

New Dairy Youth Retreat Opportunity

WHITE HAVEN (Luzern Co.) - A new opportunity to learn and have fun for all dairy youth with all breeds of cows is scheduled for May 19-21 at Hickory Run State Park in White Haven. Called the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Youth Adventure Retreat (MADYRE), youth at least 13 years old from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania who are involved with dairy animals are invited to attend.

Sponsored by dairy youth leaders from all the above states, this "Intense Leadership Experience" will start at Hickory Run at noon on Friday with a dairy products judging seminar geared to help understand dairy product quality from the consumer's side. In addition, champion dairy bowl team members and national Holstein distinguished junior members will lead a discussion.

Career opportunities and interviews will acquaint youth with the array of opportunities

that are available to them in the dairy industry. Interview techniques will also be covered.

Saturday the group will travel to Pocono Whitewater Adventure in Jim Thorpe where participants will choose to go whitewater rafting or play paintball. Later, banquet style dining with instruction on formal banquet dining manners will be presented. And a mock business meeting and parliamentary procedures will give youth an opportunity to learn Robert's Rules of Order and conduct a successful meeting.

On Sunday, team competition will test skills and dairy knowledge attained from the weekend.

You can still get reservations for the event, but the deadline is Wednesday, May 10. The cost is \$50. To participate, fill in the enrollment application with this article and send to Ken Raney, Pennsylvania Holstein Association, 839 Benner Pike, State College, PA 16801. The office phone number is (814) 234-0364.

MADYAR

Mid-Atlantic Dairy Youth Adventure Retreat
"Intense Youth Leadership Training"
May 19-21, 2000 (noon to noon)
Hickory Run State Park: White Haven, PA

Enrollment Application (please complete and return to your State coordinator)

Enrollment Cost: \$50
I. Vitals

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

II. Leadership Experiences (please list previous leadership involvement)

III. What will MADYAR do for YOU?

NOTE: Please respond quickly, there are limited spaces for this Intense Leadership Experience! Application needs to be accompanied by a \$50 registration fee payable to MADYAR.

Kernel Of Skill Needed To Grow Sweet Corn

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Driving around Pennsylvania's back roads to find the perfect ear of sweet corn practically qualifies as a state sport, but a vegetable expert in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences says backyard gardeners also can grow sweet and tasty ears without much trouble.

"Many sweet corn varieties are resistant to most major corn diseases," says Pete Ferretti, professor of vegetable crops.

All sweet corn varieties are grown from seed and can be planted in most of Pennsylvania from about May 15 to July 1, depending upon whether varieties are early-season or late-season. To enjoy sweet corn throughout the growing season, gardeners should make multiple plantings of early, main season and late-maturing varieties.

Ferretti recommends dedicating at least a 5-foot by 5-foot square of soil for corn, a plot capable of producing about 16 corn plants or around 30 edible ears. "A square plot is ideal because corn is pollinated by the wind and plants are more likely to receive adequate wind flow in a square than in a long row," he explains.

Seeds should be planted 1 inch deep about every 4 inches in rows 16 inches apart. As the plants appear, Ferretti recommends pulling out the less vigorous plants. "Ideally, you should have about 16 inches of space between each remaining plant, which allows for good pollination and space to grow."

Ferretti says corn attracts a wide variety of pests, including corn borers, corn earworms, armyworms, Japanese beetles and corn rootworms. Home gardeners can use Sevin, an all-purpose garden insecticide, or cover the crop with fine mesh row covers. "The row covers will have to be removed when corn tassels appear so the plants can pollinate," he explains. "In a small plot, most people can control pests by walking through and removing insects — unless your plot is next to a farmer's giant cornfield."

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