

Poultry Pointers

(Continued from Page A27)

mal health issues associated with international trade. This concept, if accepted and applied bilaterally, should for instance, allow some state or region to be dealing with a problem, without necessarily jeopardizing international trade of the remainder of the country. This potential is further aided by the product traceability procedures operational in our poultry processing plants.

The international climate is changing when it comes to consideration of vaccination as an aid in the control and eradication of such highly infectious diseases as A.I. and foot and mouth disease (FMD). The U.K. and several other countries' experiences with FMD have clearly brought the issue of massive slaughter and vaccination to the forefront. Certainly, the scientific issues associated with vaccination against

A.I. are less complex than vaccination against FMD.

In correspondence with USDA, the Pennsylvania industry has also asked that priority be given to support the development of even more effective and easily administered A.I. vaccines — such as a bivalent H₅ and H₇. We have also suggested the development of a national vaccine bank.

In conclusion, we believe that every effort should be made to eliminate the A.I. virus from the live bird markets, to encourage the best possible practices of bio-security, and to aggressively react to any introduction of virus. Nonetheless, as a safety net, we believe that vaccine availability and possible use as one tool in control and eradication should be given a high priority. There is no scientific justification to do otherwise.

Beef On-Foot On-Rail Program

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Beef industry representatives who are interested in expanding their knowledge of the end product are invited to attend a three-session on-foot on-rail program at the Berks County Ag Center and the Leesport Farmers' Market. On April 22, at the Berks County Ag Center, a classroom program will teach individuals the characteristics used to evaluate carcasses of beef and swine. Areas to be covered include grades, loin and rib eye area, maturity, back fat, etc. Associating carcass evaluation factors with live animals will be part of the program.

On April 23, a live evaluation of four each of steers and swine will be conducted at the Leesport Farmers' Market. The attendees will estimate dressing percentage, rib

eye area, inches of back fat, quality grade, and yield grade, plus place the two classes of animals.

On April 29, the carcasses of the same animals will be evaluated for all of the above. The evening educational session will be conducted at the Berks County Ag Center, with Dr. William Henning, PSU Meat Scientist,

leading the discussion. Pictures of the carcasses will be used to show the actual carcass traits.

Registration is required and will be limited to 50 participants. (Maximum of two per family.) Cost is \$5 per person. For more information, contact Clyde Myers, Extension Agent, at 610-378-1327.

Congratulations To Winners!

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — Lancaster Farming congratulates the following winners of a free, one-year subscription to the newspaper from the recent Pennsylvania Beef Expo.

They include John McDonald, Honesdale; Roy Cook, Columbia Cross Roads; Corey and Mary Loucks, Cameron Mills, N.Y.; Marianne Karalunas, Wyoming; and Chris Breeding, Seaford, Del.

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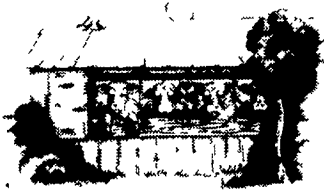


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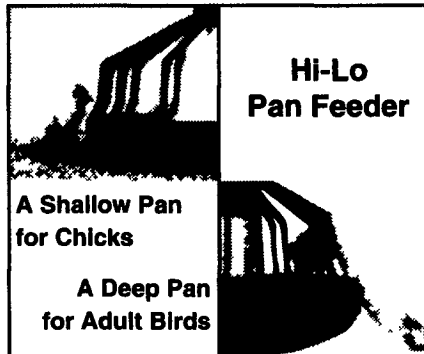
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