

Poultry Exhibits To Return To PA Farm Show

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — State Secretary of Agriculture Samuel E. Hayes Jr. recently announced that poultry exhibits are allowed to return to the 1999 Pennsylvania State Farm Show.

Last year, Secretary Hayes was forced to cancel poultry exhibits as a bio-security precaution following an outbreak of avian influenza in Lebanon and Lancaster counties.

At this time, no poultry flock is known to be infected with an H7 or H8 virus.

"While we are very pleased that Pennsylvania's poultry exhibitors again can join us at

the PA Farm Show, avian influenza still is a potential problem," Hayes said. "We must be prudent in our public policy with regard to poultry exhibits. I cannot stress enough the importance of proper bio-security to keep the avian influenza virus at bay. Our most somber responsibility is to protect the poultry industry so it can continue to be a major economic force in Pennsylvania."

In October 1997, Hayes announced the cancellation of poultry exhibits at the Pennsylvania Farm Show as a precautionary measure to pre-

vent the possible transmission of the H7N2 avian influenza virus through exhibits at the show.

In addition to compliance with the PA Farm Show premium list requirements, all birds, avians and eggs for exhibition or demonstration at this year's Pennsylvania Farm Show must meet AI negative flock of origin requirements. To meet these requirements, all entries must

originate from a flock currently enrolled in the department's AI Monitored Flock Program, or from a flock which provides 20 AI test negative blood samples between Dec. 8 and Dec. 28.

"We welcome our poultry producers back to the PA Farm Show and ask them for their continued cooperation with the Agriculture Department in keeping our poultry free from this contagious infection," Hayes

said.

If poultry are diagnosed as being infected with an H7 or H5 virus prior to the Pennsylvania farm Show, a ban on poultry exhibits and demonstrations will be reinstated by the Agriculture Department.

For further information or to receive a list of requirements, contact Dr. John Enck Jr. at (717) 772-2852.

N.Y. Farm Bureau Announces Meeting Guest Speakers

GLENMONT, N.Y. — The world's fastest omelet maker and a nationally recognized motivational speaker are two guest speakers scheduled to participate in the 42nd New York Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Dec. 7-10 in Syracuse.

Howard Helmer, who twice has earned records in the Guinness Book for his high speed omelet making, will address farm Bureau's membership, appropriately, during breakfast Wednesday, Dec. 9.

While Helmer can cook a whopping 427 omelets in 30 minutes, he contends that any slowpoke can turn out the perfect omelet in less than a minute by following his technique.

For 30 years, Helmer has been scrambling to speak the good word about the egg through personal appearances nationally, on both television and radio as well as newspapers and magazine features.

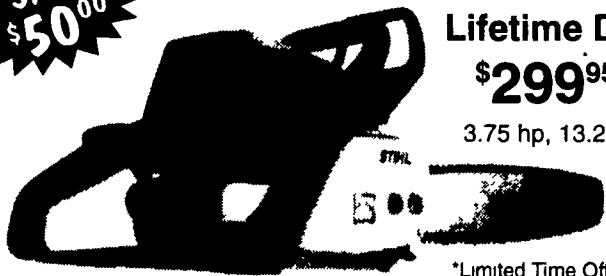
Dr. Charles Petty, CSP of Family Success Unlimited, will

address the membership during the evening banquet, also on Dec. 9. Dr. Petty entertains and talks meaningfully about what people are really interested in and what makes a difference in their lives. He does so through humor laced with powerful, life-changing messages.

Petty is founder and president of Family Success Unlimited, Inc. He has earned the designation Certified Speaking Professional, from the National Speakers Association.

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