

New PDA Building To Be Ready By Ag Progress Days

ROCKSPRINGS (Centre Co.) — Agriculture Secretary Sam Hayes recently announced the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) is about to build another structure.

With construction underway at the Farm Show Complex and the new Livestock Evaluation Center, PDA began construction this week on a new exhibit and utility building at the Ag Progress Days site.

Secretary Hayes said, "Penn State hosts a great summer event each year at Ag Progress Days. I wanted the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to have a permanent presence with Penn State at their event. Our new building will be a good showcase for agriculture."

Formerly, PDA used a tent and shared space at Ag Progress Days.

The new steel building will be

40' x 52' and will be located near the Special Events Building, the Red Barn, and the Headquarters Building at Ag Progress Days.

Bob Oberheim, PSU Ag Progress Days manager said, "We are very pleased the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is constructing this permanent facility which will be one of the important anchor buildings on the upper grounds at the Ag Progress Days site."

Hayes added, "The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture also partners with Penn State near the Ag Progress Days site by providing financial resources for the College of Agricultural Sciences to conduct agricultural research in agronomy and horticulture."

"High tunnel research and new discoveries in tomato plants are just two examples of agricultural research sponsored by the Penn-

sylvia Department of Agriculture at the field plots on the university farms which adjoin the Ag Progress Days site.

"PDA is providing \$2.68 million this year to the College of Agricultural Sciences for animal and plant research."

The building will be completed prior to Ag Progress Days in August. The facility will be the PDA headquarters and exhibit building during Ag Progress Days.

It will also serve as an auxiliary building for PDA's new \$6.4 million Livestock Evaluation Center which is also under construction nearby in Ferguson Township. And, Secretary Hayes is offering the new building to the agriculture industry for events throughout the year.

Hayes concluded, "All of this new construction at the Department of Agriculture is for the agriculture community to use.

Whether it is this new building, the new Livestock Evaluation Center, the new and upgraded Farm Show Complex, or the new greenhouse complex at PDA, I want the people in the agricul-

ture community to know all these new structures are for them. All of this construction makes for a phenomenal and historic year at PDA."



Recently Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Sam Hayes and others participated in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new PDA building. From left is Bill Clouser, PDA; Bob Oberheim, PSU Manager of Ag Progress Days; Sam Hayes; Bruce Rumbaugh, PDA; Ron Colewell, Allensville Planing Mill, Inc.; Doug Rudy, PDA; Ed Singer, PDA; Dorothy Derr, PDA; and Tom Wolf, PDA.

Pennsylvania Farm Market, Consumer's Guide Available

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — To assist in the search for Pennsylvania's fruits and vegetables, Agriculture Secretary Sam Hayes has announced that the 2002 edition of "A Consumer's Guide to Pennsylvania Farm Markets" is now available.

"This guide provides consumers with a listing, by county, of farmers' markets and roadside

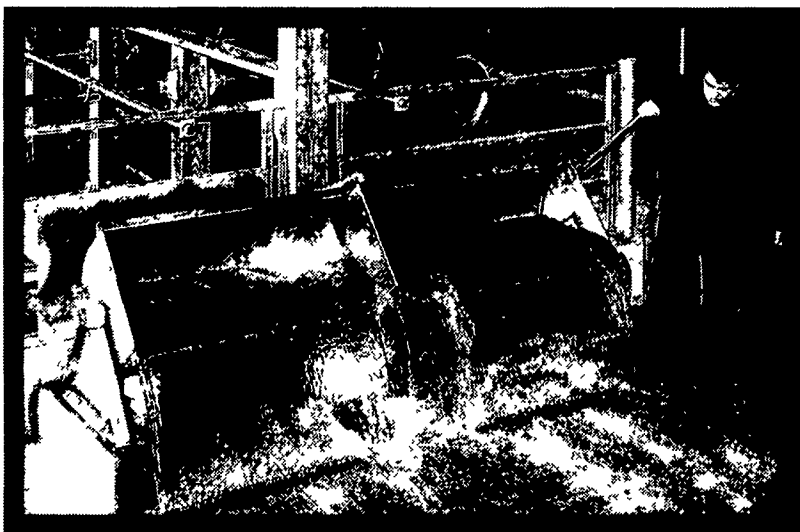
stands across Pennsylvania," Hayes said. "We encourage everyone to stop and purchase their favorite Pennsylvania produce from one of our many Pennsylvania farm markets."

Hayes said that "A Consumer's Guide to Pennsylvania Farm Markets" is provided as part of the "Pennsylvania Produce — Simply Delicious" program. Gov.

Mark Schweiker recently kicked off the 2002 produce season by launching an expanded marketing campaign to promote the quality and wholesome goodness of "Simply Delicious" fruits and vegetables across the commonwealth.

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