

Live Equipment Demos A First At The Farm Show

Seminars To Cover A Variety Of Agricultural Innovations

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Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — For the first time ever, Farm Show guests will be able to witness farm equipment in action during the event.

“Animated demonstra-

tions” of new innovative machinery will take place on the floor of the Large Arena between 10 a.m and 2:45 p.m. Monday and Tuesday Jan. 13-14 during Farmer Days at the new Farm Show. That means the equipment will be

doing actual tasks for visitors to see, according to Don Hoover of Binkley and Hurst Bros. Inc., Lititz.

“People will be able to sit in there, out of the winter’s cold, and watch the demonstrations,” Hoover said.

Equipment in motion will include a new Case IH 12-row pivoting planter, Fendt tractors from AgCo, John Deere’s new infinitely variable speed transmission, and a lift and turn angle hitch provided by Hooper Inc.

Binkley and Hurst Bros. will feature a compact track loader and a large skid steer loader for handling silage, as well as a tele-boom loader moving large bales of hay.

Hooper’s “lift and rotate hitch” can transport a 20-foot Great Plains grain drill and a Case IH 8-row corn planter at about half the working width, said Tom Yohe of Hooper’s.

The demonstrations will offer a one-of-a-kind experience to Farm Show guests.

“It’s a unique opportunity to actually show something working,” Yohe said. “You just don’t have that opportunity at other venues.”

“We’re excited about it. It will be interesting to see how it is received.”

After each working demonstration takes place, guests will have time to walk out on the floor for a close-up look at the machinery and have questions answered by company

representatives.

A variety of informational seminars for farmers are also offered Monday through Wednesday, Jan 13-15.

Representatives from Blue Seal Feeds, Iron Solutions, NSIA Inc., and Sollenberger Silo will share their expertise in 45-minute sessions conducted in the Small Room between 10 a.m and 2:45 p.m.

AgCo, Hooper Inc., John Deere, and New Holland are to present 45-minute seminars in the Large Room during the same time period. Experts will provide guidance on a variety of new technologies.

See the schedule on this page to choose sessions that will help you make the most of your Farm Show visit!

Farm Link Offers Training, Loans To New Farmers

MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — To tackle the continuing decline in new farm entry demonstrated by the precipitous 58 percent drop in new farmers under age 35 from 1982 to 1997, Pennsylvania Farm Link will offer a comprehensive approach to getting into farming.

Training in business planning and marketing skills, a 12-week, 36-hour course will begin in February in the Manheim area. During the course, producers will explore niche markets, distribution channels, production options, management controls, business structure, cash-flow management, and financing. The focus of the course is on the individual producer’s interest, resources, and needs. Participants will walk through developing a business plan and come out of the course with a unique plan to develop their farm business and/or apply for a loan.

In addition, new farmers can participate in a 2,000-hour apprentice program certified by both U.S. and Pa. Labor and Industry. Apprentices of legal working age are paired with a farm business employer in their chosen specialty. The program includes 2,000 hours of both practical on-farm work experi-

ence and 144 hours of theoretical class instruction related to the selected enterprise. Participating farmer businesses must comply with the Fair Labor Standards Act. Wage rates progress as apprentices successfully complete their instruction. Apprentice may complete the program on their own family’s farm.

After completing the business training and the apprentice program, participants are eligible for living loans through Heifer International. For example, upon completion of the business planning and marketing course and the Beginning Farmer Dairy apprenticeship, participants may be eligible for a living loan, i.e., Pennsylvania Farm Link and Heifer will provide funds to purchase up to 10 bred heifers. The participant is obligated to pass on the gift, in approximately three years, when another new farmers will be eligible to secure funds for a living loan. These loans can include all kinds of dairy and livestock as well as seeds or plants.

All kinds of productions practices and farming enterprises can participate. To learn more about this new program, please contact Pennsylvania Farm Link at (717) 664-7077.

