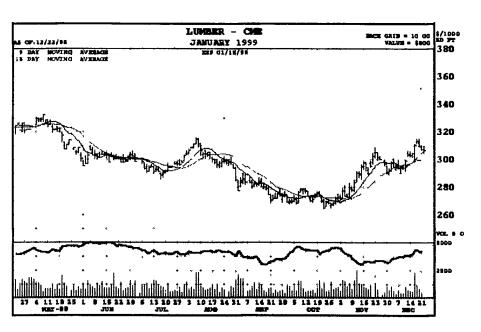
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Extension Sets Dairy Day

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LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — the annual Dairy Day in Berks County is set from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5 here at the Berks County Agricultural Center. The program will concentrate on two topics of great importance to dairy farmers: herd health and managing labor.

All dairy farmers have to deal with and/or consider BVD, Johne's, and contagious mastitis on their dairy farms. To prevent these and other herd health problems, dairy farmers need to develop a herd health and biosecurity plan for their farm.

> Because of increased herd sizes, today's dairy farmers must learn to manage labor. Whether hired, sibling, or children, the labor force is an essential part of a successful dairy operation. The session will help dairy farmers sharpen their skills and knowledge in this area.

The agenda for the program, which begins at 9:40 a.m., is as follows: on-farm research update; preventing and controlling BVD, Johne's, and contagious mastitis; the future of your farm - estate planning basics; developing a herd health and biosecurity plan for your dairy; motivating and retaining your labor including family; and my labor experiences on our dairy farm - panel of dairy farmers.

Program participants include: Clyde Myers, Penn State extension agent, Berks County; Dennis Ginder, multicounty farm management agent in Chester and Lancaster counties for Penn State; Dr. Larry Hutchinson, professor of veterinarian science at Penn State; Harold Myer, dairy farmer in northwestern Berks County; John Rutherford, multicounty farm management agent in Berks, Lebanon, and Dauphin counties; David Schuler, dairy farmer in Richmond Township; and John Stump, dairy farmer on Penn Township.

Cost of the program is \$4 which includes lunch and handouts. Reservations can be made by sending a check made payable to Berks County Extension Special Account and mailed to Berks County Cooperative Extension, Berks County Ag Center, P.O. Box 520, Leesport, P 19533. For more information and a flyer, contact Clyde Myers at Penn State Cooperative Extension, Berks County Ag Center, P.O. Box 520, Leesport, PA

19533, (610) 378-1327. A similar program for Dairy Day will be held in Bucks/Montgomery counties on Jan. 6. Contact Mike Fournier for Bucks/Montgomery counties session at (215) 345-3283.

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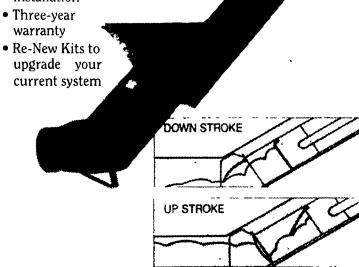
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