

Seniors' Farmers Market Nutrition Program Expanded

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Senior Citizens' Farmers Market Nutrition Program has been expanded in all 67 Pennsylvania counties for the 2002 season, with more than \$3.5 million now available for coupons for seniors to purchase fresh Pennsylvania fruits and vegetables.

"This program is a unique partnership between nutritionally at-risk seniors and Pennsylvania's farmers markets and roadside stands that sell fruits and vegetables of the highest quality."

The program was initiated in 1998 as a pilot project, serving an estimated 175,000 seniors in 2002. T

The Senior Citizens' Farmers Market Nutrition Program provides eligible seniors with \$20 in coupons toward the purchase of Pennsylvania fruits and vegetables.

Participating seniors enjoy the ability to stretch their food budgets, visit their favorite markets and experience the flavor of Pennsylvania's home-grown produce, such as tomatoes, sweet corn, peppers, beans, squash, melons, berries, apples and peaches.

The program also strives to develop direct market opportunities with nearly 560 participating markets and roadside stands. Coupons may be redeemed through Nov. 30.

Ag Showcase To Highlight Biofuels, Farmland Preservation, Multiflora Rose Control

FAIR HILL, Md. — This year's Ag Showcase at the Cecil County Fair will have something for everyone interested in agriculture and a clean environment, according to Scott Rowe, ag extension educator for Maryland Cooperative Extension in Cecil County.

"This year's showcase will highlight three diverse topics: biofuels, farmland preservation, and control of multiflora rose, a serious invasive weed," Rowe said. "All three topics are important to farmers and nonfarmers alike." In addition, participating equipment dealers will demonstrate a broad range of equipment — much of it running on biofuel — for full- and part-time

farmers with various enterprises and acreages. Forage handling equipment will be highlighted.

Biofuels contain varying amounts of oils or alcohols made from agricultural crops. The most common types are biodiesel, a mix of petroleum diesel fuel and a crop oil such as soy oil, and gasohol, a mixture of petroleum gasoline and ethanol fermented from crops such as barley or corn. Representatives from USDA-ARS, Maryland Grain Producers Association, and fuel manufacturers and distributors will be at the Showcase to discuss all aspects of biofuels, including plans for an ethanol plant in Maryland.

Multiflora rose is closely related to ornamental roses and was promoted in the past for wildlife cover and soil conservation. It is easily spread by birds and other wildlife and has invaded many pastures, parklands, and other open spaces. It can be managed through use of chemical herbicides; mechanical control such as bulldozing, mowing or grinding and tilling; or grazing with browsing animals such as goats and sheep. In addition, a naturally occurring disease of roses, rose-rosette disease, is slowly moving into this area and may offer additional control.

Rowe will conduct a walk-through demonstration of multiflora rose management, including three herbicide treatments and two mechanical methods.

Farmland preservation programs and information are offered by several area agencies and organizations. Several, including Cecil Land Trust, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation, Maryland Environmental Trust, and Pennsylvania's Brandywine Conservancy will be on hand at the Showcase to offer advice. Farmers who wish to preserve their farmland should work closely with their attorney, estate planner, and these organizations in order to fully understand all the options and their impacts.

The Ag Showcase is sponsored by Maryland Cooperative Extension and the Cecil County Fair and is open to everyone interested in agriculture. It will be conducted near the Cecil County Fairgrounds Tuesday, July 23, from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Admission is free, and lunch will be available on site for a nominal fee.

Visitors should drive to the Cecil County Fairgrounds and follow Ag Showcase signs to the site. For more information, call Scott Rowe at (410) 996-5280.

2002 All-American Dairy Show Judges Announced

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The 39th All-American Dairy Show will open on Sunday, Sept. 22, at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg.

Judges selected for the six national or regional breed shows are as follows:

• Norman Hill, a lifetime resident of Maryland, will be officiating the All-American Ayrshire Show on Tuesday, Sept. 24. He lives in Woodbine, Md., and owns and operates NH Cattle Co.

