

## Bull Performance Testing Results Announced

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.)—The PA Department of Agriculture's Meat Animal Evaluation Center announces the 84-day results of the Bull Performance Testing Program. We have 78 outstanding bulls on test this year. The group consists of 39 Angus, nine Polled Herefords, 28 Simmentals, one Charolais and one Limousin.

The 39 Angus have maintained a group average daily gain of 4.26 lbs per day through 84 days with a lifetime weight per day of age of 3.47 pounds. The top-gaining Angus bull is the T.C. Stockman 365 son owned by Ed Dunkelberger. The 5.77 lbs/day this bull recorded through 84 days is the 2nd highest gain overall breeds! The second fastest gaining Angus is the

PS Traveler 351 614 son of Marlin and Steve Paul, who gained 5.46 lbs per day.

The top-gaining Polled Hereford bull is the SBF Royal Rancher son consigned by Shawn Eberly. This bull gained 4.76 lbs/day. The second-fastest gaining Polled Hereford is the MGM Renegade son owned by Steve and Jeff Reigel and he gained 4.64 pounds per day through the 84 days. The nine Polled Hereford bulls achieved an average daily gain of 4.17 pounds per day and a lifetime weight per day of age of 3.56 pounds per day.

The 28 Simmentals on test gained an average 3.98 pounds per day and maintained a lifetime weight per day of age of 3.53 pounds. The top gaining

Simmental bull is the Lehman Lucky Buck 7049C son owned by John Myers. This bull recorded an ADG of 5.80 which is the highest ADG overall breeds. The second-fastest gaining Simmental was the bull consigned by Jack Herr. This STF Redition G7Z son gained 4.54 pounds per day on test.

The top-gaining Limousin bull is the Quail Run Black Ink son which gained 4.06 pounds per day and was consigned by Kevin Murphy. The top-gaining Charolais, consigned by Raymond Bratton, gained 4.19 pounds per day on test and is a son of BCF New Trend 992.P.

The bulls will all be weighed off test February 22, 2000. They will then have their final average daily gain, adjusted 365-day

weight, frame score, and adjusted fat thickness calculated. The bulls will be scanned ultrasonically to determine fat thickness, and estimated loin eye areas. The bulls will undergo a comprehensive breeding soundness exam, including collections, and a semen evaluation. The bull must meet minimum requirements for structural soundness and breed character.

After all of the evaluations, approximately the top 75% of the bulls will be selected to be offered in PA's 27th Annual Performance Tested Bull Sale scheduled for 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 31, 2000. The bull sale is

planned as a central part of PA's 11th Annual Beef Expo which runs March 30th through April 2nd at Penn State's Ag Arena. The Expo will have something for everyone. There will be educational displays, a large trade show, junior activities and shows, purebred Angus Short-horn and Simmental sales, and great food.

For more information about the bulls on test, the PA Beef Expo, or to request bull sale catalogs, contact Glenn Eberly, Director, Meat Animal Evaluation Center, 651 Fox Hollow Rd., State College, PA 16803. Phone 814-238-2527 or 814-865-5857.



## First Union Salutes Ag Industry At Agri-Education Seminar

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)—"Agriculture 2000" will be the forward-looking focus of the 19th annual First Union Agri-Education Seminar Thursday, Feb. 24, here at the Farm and Home Center.

According to Darvin Boyd, manager of First Union's Agri-Finance Department, First Union annual sponsors this seminar for members of the agricultural and agribusiness community to keep them informed of the changes and potential opportunities in the industry. The seminar will be conducted from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In Pennsylvania, agriculture is the number one industry, and Pennsylvania farms lead the way in the Northeast. According to Boyd, Pennsylvania agriculture led the Northeast with \$4.14 billion in cash receipts and an additional \$40 billion related economic activity. Agricultural business creates jobs for one out of every five Pennsylvanians.

The keynote speaker will be Marcia Z. Taylor, editor of Top Producer, Farm Journal Publishing's business magazine for executive farmers. Taylor will challenge attendees to "Don't Underestimate the Competition." Also appearing at the seminar for the first time will be G. David Orr and Ronald J. Hanson, Chief economist of First

Union National Bank, Orr will share his economic forecast of "Optimism Tempered by Realism." Hanson is professor of agricultural economics at University of Nebraska and will look at "The Unspoken Words of a Family"

Dr. David M. Kohl, professor of agricultural economics and small business management at Virginia Tech and a past seminar presenter, will provide new insight in his talk, "Agrivisions in the New Millennium" John M. Blanchfield, another previous participant and manager of agricultural banking and rural development for the American Bankers Association's federal legislative operations department, will outline "Federal Ag Policy Changes in 2000" H. Louis Moore, professor of agricultural economics at Penn State University, will discuss "Agricultural Markets in 2000"

Other seminar speakers will be Jennifer Zimmerman, Lancaster County FFA president, and Sarah Boyd, 1999 Superior 4-H recipient in Lancaster County. Zimmerman is a senior at Ephrata High School. Boyd is a student at Millersville University.

For further information, contact First Union's Agri-Finance office in Lancaster at (717) 291-3519.

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