

PA DHIA Herd Management Workshops, District Meetings

Dave Slusser General Manager

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co).-DHIA has set the dates and locations of nine district herd management workshops and district membership meetings. All members, interested farmers, and industry representatives are invited. This interesting and educational workshop will include presentations by George Cudoc on "How Cows

Talk to Us and What They Say," and a live demonstration of Barn Owl 2000 herd management software. During the workshop, members and guests will be provided a lunch, and following the workshop, members will conduct the district membership meeting.

PA DHIA provides a very valuable service that will positively impact your bottom line. Our herd management reports,

and our Barn Owl 2000 software provide excellent analytical tools for you, your herd consultant, nutritionist, and veterinarian. You will improve your production efficiency if you and your advisors use the DHIA information. Come and bring your advisors to learn how to better use this valuable information. The program and meal are free. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

During the brief membership meeting, members will elect their directors to the board where terms have expired and will discuss a proposal by the board planning committee to nominate and elect directors by mail ballot. The board feels that the membership will be better represented by the mail ballot system, however, that will require a by-law change. The board hopes to get ideas from the members at these workshops and meetings.

Listed below are the dates and locations. Please mark your calendar and attend. Notices of these workshops and membership meetings will be in your herd report envelopes and in PA DHIA ads. All meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. Elections will be held in Districts 3, 6 & 9.

District 11 February 4

Mt. View Restaurant, Clifford District 9 February 7

Blue Mt. Restaurant, Shartlesville District 10 February 8

Gap Diner, Gap District 6 February 9 Lighthouse Restaurant, Chambersburg

District 5 February 10 Family Restaurant, Mifflintown

District 1 February 11 Bonanza, Franklin **District 8** February 15

Iron Skillet Restaurant, Milton District 7 February 16

> Troy District 3 February 18

Edgewood Family Restaurant,

St. Mary's Country Club, St. Marys District 2 & 4

March 9 (to be held in conjunction with the Southwest Dairy Seminar)

Average Farm Feed Costs for Handy Reference

To help farmers across the state to have handy reference of commodity input costs in their feeding operations for DHIA record sheets or to develop livestock feed cost data, here's last week's average costs of various ingredients as compiled from regional reports across the state of Pennsylvania.

Remember, these are averages, so you will need to adjust your figures up or down according to your location and the quality of your crop.

Corn, No.2y — 2.37 bu., 4.24 cwt. Wheat, No.2 — 2.38 bu., 3.98 cwt. Barley, No.3 — 1.62 bu., 3.47 cwt. Oats, No.2 — 1.51 bu., 4.71 cwt. Soybeans, No.1 — 4.41 bu., 7.37 cwt. Ear Corn - 75.55 ton, 3.78 cwt. Alfalfa Hay — 134.25 ton, 6.71 cwt. Mixed Hay — 138.75 ton, 6.94 cwt. Timothy Hay — 135.00 ton, 6.75 cwt.

Extension Sets Meeting

In February, Penn State Cooperative Extension will be presenting an Agricultural Small Business Institute in Adams and Lancaster counties. Each week includes lunch (Lancaster) or dinner (Biglerville). Spend a few hours learning how to improve your business while visiting and interacting with other agricultural business owners from around your area. The program is open to owners of all agricultural businesses.

The topics and speakers will be: "Leading Your Business and Evaluating the 'Sweet 16'" — the speaker will be Gary Snider from Farm Credit; "Business Plans" the speaker will be G. Geoffrey Sturgill Jr., CPA; "Enterprise Accounting" will be presented by Bradley J. Hilty from PLS Agri-Management Associates. The last week will be "Managing Employee's for Peak Performance" pre-sented by Dr. Bernie Erven from Ohio State University.

The dates for Adams County will be February 2, 9, 16, and 23. The meetings will be held at the Penn State Fruit Research and Extension Center, University Drive off of Rt. 234. Call the Adams County Extension Office at 334-6271 or 624-4525 for further information or directions.

The dates for Lancaster County will be February 3, 10, 17, and 24. The meetings will be held at the Kreider Farm Restaurant, Rt. 72 south of Manheim. Call the Lancaster County Extension Office at 394-6851 for further information or directions.

The fee for this program is \$50 per person, which includes all ma-

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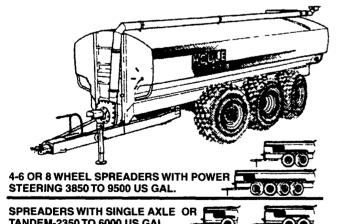
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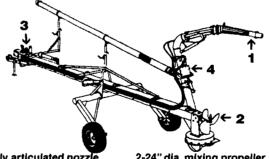
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