

New Family Events

emerging diseases — these issues present multifaceted challenges, and their solutions will be as complex as the issues themselves. I know, however, that research and education are critical to finding our way through to answers that work not only for those of us who are here, now, but also for our children and their children.

"That's why I'm very proud to share with you some of the work we're doing in the College of Agricultural Sciences. As you walk through the College Exhibits Building, you'll see displays featuring research and extension programs that address issues such as land and water pollution while at the same time enhancing farm profitability. Turning farm waste products into profit-generating energy or utilizing wetlands as buffer zones to trap excess nutrients are good examples of this work. Presentations in the theater will address current issues such as foot-and-mouth, West Nile, and Lyme diseases. A highway safety workshop for farm equipment operators and a public forum on hot topics in today's agriculture also are scheduled."

(Continued from Page A1)
Steele's complete letter is scheduled to be included in this issue.

Throughout the show, you'll find exhibits and displays packed with information to help you and your family. More than \$20 million in farm equipment and services are on display, with an equipment manufacturers "show and tell" demonstration featuring the very latest technologies.

Also scheduled are a skid steer rodeo, a special high-tunnel production tour, and a variety of field demonstrations. You'll find information on crops and soils, dairy and livestock production, integrated pest management, farm safety, woodlot management, and lawn, landscape and garden care.

Field demonstrations will feature hay mowing, baling, bale handling, haylage chopping and bagging, and rakes and tedders. In addition, three specialty line equipment companies will demonstrate a variety of equipment, such as planters, forage mixers, loaders, bale processors, and forage platforms.

Other exhibits, tours, and workshops will feature cutting-

edge research and information on crops and soils, animal science, dairy and livestock production, integrated pest management, farm safety, conservation practices, and woodlot management. More than 340 commercial and noncommercial exhibitors also will be on hand to display the latest goods and services.

Because of concerns over the possible transmission of foot-and-mouth disease and other foreign animal diseases, visitors who have been overseas within two weeks of attending Ag Progress Days are asked *not* to visit the event's live-animal exhibit areas.

Ag Progress Days hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 15; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 16. Admission and parking are free.

For more information, call (800) PSU-1010 toll-free from July 9-Aug. 16 or visit the Ag Progress Days Web site at <http://apd.cas.psu.edu>.

More information about Ag Progress is included this issue. See the index to stories on page A4.

Agriculture Secretaries Endorse Expo

(continued from Page A1)

Sept. 23 at the West End Fairgrounds, Gilbert.

At a morning press conference at a livestock farm in Hunterdon County, New Jersey and later at Cherry Valley Vineyards, an award-winning family owned and operated winery of Dominick and Mary Sorrenti near Saylorsburg, the two agriculture secretaries spoke of the importance of small farms in each state's overall agricultural economy and the need to preserve agriculture, regardless of the size of the operation.

"We must do whatever we can as a society to preserve agriculture," said Hayes. When speaking of the need to diversify and the possible need for farmers to change their commodity to succeed and continue, Brown said, "The mix of people in society has changed and their food needs must be met or they will go elsewhere — we must keep the market here."

According to Donna Foulk,

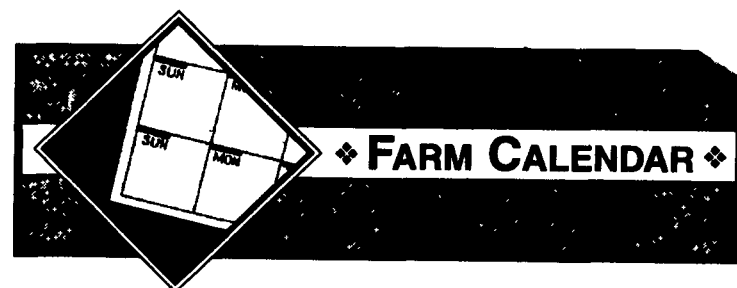
regional ICM coordinator with Rutgers Cooperative Extension and chair of the educational committee of the Northeast Small Farm and Rural Living Expo and Trade Show, there is an increase in small farms in the Northeast, often purchased by people who are not coming from an agricultural background. There is a need to link these newcomers with suppliers and support agencies. It is important to provide the current agricultural community with ways of providing additional income by diversifying to become more profitable, and perhaps the younger generation of the family will remain interested in continuing the operation. Another goal of the Expo is to educate those that are interested but have no desire to farm, but wish to learn more about agriculture.

