

Pa. Grazing, Forage Conference March 5-6

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Steve Washburn, extension livestock specialist at North Carolina State University, will be a featured speaker at the Pennsylvania Grazing and Forage Conference March 5-6 at the Holiday Inn in Grantville.

Washburn will be discussing animal genetics for grazing systems. He has conducted considerable research and has traveled all over the Northeast in search of answers to this question. Washburn will bring the results of his findings to the conference and

share them with the attendees. Washburn also has a lot of experience dealing with reproduction and especially as it relates to grazing. This will be a good opportunity for you to get answers to those breeding issues you may have.

The Roche Brothers (Tom and John) of Ireland will also be featured speakers at the conference and they will bring an Irishman's perspective on grazing to the U.S. The brothers have been involved with grazing in Ireland with a 100-cow herd and 300 ewes and

lambs being fed mostly a grass diet. They are also involved with a 3,000-cow grazing dairy farm in southern New Zealand. John is working as a member of the nutrition research team of the Dairying Research Corporation in New Zealand. There he is involved in a research program to look at Holstein-Friesian cows of U.S. and New Zealand ancestry to define the correct cow for grazing.

The Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council will conduct their annual reception and

awards program on Wednesday evening followed by informal discussions with many of the day's presenters. Three different discussions groups will be conducted. The topics will be dairy grazing, grass fed beef, and making and utilizing hay and silage. This is your opportunity to get your specific questions answered and to discuss with fellow grazers your current concerns for your farm or the grazing industry.

In addition to the discussions at the conference, there will also be a trade show where company

representatives will be on hand to showcase what is new with forages and grazing technologies. You will be able to learn about the newest forage varieties or fence energizer and even purchase it there at the trade show with perhaps a discount.

This conference is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council and the Pennsylvania Grazing Research and Education Center. For registration information, contact any local cooperative extension office, NRCS office, or Lisa Crytser at (814) 865-2543.

Transferring The Farm Workshop Offered Throughout New England

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. — During March 2003, farm families will have the opportunity to learn about transferring the farm in a day-long workshop offered in 5 locations throughout New England, thanks to a grant from

the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education.

The workshop will help farmers navigate the farm transfer process and will include presentations by farmers, extension specialists, attorneys, and land link and land trust personnel. Topics will include: elements to consider when transferring the farm to the next generation whether they be related or not; communicating for success; goal setting with the family and farm in mind; keys to estate and retirement planning; tools to transfer

labor, management and farm assets; and the roles that farm link programs and land trusts can play in farm transfers. The program will also include a panel of farmers who will share their personal experiences with farm

transfers. Transferring the Farm will be offered in five sites: Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Northampton, Mass. on March 12; Zenny's Restaurant in Storrs, Conn. on March 13; the Benton

Grange in Benton, Maine on March 18; Makris Lobster and Steak House in Concord, N.H. on March 19; and the Charlmont in Morrisville, Vermont on March 20.

Each workshop is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The workshop fee, which includes registration, a workshop packet and lunch, is \$15 per person if postmarked before March 5. After March 5, the fee is \$20 per

person. Checks should be made payable to: UNH Cooperative Extension and mailed to Transferring the Farm Workshops, UNH Cooperative Extension, 320 James Hall, 56 College Road, Durham, NH 03824.

For a workshop brochure or more information, please contact Debra Heleba at (802) 656-0233 or debra.heleba@uvm.edu. Anyone requiring special accommodations or scholarship help to attend should call (802) 656-0233.

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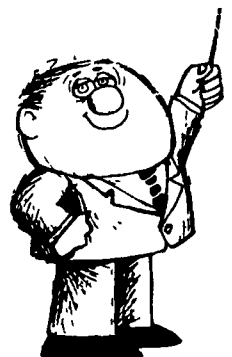
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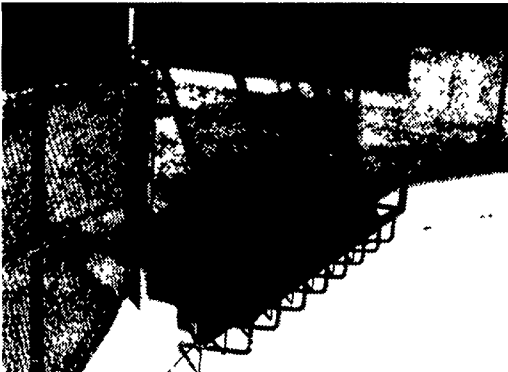
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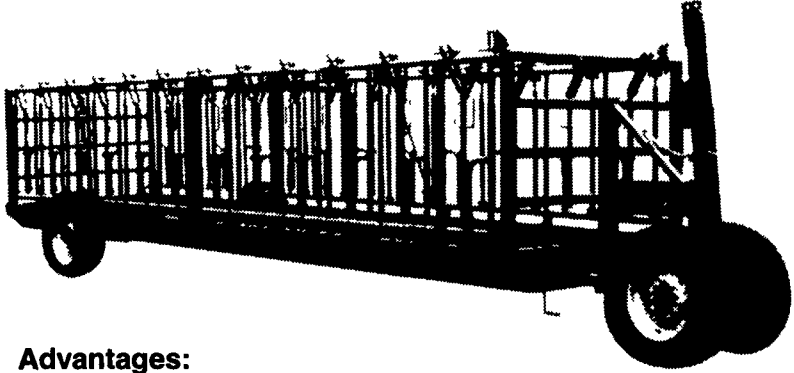
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