Hill was a member of the Maryland 4-H program, showing Ayrshire cattle, and was a member of the Maryland 4-H Dairy Judging Team. Along with his brother Allen, Hill developed a herd of Ayrshire cattle for over 23 years and was named premier breeder and exhibitor for seven times on the national level. Five All-Americans were developed from this herd. Hill brings with him to Harrisburg years of showing and judging experiences.

• Steven A. Hendress, Purdue University, will judge the Eastern National Brown Swiss Show on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Hendress has judged nationally as well as internationally and was a member of the first Purdue Dairy Judging Team at the All-American Dairy Judging Contest in 1974. He lives in Wilcote, Ind. and is coach of the Purdue Dairy Judging Team, the Indiana All-State 4-H Dairy Judging Team and advisor for the Purdue Dairy Club. He is an instructor in Animal Science at the university.

Prior to his employment with Purdue, Hendress was very active in the family farm, breeding the Hoosier Knoll Brown Swiss. He feels his greatest accomplishment in the dairy industry has been breeding, owning, and developing the 1994 All-American Aged Cow, Hoosier Knoll Jade Monay.

• Judging the National Guernsey Show on Wednesday, Sept. 25, will be Denny Ferguson of Dryden, New York.

A former member of the Cornell University Dairy Judging Team, Ferguson began his dairy career at a young age on the McDonald Farms of Cortland, New York.

After graduating from college, he returned to be herd manager of the farms until their dispersal. During this time, the McDonald Farms were named Premier Breeder on the national level 25 times. Ferguson has traveled from coast to coast showing cattle and as a fitter. He also is a district representative for Semex. He has judged shows throughout the U.S. and Canada.

• Brian Garrison will once again return to Harrisburg and judge the Eastern National Holstein Show on Thursday, Sept. 26. He is a lifelong resident of Ohio, living in Tiffin with his wife, Ann and their family.

Garrison is a graduate of Ohio State University and is active in breeding registered Brown Swiss with his brother on the Garbro Swiss family farm. He is a sire analyst for ABS Global, and has been associated with the A.I. business for more than 16 years. Brian was a member of the Ohio State University Team, which won the All-American Dairy Judging Contest, placing second

as an individual. He has judged many shows internationally and has judged all six dairy breeds on the national level.

• Officiating at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Jersey Show on Thursday, Sept. 26, will be Curtis Day of Lake Wooden, Minn.

Day has judged and exhibited at the All-American Dairy Show numerous times. He has judged many shows nationally and has served on the All-American panels for Holstein and Brown Swiss breeds.

Day and his family owned and developed the Tri-Day Holstein herd, which was dispersed in March 2001. His family was breeder of well-known Tri-Day Adeen-ET, breeder of Tri-Day Ashlyn-ET, and many other successful members of the Bendy-Brook Odyssey Favorite Family.

• Making his first judging appearance at the All-American Dairy Show is Danny Huddleston of Alba, Texas.

Huddleston will be officiating the All-American Milking Shorthorn Show on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

He has exhibited Milking Shorthorns at the All-American Dairy Show and has developed numerous All-American nominations, All-American award winners, and national champions. He was born and raised in Texas and has judged all over the United States. Huddleston judged in his youth through the 4-H and FFA programs and is currently coaching the local 4-H Dairy Judging Team. He is active in the National Milking Shorthorn Association and a member of the All-American Milking Shorthorn Futurity Committee. Danny resides with his wife, Shelly and daughter, Danielle, on their 450-acre farm, breeding Oak Grove Milking Shorthorns.

The All-American Dairy Show will be conducted September 22 to 26 at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. Entry deadlines are Aug. 23 and Sept. 4. For more information, a premium list, and entry forms, contact the All-American Dairy Show Office at (717) 787-2905 or e-mail aads@state.pa.us.

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