

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Seeks Specific Evidence For Farm Litter Losses

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau has developed a Farm Litter Survey that will help document the extent of damage and actual financial loss to farmers. The last survey was conducted at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in the mid-80's. That independent survey estimated losses in the millions. Now, nearly fifteen years later, the situation is worse in rural areas. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau officials believe it is time to document financial losses to farmers from carelessly discarded beverage containers so this evidence can be presented to lawmakers as a counter balance to presentations by those who oppose "Bottle Bill" legislation.

For more than 20 years, PFB has been seeking legislation that

would place a deposit on throw-away beverage cans, bottles, and plastics. There has been strong opposition from aluminum and glass manufacturers, beverage companies and food merchants.

PFB supported passage of Pennsylvania's Recycling Law, hoping that recycling would provide relief for farmers and rural residents. Unfortunately, there are few municipalities in rural counties that meet the populations criteria required for mandatory recycling.

PFB hopes to have the data collected by mid-November. You may cut this survey form from *Lancaster Farming*, answer the questions, and mail it to: Litter Survey, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, Box 8736, Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736.

Field Day Features

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labeled milk is used to reward participating farmers who achieve a high standard of environmental excellence. This standard is outlined by the Environmental Farmstead Evaluation, a "scorecard" which measures environmental management on dairy farms. The Evaluation focuses on the management of the barnyard, stream and drainageway, pesticide storage and handling, milk-house waste, home sewage system and well conditions. Partial funding for the EQI and cost-share for some of the improvements has been provided to the Dairy Network Partnership through grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the William Penn Foundation.

Bring a lunch. BBQ chicken

will be available for people who make reservations by calling (610) 593-2415. Drinks will be provided.

The Stoltzfoos farm is located east of Lancaster. From Rt. 30/41 intersection (Lancaster County) travel south on Rt. 41 for .75 mile. Turn right on Rt. 741 and go to stop. Turn left on Mine Rd. and proceed .25 mile. Turn left on Gap Rd. and proceed 1.5 miles to farm on the left.

The field day is cosponsored by the Dairy Network Partnership, Lancaster County Conservation District, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Lancaster County Graziers, and Lancaster Penn State Extension. For additional information contact Leon Weber at (610) 683-1401.

PENNSYLVANIA FARM BUREAU FARM LITTER SURVEY FALL 1998

1. During the last 12 months, how many grocery size bags could have been filled with discarded beverage cans, bottles and plastics collected from your farm fields or adjacent roadsides? Number _____
2. How often do you spend time picking up beverage cans, bottles and plastics? Once a year _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____
3. How often do you find glass, plastic or aluminum in your animal feed? Never _____ Once a year _____ Five times a year _____ More than five times per year _____
4. How often do you care for animals which have ingested or have been injured by glass, plastic or aluminum? Never _____ Once a year _____ More than five times per year _____
5. In the past twelve months, have any of your animals died from ingesting glass, aluminum or plastic? Yes _____ No _____
6. Were the animals necropsied to confirm cause of death? Yes _____ No _____
7. What was the approximate dollar value of all animals that died from ingesting glass, aluminum or plastic in the past 12 months? \$ _____
8. What is the estimated value of lost production from ingestion of litter due to either animal death or illness during the last 12 months. \$ _____
9. In the past twelve months have you had equipment damage from beverage cans, bottles or plastic? Yes _____ No _____ Describe _____
10. Estimate the cost of equipment repairs or replacement due to damages described in question 9. \$ _____

Comments: _____

One survey per farm Please

Name _____
Address _____
County _____

Send to: Litter Survey
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau,
P.O. Box 8736, Camp Hill, Pa 17001-8736

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Pioneer vs. All Competitors 3-Year Comparison Report, 1995 - 1997

Competitive Brand	No. of Trials	Yield		Pioneer Tons/Acre Advantage	Pioneer Inc. Advantage	
		Pioneer Tons/Acre	Competitor Tons/Acre		/Acre	/Unit
Agripro	14	24.7	23.4	1.3	\$31.20	\$93.60
Agway	61	22.8	22.3	0.5	\$12.00	\$36.00
Asgrow	13	29.0	25.7	3.3	\$79.20	\$237.60
CFS	11	20.6	18.7	1.9	\$45.60	\$136.80
Cargill	301	25.7	24.3	1.4	\$33.60	\$100.80
Chemgro	28	27.3	25.9	1.3	\$31.20	\$93.60
DeKalb	176	22.7	21.9	0.9	\$21.60	\$64.80
Doebler's	94	22.9	21.0	1.9	\$45.60	\$136.80
Eastland	10	33.8	28.8	5.0	\$120.00	\$360.00
Fielders Choice	40	21.8	20.1	1.6	\$38.40	\$115.20
Hyttest	24	22.0	19.8	2.2	\$52.80	\$158.40
Mycogen	103	23.5	21.8	1.8	\$43.20	\$129.60
Novartis	169	22.4	21.6	0.7	\$16.80	\$50.40

Yields reported in tons/acre adjusted to 70% moisture. Silage valued at \$24/ton, 1 unit plants 3 acres. Data from West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, New England, Pennsylvania, northeast Ohio

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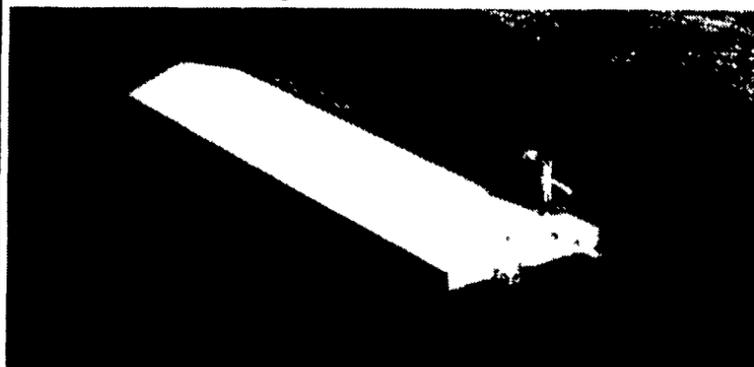
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