

## Wool Pool Set

**MESHOPPEN (Wyoming Co.)** — The Annual Wool Pool sponsored by the Northeast Sheep and Wool Growers Association will be conducted at two sites.

On Monday, July 13, from noon until 7 p.m. and on Tuesday, July 14, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., wool will be received at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds located just west of Meshoppen on Rt. 6.

On Thursday, July 16, wool will be received at Furman's Warehouse, Duke and 4th St., Northumberland.

The northeast pool consists of sheep and wool producers in Wyoming, Susquehanna, Sullivan, Bradford, Wayne, and Northumberland counties and also serves adjacent fringe areas.

All wool must be presented at the skirting and grading table untied with bellies and tags out. Wet wool and wool with poly-contamination will be rejected. Mohair, Romanov fleeces, and fleeces from sheep that have been crossed with hair sheep cannot be accepted.

Producers with natural colored fleeces are advised to investigate the handspinner market where they may do better. The pool has a bid for colored fleeces but it is so low that it may not cover the cost of handling.

To keep the process moving as smoothly as possible, it is requested that wool packed in wool bags be removed before being placed on the skirting table or that side seams be opened. Producers are asked to be present while their wool is being graded to gain a better understanding of how it is being evaluated.

Each fleece will be examined by an ASI Certified Level 2 Classifier whose determination will be final.

In 1998 the northeast pool received higher bid prices than any other pool in the Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers Association. It is interesting to note that Wellman, Inc., the buyer of the northeast consignment, purchased all but one of the Pennsylvania pools, but at significantly lower prices. Although the world wool market is depressed, it is gratifying to note that there is a reward for quality control.

For a number of years the Northeast Pool has been raising its quality control standards and rewarding producers with clean properly presented clips with lowers cost of handling charges than

those for dirty and improperly handled ones. According to guidelines established by the ASI Wool Quality Improvement Summit, the 1991 clip will be sold on a clean-delivered basis.

Questions may be directed to Ginny Wright, president, at (717) 278-3924, or to Victor Decker, secretary, at (717) 833-2486.

**ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)** — The 1998 Pennsylvania Vegetable, Tree Fruit and Small Fruit Field Day is scheduled July 29 here at the Russell E. Larson Research Center Horticulture Research Farm.

The event is being sponsored jointly by Penn State University's College of Agricultural Sciences, the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association, and the State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania.

Growers will have the opportunity to see first hand the research projects being conducted by Penn State researchers at the Research Center.

The schedule for the day's events is as follows:

• 8 a.m. — Registration at the Hort Farm. Coffee and donuts will be available.

• 9:15 a.m. — Tours of Research Plots at Hort Farm. Researchers and support staff will be in the field to answer questions and comment about their current research. Two tours will be available: A - Vegetables, Potatoes, Small Fruit & Cut Flowers - research plots dealing with weed control, variety evaluation, plasticulture and management of vegetable crop production. B - Tree

Fruits.

• 11 a.m. — Tour of Research Plots at Plant Pathology Farm with Dr. Alan MacNab.

• 12:15 p.m. — Lunch - A catered meal is planned.

• 1:30 p.m. — Tours, Workshop and Demonstrations - Four options will be available to growers. A - Machinery and Field Demonstrations - planters, plastic mulch lifters, spading machines, plastic recovery equipment and other equipment. B - Plant Pathology Research Plots Tour with Dr. Alan MacNab (same as morning tour). C - Entomology Research Plots Tour with Dr. Shelby Fleischer. D - Workshop on recycling farm plastics with James Garthe.

• 5 p.m. — Adjourn.

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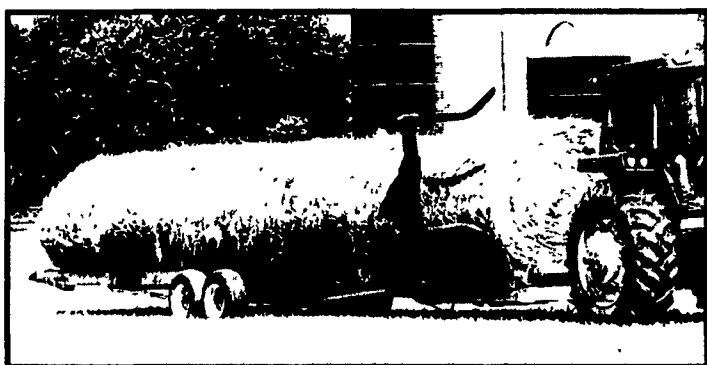
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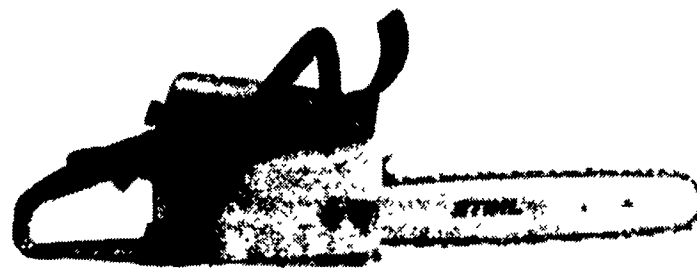
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