in while temperatures remained cool and in between rains. In many parts of the state, the season is short enough. Depending on soil type and land layout, Antle has seen some growers who planted shallowly early on into cool, wet soil - and, as a result, corn stands varied greatly.
At planting time for the test plot early last week, conditions were hot, but rain arrived promptly and the corn "came up real fast," Antle indicated.
Growers need to "get off the tractor and take a look" at how deep the planter is putting down the corn. "Don't go on the settings you made last year to the planter. Dig around, scratch around," he said, to see planting depth frequently when planting.
Antle noted that growers also need to properly fine-tune the planter and make adjustments as necessary.