

# Penn State Grape Research Center In Erie County Marks 50 Years

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — 1952 was a leap year. The Korean War was raging, the New York Yankees beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in the World Series, Dwight Eisenhower was elected

president, birth control pills were introduced, and the first hydrogen bomb was detonated.

Many Pennsylvanians might have missed the small headlines that announced Penn State's pur-

chase of land and facilities for \$1 from local grape growers for the Erie County Agricultural Experimental Station, 15 miles east of Erie along the shore of Lake Erie. But it was an important develop-

ment for the state's grape industry all the same. Over the years, grape and other fruit research at the station has resulted in many significant findings and improved growing practices.

The 43-acre facility, under the direction of manager John Griggs, will hold a modest ceremony and field day Aug. 3 to mark its anniversary. Now called the Lake Erie Regional Grape Research and Extension Center, it conducts research on grapes under conditions similar to those on farms where the research results might be applied.

The field laboratory is part of the research division of Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences. In addition to providing site-specific conditions for research, the facility increases opportunities for growers, consumers and students to observe experiments and to consult with scientists. Extension specialists apply experimental findings to local conditions and, in turn, make suggestions to scientists about new research needs.

Penn State research involvement in Erie County dates back to 1918, when a field laboratory was established at Girard to study onions and potatoes. In 1937, the Erie County Horticultural Society established a field laboratory in North East to continue fruit research on private lands in the county.

Nine years later, an organization of fruit growers known as the Erie County Agricultural Research Corporation purchased 20 acres of land, and on July 28, 1948, the Erie County Field Research Laboratory was opened. The lab, which provided an area for conducting fruit research, was purchased by Penn State four years later.

Because of its proximity to Lake Erie, Erie County enjoys climatic and geographical features favorable to fruit production. Although livestock and other crops also are produced there, the fruit industry is perhaps the region's most prominent agricultural asset. Erie County is the primary producer of grapes in Pennsylvania. Local grape crops are sold as fresh fruit in season and are processed as juices, jellies, jams and wines.

Some of the research highlights of the Lake Erie Regional Grape Research and Extension Center include:

- A long-term study showing that when organic matter in the soil is properly maintained, Concord grapevines need little or no fertilizer.

- The Single Curtain Cordon training system for Concord grapes.

- Bench-grafting studies with numerous rootstocks and several vinifera cultivars that have increased the percentage of grafting success from less than 20 percent to more than 70 percent. The field laboratory was instrumental in introducing the Penn Concord strain.

- Entomological studies on grapes that have focused on the biology and importance of the grape berry moth, grape leafhopper, grape cane girdler, rose chaffer, Japanese beetle, redbanded leafroller, grape erineum mite and European red mite. Chemical controls were developed and incorporated into an effective spray program for control of these pests.

- In-depth studies into the biology and life cycle patterns of the eastern grape berry moth that yielded controls of this primary grape pest.

- Studies are under way that focus on the resistance of the grape berry moth to the insecticide Carbaryl.

- Disease management studies.

- Trials on the effects of compost applications to vineyard floors.

- Surveys to monitor the grapevine decline occurring in some areas of Pennsylvania and New York.

- Development of an expert system for grape culture (called VITIS) that can be accessed by a grower or extension agent via personal computer to obtain information on standard cultural practices or to assist in solving a special problem.

- Studies on the grape cane gallmaker to determine its biology and impact on Concord grapes. A statewide survey of grape root borer distribution and seasonality is being conducted because this insect may pose a substantial threat to developing viticultural areas in southeastern Pennsylvania.

- Experiments to control the eastern grape leafhopper and grape berry moth are in progress on Concord grapes.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Thursday January 23, 2003 9:00 A.M.

Upgraded Horse Drawn Farm Machinery - Seven Head of Mules - Holstein Heifers  
Hay - Ear Corn - Corn Silage - Milking Equipment - Household Antiques - Two 1800 Chests  
Auction held for Benuel H. - Sylvia King

352 Gridley Rd. Lancaster, Pa., 2 mile west of Rt. 30 and Rt. 896 junction go south on Rt. 896 app 500 ft, turn right onto Rockvale Rd. Follow to Gridley Rd. right. From Strasburg go north on 896 to Rockvale Rd.

