

Equine Program Offered

SKIPPACK (Montgomery Co.) — The Penn State Extension of Montgomery County offers an educational program for all horse enthusiasts on Tuesday, April 23, entitled "What Your Horse is Trying to Tell You — Exploring Equine Vices."

Featured speaker Dr. Ann Swinker, equine extension specialist at Penn State, will talk about equine vices and related behavior problems both in-hand and under saddle.

Since horses cannot "talk" to us, they often communicate their needs of frustrations through what humans would call "bad behavior." Often vices are a result of conditions imposed on our horses in captivity or by human error. Some vices may be prevented and some are treatable. Safety issues and possible solutions to some behavior problems will be discussed.

This program is open to all horse owners, riders and enthusiasts. According to Extension Agent Nancy Kadwill, there is no cost for the class but advance registration is requested to reserve a spot. Please call the extension office at (610) 489-4315, and leave your name, address and phone number if you wish to attend.

Dr. Swinker has served as the equine specialist at the University of Colorado for many years and recently returned to Penn State.

The meeting will be conducted from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Montgomery County 4-H Center located on Route 113, one mile south of Route 73 near Skippack.

March 1 Cattle Feedlot Numbers 2 Percent Lower

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Cattle on feed for slaughter market in the U.S. for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.52 million head on March 1, 2002, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The inventory was down 2 percent from the 11.70 million head on March 1, 2001 but 2 percent above March 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.81 million, 14 percent above 2001 but 4 percent below 2000. Net placements were 1.74 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 260,000, 600-699 pounds were 410,000, 700-799 pounds were 662,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 473,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.80 million, 3 percent above 2001 but 12 percent below 2000.

Other disappearance total-

ed 63,000 during February, 22 percent below 2001 and 19 percent below 2000.

Cattle on feed March 1, 2002, in the historic seven states for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.91 million,

down 1 percent from the previous year but 2 percent above March 1, 2000.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.54 million, 16 percent above 2001 but 4 percent below 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance — 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, United States, March 1, 2001-2002

ITEM	Number			2002 as % of	
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001
	1,000 Head			Percent	
On Feed Feb 1'	11,574	11,941	*11,572	100	97
Placed on Feed During Feb	1,880	1,580	1,805	96	114
Cattle Marketed During Feb	2,046	1,745	1,796	88	103
Other Disappearance During Feb ²	78	81	63	81	78
On Feed March 1'	11,330	11,695	11,518	102	98

* - Revised.

1 - Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and expected to produce a carcass that will grade Select or better.

2 - Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

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Consignments welcome-please call soon! List subject to change, due to prior sale. Cash, good PA checks, or auctioneer approved out-of-state checks and all major credit cards accepted. A 3% processing fee on all credit cards.

For more information contact:

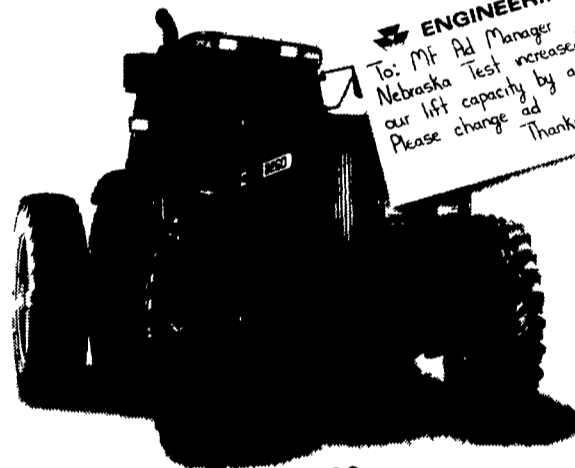
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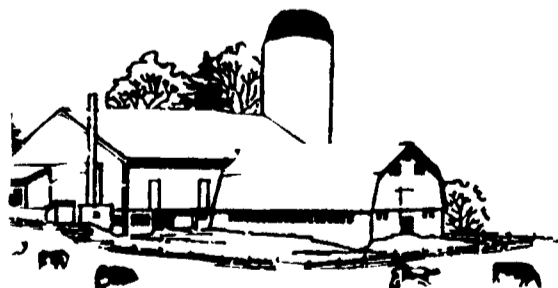
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