Farmer/Educators Sought

BURLINGTON, Vt. — The Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program is seeking nominations for three new openings for its Sustainable Farmer Educator program. This program offers grant support for time and travel to articulate and experienced farmers who want to share their knowledge with others.

This program was launched in 2001 with the appointment of three producers — for the past year, they have been speaking at conferences, meetings, workshops, and on-farm demonstrations while continuing their farming operations.

In expanding this program to include three more farmers, Northeast SARE seeks applications in the following areas: adding value and direct marketing; diversified agronomic crops such as grains, beans, forages, and potatoes; and grazing management for dairy cows in the southern

part of the region, specifically Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware.

Appointments normally run one year, and the SARE award can be used to pay for travel expenses, time, telephone, e-mail, and other costs directly associated with educating farmers, extension educators, and other agricultural professionals in sustainable agriculture techniques.

The application process is competitive, and preference is given to successful farmers with previous experience presenting at workshops or in other educational settings. Applications can be downloaded from the Northeast SARE Website at www.uvm.edu/~tilde/nesare/; a printed version can be requested by calling (802) 656-0471. The application deadline is Jan. 6, 2003. Selections will be made in February.

FARM SHOW 2003 DEMO SCHEDULE

LARGE ARENA Mon., Jan. 13		Tues., Jan. 14	
10:00 - 10:45	Hooper Inc. Lift and Turn Angle Hitch with 20' Great Plains Grain Drill and 8-Row Case IH Corn Planter	Hooper Inc.	
11:00 - 11:45	Binkley & Hurst Bros. Gehl 730 Telehandle with Bale "Push-Off" Gehl Tracked Mini Loader with Material Bucket Gehl 7800 Skid Steer Loader with Attached Silage Mill	Binkley & Hurst Bros.	
12:00 - 12:45	Case IH New Case IH 1200 12-Row Pivoting Planter	Case IH	
1:00 - 1:45	AgCo Fendt Tractors	AgCo	Fendt Tractors
2:00 - 2:45	John Deere John Deere's NEW Infinitely Variable Speed Transmission	John Deere	

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

LARGE ROOM	Mon., Jan. 13	Tues., Jan. 14	Wed., Jan. 15
10:00 - 10:45	New Holland High Moisture Balage – How To Make Properly, Storage, Use, Benefits to Operation	New Holland	New Holland
11:00 - 11:45	AgCo Fendt Tractors	AgCo Fendt Tractors	AgCo Fendt Tractors
1:00 - 1:45	John Deere Tomorrow's Technology Has Arrived Today – Hear about the technology that is available to help your productivity and profitability. New IVT Transmissions, GPS applications. Catch a glimpse of the Operatorless Tractor!	John Deere	John Deere
2:00 - 2:45	Hooper Inc. New Case IH AFX – Axial Flow Combines for 2003/2004.	Hooper Inc.	Hooper Inc.
SMALL ROOM	Mon., Jan. 13	Tues., Jan. 14	Wed., Jan. 15
10:00 - 10:45	Blue Seal Feeds Rabbit – Dairy Goat – Sheep Nutrition	Blue Seal Feeds	Blue Seal Fee
11:00 - 11:45	Sollenberger Silo New innovations in Feed Storage & Handling. Tower silo with elevated floors so feed mixer can drive through & be quickly loaded.	Sollenberger Silo	Sollenberger Silo
1:00 - 1:45	NSIA, Inc. Using computers on your farm for field mapping, record keeping, financial management and communication.	NSIA, Inc.	NSIA, Inc.
2:00 - 2:45	Iron Solutions Determining used farm equipment values by using industry official guides, using the internet to gather trade-in pricing and locate equipment at local and North American dealerships.	Iron Solutions	Iron Solutions

Who built the new Farm Show? What did the Farm Show look like years ago? What happened along the way? Find out about the glories of the past and the new Farm Show to come when we look over 86 years of Farm Show and its new construction in our Farm Show "Showcase" Section in the Jan. 4 issue.