At the Expo, visitors will be able to choose from 75 educational workshops, lectures and demonstrations; participate in organic and traditional small farm workshops; sample locally produced honey, wine, cheese,

maple syrup, and other food products; attend demonstrations of small farm equipment, supplies, and services; and participate in seminars on forest stewardship and natural resource conservation.

The Expo has attracted the interest of many local businesses and agencies that have volunteered to serve as sponsors for the event. These sponsors include Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit, Rutgers University, Penn State University, Pocono Northeast R.C. & D, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, The Pocono Mountain Vacation Bureaus, Ray Price Ford, PP & L, East Stroudsburg Savings Association, Sprint, and Kistler Printing.

For more information about the Northeast Regional Small Farm and Rural Living Expo and Trade Show, visit the Website at www.smallfarmexpo.org or call Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Warren County at (908) 475-6503 or Northampton County Extension Service at (610) 746-1970.



(Continued from Page A10)

Monday, August 13

Hoss's Fore FFA West, Scotch Valley Country Club, Hollidaysburg.

Dayton Fair, thru Aug. 18.

Kutztown Fair, thru Aug. 18.

Lawrence County Fair, thru Aug. 18.

Erie County Fair, Wattsburg, thru Aug. 19.

Middletown Grange Fair, thru Aug. 19.

Southeast District Dairy Show, Lebanon Fairgrounds, thru Aug. 14.

Storage Workshop At Cornell Dept. of Horticulture, Ramada Inn, Ithaca, thru Aug. 14, (607) 257-3100.

Tuesday, August 14

Ag Progress Days, Rockspring, thru Aug. 16.

Eastern Va. Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Warsaw, VA., 8 a.m.-mid-afternoon, (804) 333-3485.

Processing Sweet Corn and Snap Bean Field Day, N.Y. State Experimental Station, Cornell University, Geneva, 12:30 p.m., (315) 787-2223.

Wednesday, August 15

Pasture Walk, Robert Fineguerra, North Fork Fence and Water.

Ohio State Turfgrass Field Day, Waterman Ag and Natural Resource Lab, Columbus, (614) 501-1100, ext. 3151.

Carbon County Fair, thru Aug. 19.

Middletown Grange Fair, thru Aug. 19.

4-H Ag Science Day Camp, Dauphin County extension, thru Aug. 17.

Cornell Fruit Field Day, Ithaca Campus, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., (607) 255-5439.

Huntingdon County Holstein Show, Fairgrounds, Huntingdon, 9 a.m.

Thursday, August 16

PVMA Annual Scientific Meeting, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, thru Aug. 19.

Apple Crop Outlook and Marketing Conference, Fairmont Hotel, Chicago, thru Aug. 17.

Ohio Soil and Water Field Night, Ohio State University Piketon Center, (740) 947-2121.

Wicomico County Fair, Salisbury, Md., thru Aug. 18, (410)

742-6938. Findlay Township Fair, thru Aug. 18.

Mt. Nebo Fair, thru Aug. 18.

Ohio Farm Profitability Tour, That Guy's Family Farm, Clarksville, 2 p.m.

Cambria County extension Family Fun Night, Duman's Lake County Park, 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

Wye Field Day, Wye Research and Education Center.

Friday, August 17

Westmoreland County Fair and 4-H Roundup, thru Aug. 25.