Milking and Manure Handling Equipment

Four Delaval milker units with Harmony claws, original Sputnik, 700 gal Mueller milk tank, Iveco 3 cyl 30 hp diesel new 4 years, Alfa Laval Agri VP77 vacuum pump new 2 years, 5hp cooling compressor new one year, large generator, hyd pump, Miller manure pump, E L S 900 gal tandem axle liquid spreader, New Idea 206 conventional manure spreader, Smoker 900 gal liquid spreader.

Barn - Shop Tools - Cattle Feeders

Platform scales, 72 hole stocked bolt bin, Miller portable welder, torch set with tanks, table saw, steel band saw. Craftsman band saw, chain hoist, hi pressure washer, hyd press, 2 Lywood hay feeders, scraper on forecart, 2-12 volt fences, hyd cattle lift, Handi matic silage feeder, 3 feed carts, 5 circulating barn fans, lot of V pulleys, 300 gal fuel tank, 100 gal pressure tank.

Tillage - Planting Equipment

White Horse 2 bottom plow ex condition, one shank sub soiler spring reset, John Deere K B A 24 discs disc harrow, 2 clod busters 4 and 3 ft nine ft field harrow, 3 single roll cultpackers 4-8 and 9 ft, eight ft Brillion seeder with wheels, Lely ground drive seeder, John Deere 1240 corn planter with 12 volt lift, 230 gallon boom sprayer, back pack sprayer, Wiard 106 walking plow, potato plow.

Harvesting Equipment

New Holland 892 Harvester with feeder conveyor table, hi moisture hopper with screens, excellent condition, A649T industrial diesel, ex cond with Rockford clutch, sells separate from harvester, New Holland 456 mower tiger jaws knives hyd control, New Holland 256 rake, Pequea tedder, Kuhn ground drive rake, Case International 8520 baler with applicator, 4 flat bed wagons, gravity bin wagon, New Holland 36 ft elevator with hyd motor, New Idea crimper with Smucker rolls fully hyd control, with A C engine, one horse corn binder engine drive, I&J 2 row cultivator, Little Giant

corn drag, 6 ft Stoltzfus bilt rotary mower with Kawasaki engine with starter, 2 row Smucker stalk shredder with A C engine  
A C wide front gas tractor on steel with pulley and 3 pt adapter

Seven Head of Mules; Harness; Hitches

Big mules all well broke - sound  
Pair of Black Mollie Mules top lead, Pair of Brown Horse Mules lot of snap, Pair of Bay smooth mouth Mules, single top off side worker  
9 set of front gears, collars, bridles, 20 extra collars, 4 sets of pulley hitches, steel hitches, single trees to 8 horse hitch, barrel of harness oil, harness parts

Holstein Heifers - Feed

Heifers Breeding Age  
All A I sired herd sold private R H A 23,000 M 3 6 fat, app 30 ton of alfalfa, 20 ton of ear corn, app 150 ton of corn silage in 14x60 upright

Antiques & Household Goods 10:30

2 iron kettles, iron doors, seafaring wooden chest, wood chest, both 1800's, wooden wardrobe, 3 old pie plates, butcher block, brown & grained plank bottom chairs, 2 cedar chests, old high head board bed, old hutch, leaf desk, rag carpets, few old dishes and books, sink, large circular saw blade, kitchen space heater, more items not listed, hardwood flooring

Sale order - small farm related items, feed, farm machinery, milking equip, heifers, mules  
Bring proper ID to obtain buyer number  
Auct note: This is an opportunity to purchase farm machinery and livestock in good condition Benuel kept his machinery in shed and well maintained  
Farmer coming is already in operation

Petersheim Auctioneers:

