

Capitol Region Agronomy Team Report



Del Voight
Lebanon County Agent

The capitol region Silage, Forage, and Pesticide Update Exposition will be conducted Feb. 23 at the Lebanon Exposition Center.

The first-of-its-kind exposition to combine the delivery of silage and forage production information with

pesticide credit needs will start with registration at 9 a.m.

The new format will offer a general session, giving tips on the proper application of pesticides focusing in boom height. After this will be breakouts.

Breakouts will split the group into small components to encourage discussion and the ability to cover

many more topics.

Al Shoener, Schuylkill County Agent, will discuss pricing farm operations and products. He will answer the questions of how to determine prices for high moisture corn, corn silage, haylage and other custom farm practices.

Paul Craig, capitol region forage agent, will discuss forage legume/grass considerations. He will discuss species selection for soil type, establishment suggestions, and quality preservation.

Molds and mycotoxins will be the focus of Dr. Arlen Mills, extension veterinarian, with specifics on identification and management of mycotoxins in ensiled products and when moving forages on farms.

Narrow rows, population, Roundup hybrid performance, and other silage production research un-

dates will be delivered by John Rowehl, capitol region corn and small grain extension agent.

Del Voight, capitol region pest management agent, will offer a core credit dealing with planter applications of pesticides, focusing on applications of insecticides for control of rootworm, seed corn maggots, and diseases.

Mark Goodson, capitol region soils agent, will discuss managing soil fertility in a corn/alfalfa rotation with manure in addition to reviewing nutrient management requirements.

Glenn Shirk, Lancaster County dairy extension agent, will be discussing managing forage feedout and ration considerations. Storage structures, feedout rate and particle

size, silage/haylage or straight silage ration considerations will be discussed in his session.

Three farm systems will be highlighted to show the various ways to manage feeding. Roland Freund, regional farm management agent, will be offering an estate planning discussion group over lunch to focus on the best transfer of farm ownership. He will detail two case studies of the seriousness of making poor choices in this area.

In the afternoon, the issue of using Bt corn and other technologies wisely to protect from insect resistance will be discussed to better manage new emerging technologies. In addition, time will be devoted to delivering information on what's new in herbicide and insecticide choices for 2001.

This all-in-one-day program would not be complete without handouts. Factsheets written by Penn State specialists on corn silage hybrid performance, soybean varieties, small grain performance tests, and forage performance tests will be available.

There will be no fee for attending this program. Umberger's of Fontana and numerous exhibitors have graciously agreed to defray costs of this program.

Please plan to attend this first-ever event by calling the Lebanon County Penn State Cooperative Extension Office at (717) 270-4391. We look forward to seeing you.

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