

Pasture Walks Set

J.B. Harrold
Joel Elder
Phil Sheets
Natural Resources
Conservation Service

By this time we have had two pasture walks in the county. Hopefully you were able to attend these events. Both pasture walks were informative and a lot of useful information was passed.

There are several more pasture walks planned for this summer. If you would like us to plan a winter meeting, please contact us and give us some ideas on what you want to hear about. The planned pasture walks are as follows:

- Aug. 2 at 1 p.m. at the Phil Ott farm near Windber. Phil and his wife Debbie milk 76 cows and rotationally graze about 60 acres of pasture. They have great fence, water, and alleyway systems. Last year they took part in a trial demonstration project that involved alleyway stabilization with a coal combustion by-product. This product, when installed correctly, sets up like con-

crete. This farm is one of three projects to demonstrate coal combustion by-product for stabilization. The stabilized area will be reviewed and discussed at the pasture walk. Ron Dodds with Barenburg seed will also be on hand to discuss forages and new varieties of seeds that are available to improve your pastures.

- Sept. 5 at the William "Red" Whittaker farm south of Berlin. We will meet and depart the White Oak Churches at 7 p.m. to review the grazing system. Red has a beef stocker grazing operation. He buys the livestock in the spring and grazes the livestock until he sells them in late summer. He grazes several hundred acres. He is in the process of installing a solar pump to water his livestock on pasture. Red has also planted some warm season grasses to graze and has participated in the streambank fencing program through DEP. This is one of the larger grazing operations in the county and Red manages it quite well.

- Oct. 3 at 1 p.m. at the John and

Dan Ferko farm near Central City. They graze a 60-cow herd through a paddock system with water in each paddock. Dry cows are also grazed through a paddock system with water in each paddock. Their heifers, along with some contract heifers, are grazed on another farm in a paddock system. This system is on strip-mined ground. Dan says grazing is a lot of work but the returns he sees are worth all of the work.

These pasture walks normally last one to two hours and you are free to come and go as you please. We believe that these events are educational and a benefit to any grazer. If you have any questions or comments or need directions, please contact us. A van will leave from the NRCS office for each of these pasture walks. If you need a ride, please contact us for specific details. Hope to see you at the pasture walks.

A Maze-N-Corn

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) — Spend a little time getting lost in corn, for a while, at Penn State's corn maze here during Ag Progress Days.

Next to the PFGC tent will be a corn maze that is four times larger

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Ag Progress Days is scheduled Aug. 15-17 at Rockspring. Take your family through the maze, and when you're done, visit the PFGC Hay show less than 50 feet away.

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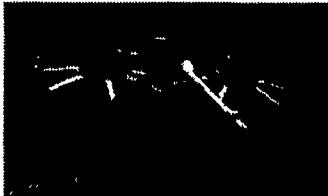
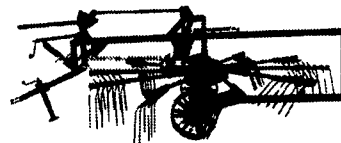
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