

# Rodgers Leads Conference

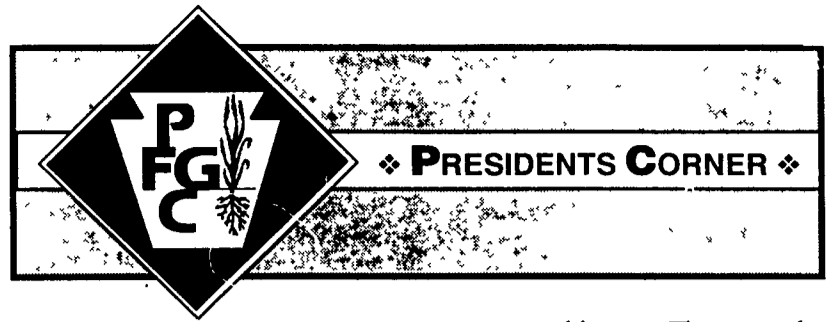
ARDMORE, Okla. — John Rodgers, a member of the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council from Bellville, Pa., and a past president of the American Forage and Grassland Council, was the leader of a Leadership Retreat at a conference held here at the Noble Foundation in August.

The conference was planned for representatives of the affiliate councils of the American Forage and Grassland Council. Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council is one of more than 30 councils in the United States and Canada. Members of PFGC are automatically members of AFGC. Members receive the publication *Forage Leader* four times a year from

AFGC. Richard Hann, executive director of PFGC attended the conference.

Rodgers facilitated the conference with two main goals: to help affiliate councils catch a vision of what could be done at the local level through their own leadership, and to see how improved cooperation between the affiliates and AFGC can generate a product that will be better than either one can do alone.

This was the first opportunity for the affiliate council representatives to get together and share ideas and successes that can help other affiliates from "old" as well as newly formed councils.



**Dick Kauffman  
W-L Research Inc.**

This has been a challenging year for forage producers in Pennsylvania. The drought has had a significant impact on forage production.

Grass pastures and grass hayfields were impacted more than legumes, however, even alfalfa, with its deep taproot, was unable to sustain normal yields.

In our alfalfa trials in Lancaster County, yields were down 20 percent from 1996.

Insect pressure on alfalfa fields was

extreme this year. The potato leafhopper population exploded, and insecticide treatments, in many cases, did not provide full cutting protection. Even the new "leafhopper resistant" alfalfa varieties were damaged by the leafhopper.

While hay yields are down this year, the forage quality of the hay appears to be very good. Therefore, animal performance ought to be optimal.

It's a good time to plan on attending the 1997 Quality Forages Conference on Nov. 18 at Tunkhannock.



Jimmy Henning, extension forage specialist, University of Kentucky, president-elect of AFGC.



John Rodgers, dairyman and forage producer, Plum Bottom Farms, Belleville, Pa., past president of AFGC.

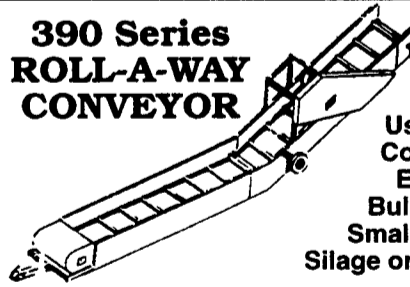


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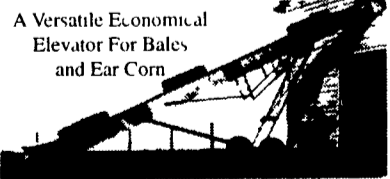


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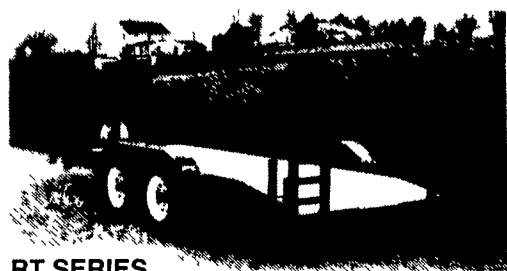
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