## **Farming For The Future Conference Feb. 7-8**

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — PASA's Farming for the Future Conference is just a few weeks away and registrations are rolling in (publicity for this event was featured in Lancaster Farming recently).

The largest sustainable agriculture conference in the eastern U.S. will once again welcome over 1,000 participants, who will gather to learn lots of new exciting ideas for their farms and businesses.

The 12th Annual Conference will be Feb. 7-8 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College. Use this registration form for your convenience.

Complete information about the conference is online at www.pasafarming.org or, for more information, call PASA at (814) 349-9856. On Friday, Feb. 7, hear the fol-

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lowing: • Neil Hamilton of the Agricultural Law Center at Drake Uni-

versity, on legal issues related to direct marketing. • "Selling to the College Market," including three panelists who are successfully developing a

"farm-to-school" relationship. • Terry Ackerman on mass marketing organic products.

• Ridgeway Shinn of the New England Livestock Alliance, about selling grass-fed products to urban customers.

• Aaron Silverman, "Establishing a Commercially Scaled Pastured Poultry Production System."

• Sustainable Dairy Farming, by two successful farmers Larry Shearer and Mike Carroll.

 Robert VanSaun's goat nutrition workshop.

· Taking care of livestock mortality in a more financially and environmentally sustainable manner.

• Anne and Eric Nordell, who have developed alternative tillage techniques that keep soils healthier and more productive.

 Community Supported Agriculture with Sam Cantrell.

· Casey Sclar from Longwood Gardens, on what he's learned using integrated pest management

· Four agricultural professionals will discuss biosecurity issues on the farm in a workshop.

 Ted Fisher and partner Robbie Bannen discussing how a wood-fired brick oven became the center of their farm life.

• Jim Travis of the Fruit Research and Extension Center on diseases in grapes.

• Barbara Bellows on conserving water and protecting against drought and water contamination.

• Tim Kelsey on the real costs and revenues of residential development.

• Three women in agriculture discuss "Business, Health, Heart and Soul."

Saturdays lineup of workshops includes:

 Robert Farr, "The Chiliman," who makes extremely popular, value-added products from his homegrown chili peppers.

• Starting a farmers' market in your community, from three fellows who have done it.

• Joe Cavanaugh of Garden

State Heirloom Seed on how to market heirloom vegetables.

• Terry Ackerman for his second session on hiring professional

marketing help. • Daniel Salatin on "Starting Young, Finding Your Niche and Making a Business."

• Tom Gettings and George DeVault on how to market with their cameras

• Anne Nordell, vegetable producer, and Mike Ditchfield of Penn College of Technology, about their successful farmer-to-chef relationship.

• Jo Robinson, about the health benefits of grass-fed livestock.

• Kenney Robertson, about breeding healthy hogs.

• Aaron Silverman on how to set up a licensed processing facility, and establishing a collaborative business for pastured poultry.

• Soil and plant expert Jerry Brunetti will discuss the connections between soil, forage, and ruminant health.

• Jane and Dick Burlingame on their experience in livestock diversity and direct marketing.

• John Gensemer and Dan Bryan who will talk about the small-scale meat processing industry.

· Larry Shearer on the profitability of seasonal grass-based dairies.

• Jean Paul Courtens, soil management and production on his operation in New York.

• Alex Hitt on whole-farm sys-

 Jack Hedin from Minnesota on starting up his own small vegetable operation.

tems, including their diverse mix

of vegetables and cut flowers.

 How to find a more balanced life by starting a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm.

 Leslie Zuck of Pennsylvania Certified Organic provides an "Introduction to the National Organic Program.'

Nancy Philips, a primer on medicinal herbs.

• Jo Robinson on the "worlds healthiest diet.

• Mark Ritchie on "Local Food Systems and World Trade.'

• "Community Food Security -Who is in Charge of the Food Supply."

 Ag journalism in the 21st century, with Cheryl Tevis of Successful Farming, and others.

• The latest on biotechnology.

 Dan Imhoff on "Farming with the Wild."

Association Sustainable				
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