Steve - Orpha Rose - Dave  
AU001349L 610-857-5200

PUBLIC AUCTION

January 2, 2003 9:30 AM

Upgraded Horse Drawn Farm Machinery  
Four Belgian Draft Horses  
Round Bale Equipment - Milking Equipment  
8530 Case Int. baler - excellent condition  
Hay - Corn silage  
Auction held for: Elizabeth K. Miller

Located at 805 Stively Rd., Strasburg, Lancaster County, Pa Four mile south of Strasburg from Rt 896 at square of Strasburg go south on Decatur St. Straight onto May Post Office Rd App. 3 mile go west on Saw Mill Rd. to Weaver Rd. right Go straight at stop sign to Sandstone Rd left to Stively Rd left

Four Draft Horses - Harness - Hitches

Pair 8-9 yr old nice condition, well mated well broke, lot of snap; pair of smooth mouth horses well broke with size, 7 set of front gears, bridles, collars, driving lines, single, triple, double trees, 7-8 horse hitches

Milking Equipment

Original Sputnik - 4 Bio milker units, 65 lb pails, extra pail, like new, 700 gal Sunset milk tank, 2 large cooling compressors, Bou-matic vacuum pump, Kubota diesel 30 hp good condition, S.S twin tubs

Forage and Hay Equipment

Claas Rollant 42 farmer round baler in excellent condition, with 4 cyl Wisconsin engine with H.D clutch reduction, complete hyd control, round bale mover 4 bale capacity with Honda engine complete hyd control, Fairco bale carrier, Round bale wrapper complete hyd control in excellent condition, New Holland 456 mower, with Kawasaki engine, New Holland 256 rake, Kuhn rake with 6 5 Honda engine, Case Int 8530 baler with 30 hp Wisconsin engine 4 cyl, flat bed wagon, New Holland 30 ft elevator hyd motor, Hesston silage Harvester with feeder table with Lister Petter Diesel 100 plus H P with Funk H D clutch, unit in excellent condition, 34 bales of Weathergard bale wrap

Harvesting - Tillage Equipment

Single bottom trailer plow, 2 bottom trailer plow,

24 discs K.B A. disc harrow, 12 ft field harrow, 9 ft cultpacker, New Idea 323 corn picker, 32 ft Little Giant elevator, Black Rock field sprayer, 6 ft. Brady stalk chopper, 3 fore carts

Manure Handling Equipment

1100 gal. D.S. tandem axle liquid spreader new 2 years, Dry Hill 8 ft manure pump, 2 sections 45 and 55 ft fill pipe, E L S 600 gal liquid spreader, 9 0 Honda Hyd unit, 10 ft stationary manure pump New Idea 206 manure spreader

Feed - Barn Supplies

50 ft of corn silage in 14x60 upright, app 35 ton of alfalfa hay, 90 ft of baleage in bag, Lincoln portable welder Gandy applicators, 275 gal fuel tank, metal feed bin Feed and silage carts, 24 ft portable feed rake, round hay feeders, 2 platform scales one digital

Case 930 Comfort King diesel tractor on steel  
30 pieces of 5 inch aluminum irrigation pipe  
Household Goods

Not many small items come early for machinery  
Auct note this is an opportunity to purchase farm machinery in exceptionally good condition Bring proper ID to obtain buyer's number

Auct:

Petersheim Auction Service  
Steve, Orpha Rose, Dave  
AU00349L 610-857-5200

SPOTLIGHT ON FAMILIES IN  
ANNUAL FARM SHOW ISSUE

The new and expanded Farm Show opens to the public on Saturday, Jan. 11. And one of our largest, and best issues, is soon to hit mailboxes. The Jan. 11 issue will be *Lancaster Farming's* own Farm Show Issue, which highlights the newly expanded, largest indoor agricultural event in the country. Included that issue: Farm Show family highlights, Keystone Degree recipient biographies, events schedule, and maps. It's a brand-new Farm Show this year. We hope to see you there!

ATTENTION  
AUCTIONEERS

Due to the Christmas Holidays  
Deadline for the Dec. 28th issue will be  
FRIDAY DEC. 21 5PM  
Deadline for the Jan. 4th issue will be  
FRIDAY DEC. 29 5PM

Happy Holidays!