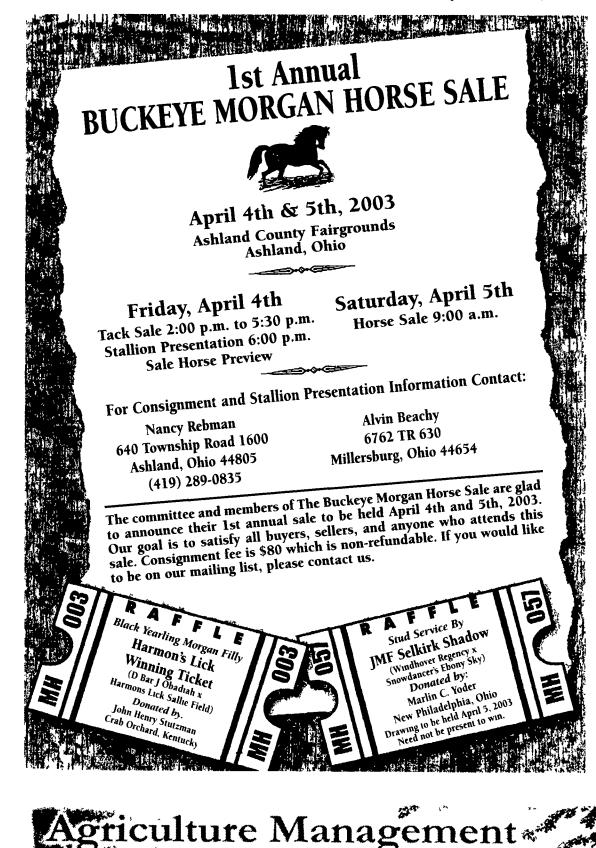
Rutgers Announces Equine Science Center

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. College Campus. A Long Dis-- An Equine Science Center tance Learning Center, the at Rutgers' Cook College, is the focus of an ongoing \$19 million campaign.

The Center, which was approved by the Rutgers' board of governors in April 2001, expands upon the existing Cook College/NJAES equine science program.

The Equine Science Center will be housed on the Cook only one of its kind in the United States, will include a 500-seat closed circuit TV presentation area, with capability for live animal demonstrations. Several classrooms will be housed in the facility, as well as faculty offices, a library and a conference room.

The goal of the Equine Science Center is to further develop the equine program at the center. Cook College, focusing on education, research, outreach, and the delivery of policy. The anticipated date of completion for the initiative is June 30, 2004. "The center will be a source of information for horse enthusiasts, students, equine industry professionals, legislators, policy makers, and the general public," says Dr. Karyn Malinowski, director of



Research at the center will focus on the management of horse care and disease prevention. The center's scientists will develop diagnostic tools to detect animals at risk for disease injury.

They will also provide scientific expertise and consultation for issues related to drug use and performance, and investigate potential applications for the horse as a model for human medicine.

The center will serve policy makers by providing sciencebased information on how to enhance the economic viability and sustainability of the equine industry.

The center has strong support from New Jersey equine industry leaders, who emphasize the need for the center.

"We need the center to provide the solid, technical education and understanding that

is so important to the horse industry: a basic science education that will teach students where things are going in the industry, and education that will help people get a good job and do a good job," says Jane Gilbert, president of the New Jersey Horse Council.

The 1996 New Jersey Equine Industry Economic Impact Survey reported the value of New Jersey horses and related assets to be over \$3.2 billion. New Jersey is home to over 49,000 horses housed in 7,600 facilities on 81,000 acres.

"The equine industry contributes more to New Jersey's economy than any other agricultural enterprise," notes Dr. Malinowski. "Clearly, horses make a significant economic impact in New Jersey, and the Equine Science Center is positioned to become a leader in the equine industry."

Berks County To Host Pasture Management Course

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) -The Berks County Cooperative Extension is hosting a "Pasture Management For Horses" workshop, March 20, 27 and April 3.

Course goals are to promote pasture management as a tool for achieving high forage quality, help horse owners understand grass management as it relates to their goals, and promote well-managed pasture to prevent soil erosion.

The teaching team includes Cheryl Fairbairn, Chester County Cooperative Extension; Andrew Frankenfield, Montgomery County Cooperative Extension; Marvin Hall, Penn State Department of Agronomy; and Mena Hautau, Berks County Cooperative Extension.

Cost is \$25.00 per person, which includes a video and notebook full of handout materials, plus all refreshment breaks.

For more information contact the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Rd., Leesport, PA 19533, phone (610) 378-1327.

The agenda follows: March 20:

6:30 p.m. — Registration

7-9 — Program: Matching Horse Needs and Crop Acres, Soil Fertility, Pasture Renovation, Seeding

9-9:30 - Questions and Answers

March 27

6:30 p.m. --- Registration

7-9:00: Program: Pasture Plant Growth, How to Manage Weeds

9-9:30 - Questions and Answers

April 3

6:30 p.m. — Registration

7-9 — Program: Rotational Grazing, Poisonous Plants in Pasture, Buying Quality Hay

9-9:30 - Questions and Answers

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