

# Horse-Powered Hay Press To Be Demonstrated At Ag Progress

## Dean Steele Welcomes You To Ag Progress

### WELCOME!

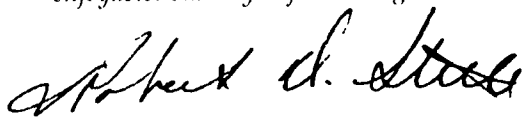
I am pleased to welcome you to Ag Progress Days 2000, Inventions and Innovations. We have some very special features at this year's show. In the College Exhibits Building, and at other locations, you'll find fascinating new services and technologies developed by our faculty and staff. These inventions and innovations are designed to help families, communities, businesses, and industries meet some of the challenges they face. You'll be amazed at what determination, imagination, and ingenuity can produce!

There are a number of changes at this year's show that we think you'll really like. At the Pasto Agricultural Museum, a special outdoor exhibit focuses on the use of animal power in agricultural production. The museum is also hosting a "silent auction" featuring an amazing array of goods. We're allowing cash sales by the vendors at the show this year, and we'll be very interested to know what you think of the change. In addition, several major equipment manufacturers and specialty equipment companies will hold a "show-and-tell," allowing you to see their products in action. All in all, more than 300 commercial exhibitors will showcase more than \$20 million in equipment and services.

We've expanded some of our most popular features. The corn maze is four times larger than last year's, and the "largest weed" contest has returned by popular demand. You can visit the beautiful flower gardens and get expert landscape, lawn, and garden advice right next door. Corn and small grain planters will be demonstrated, and we've brought back the lamb show and skillathon as well as the equine skillathon, and added a "horseless skillathon." In addition, a new tent features agricultural health and safety.

The Family Room, ImAGmation Station, Shaver's Creek, and the Farm Animal Learning Center continue to offer terrific information, great fun, storytelling, and a place to relax. Children will love seeing the talking "Bugmobile" as well as other critters, while adults can get information and take part in programs on topics ranging from nutrition and health to financial management. There are research, natural resources, and conservation education tours at the show. We also offer presentations on the safe handling of farm equipment on highways, and on insect-borne diseases such as West Nile encephalitis, Lyme disease, and the Plum Pox virus.

Throughout the show, you'll find exhibits, educational programs, and demonstrations packed with valuable information to help you improve your life or business. Our faculty and staff are eager to offer their expertise and answer your questions. Please let us know if we can be of assistance or make your stay more enjoyable. Thank you for coming!



Robert D. Steele  
Dean, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) — A 1905 stationary hay press powered by horses or mules will be demonstrated daily at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Aug. 15-17, at the Pasto Agricultural Museum during Penn State's Ag Progress Days.

"This rare piece from the museum will show how loose hay was baled into rectangular blocks weighing 100 to 120 pounds," said Darwin Braund, museum curator for Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Manufactured by the Panama Hay Press Company, Kansas City, Mo., the press is 26 feet long, Braund explained. One mule hitched to a 12-foot sweep arm will walk in a circle to provide power. The power drives a 16-foot-long wooden plunger that compresses the hay in a metal chamber. As the compressed hay emerges, workers place long wires by hand around the bale to hold it together.

"The bale chamber has the significant title of 'O.K.' stenciled on each side," Braund said. "Early history from the manufacturer said that means 'all right,' which it undoubtedly was."

Donated to the museum in 1998 by Dr. Robert L. Cowan, professor emeritus of animal nutrition, the baler was completely restored in early 1999. It was first exhibited at the 1999 Ag Progress Days.

Dr. Cowan and his sons, who have operated the baler many times, will conduct the demon-

stration using their own mule for power. "One of Cowan's sons, Timothy Lunn Cowan, was 12 years old when he and his grandfather went to the county fair with this same OK baler and he learned how to operate it," Braund said. "Tim is flying from his home in Seattle to help his dad and brothers perform this special demonstration."

Penn State's Ag Progress Days features more than 500 acres of educational and commercial exhibits, tours and machinery demonstrations.



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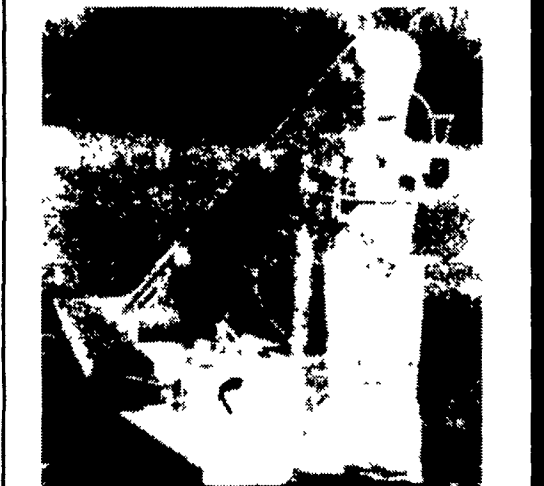


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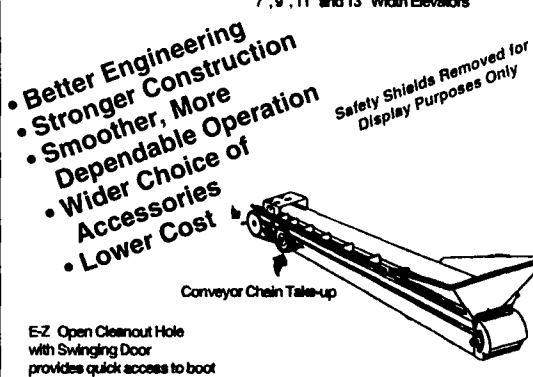
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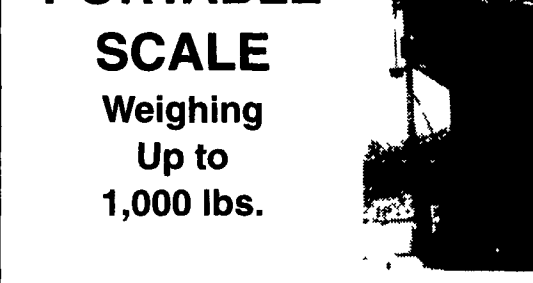
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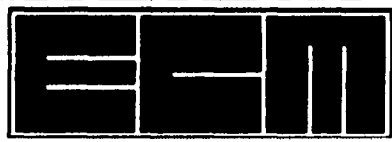
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