Farm Show 2000: Gala Event Showcases **Diversity Of Pa.'s Agri-Industries**

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to attract more than 300,000 visitors.

The first "one roof" show was conducted in the current building at Cameron and Maclay streets, formerly a cow pasture for the Harrisburg State Hospital, at the 15th show in 1931. That's when it officially became known as the Pennsylvania State Farm Show.

"As we enter the new millennium, the 2000 Farm Show provides a unique venue to witness both the latest in agricultural technologies and time-honored traditions," said Samuel E. Hayes Jr., state secretary of agriculture.

Hayes noted that agriculture is Pennsylvania's Number 1 industry, generating \$44.1 billion from farm to table.

Additions to this year's Farm Show include an enlarged butter sculpture, the introduction of a cheese sculpture, and an agricultural biotechnology program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Depart-

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ment of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Association.

The biotech program, a daylong program Tuesday, Jan. 11 at the Agriculture Building, is for nonspecialists and will concentrate on various aspects of agricultural biotechnology and potential contributions.

Many popular events are returning to this year's show, such as the Sheep-to-Shawl contest in the Small Arena Monday, Jan. 10, at 5 p.m. Also, the Farm Show's Family Living and Agricultural Learning Center will offer a unique array of activities that seek to educate and entertain not only children but adults, according to Hayes.

"This exhibit provides various hands-on presentations for children so they may better understand the value and importance of Pennsylvania's agriculture," Hayes said. Presentations for adults are included, such as cooking, quilting, and farm safety.

The demonstrations will be conducted Saturday through Thursday on the upper level of the Northeast Building. They include quilting, spinning and weaving, flax and lace making, live butterflies, agricultural biotechnology, digital television, health screening, and 4-H and FFA presentations. The Pennsylvania Department of Health will provide blood, glu-

ing the Livestock Sale of Champions in the Small Arena of the Farm Show Complex.

The Food Court is always a great attraction for the thousands of visitors.

There are several commodity, livestock, and other organizational meetings scheduled for this year's show. A complete schedule of events, maps, exhibitors list, and other information are included in Farm Show Section 1 of Lancaster Farming.

The show is free and open to the open to the public. There is a \$5 parking fee per vehicle in the Farm Show parking lot, along Cameron Street just off Rt. 81.





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