Saturday, August 18

Central Regional Championship Show, Huntingdon County Fairgrounds, Huntingdon, 6 p.m.

Crawford County Fair, thru Aug. 25.

Botany Summer Short Course: Residential Landscape Design, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Warren County Summer Holstein Sale, Warren County Fairgrounds, Pittsfield, 11 a.m.

Central Pa. Championship Holstein Show, Huntingdon County Fairgrounds, Huntingdon, 6 p.m.

Ohio Farm Profitability Tour, Riggensbach Farm, Wooster, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Northeast District Jersey Show, Tioga County Fairgrounds.

4-H District Dairy Show, Wayne County.

North American Strawberry Growers Association Summer Tour, Nova Scotia, Canada, thru Aug. 21.

Ephrata Area Young Farmers Social, Woodcrest Retreat, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 19

Summer Ag Tour, Don Westrick's Potato Farm, Lowmaster Dairy Farm, Benny David Horse Farm, and John and Kevin Brahnak Greenhouses, all near Carrolltown.

Franklin County Fair, thru Aug. 25.

Fulton County Fair, thru Aug. 25.

McKean County Fair, thru Aug. 25.

Somerset County Fair, thru Aug. 25.

Williamsburg Community Farm Show, thru Aug. 25.



(Continued from Page A10)

discharge permits, would have responsibilities for the environmental practices of their Maryland growers, even though these growers are independent farm families who raise chickens for the companies. According to the Maryland Farm Bureau, this co-permitting is a threat to the future of family farms in Maryland, not just those that grow chickens, but farms that supply the corn and soybeans used to feed Maryland chickens.

Maryland poultry growers working with Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. (DPI), the trade association for the Delmarva Peninsula broiler chicken industry, and the Maryland Farm Bureau, the largest farm organi-

zation in the state, have filed protests against the permits on behalf of poultry growers who will be harmed by co-permitting. Each of the poultry companies, Allen Family Foods, Inc., Perdue Farms Inc., and Tyson Foods, Inc. also has filed requests for a contested case hearing.

Both DPI and the Maryland Farm Bureau have chosen not to join in the appeal so that the focus stays on the illegality of the permits, not on peripheral issues of legal standing of organizations. Nevertheless, both, working together, recognize the important interest poultry growers have in the permits and their vital role in the process.

Maryland Farm Bureau Presi-

dent Steve Weber and DPI President Ken Sterling said, "Co-permitting is a serious threat to the future of farm families and the poultry industry in Maryland and both our organizations felt it was necessary to help our growers be represented in the legal process."

The process calls for the Office of Administrative Hearings to review the requests and schedule a hearing. The hearing might not be held until late this year. While the appeal is pending, the permits are not final and the co-permitting requirements in the companies' permits will not be enforced.

Poultry companies and poultry growers are committed to working for improved water quality in Maryland. Co-permitting will not result in improved water quality but will create another level of government regulation beyond what the Maryland General Assembly authorized in 1998. Instead it will divert time and resources

that could and should be directed to legitimate water quality initiatives.

In their challenges, the poultry growers and poultry companies will argue that a requirement for a facility's wastewater discharge permit to regulate the activities at other, independently operated businesses that are under different ownership is not authorized under state or federal law. This message was made loud and clear by the nearly 1,400 people who attended early 2001 public hearings to protest co-permitting.

Maryland farmers and poul-

try growers do not want the poultry companies to be the environmental police. The working relationship between growers and companies will be seriously disrupted because of this. Additionally, it is a threat to farm families that might not get chicken placements on their farms as poultry companies seek to reduce their potential liability. Violators of the co-permitting requirements could face civil fines up to \$27,500 per day per violation and criminal fines of up to \$27,500 per day per violation, plus jail time.

Information Supplied by Maryland Farm Bureau Randallstown, Md.

See Lancaster Farming
CowCam

Visit our Website at www.lancasterfarming.com