

Hog Summit, Field Day To Feature Sustainable Alternatives

GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — Farmers who are interested in finding innovative hog production strategies will have an opportunity to explore alternatives in two upcoming events here in Pennsylvania.

On Saturday, June 7, at the Eisenhower Inn and Conference Center in Gettysburg, the Waterkeeper Alliance will conduct its third annual Sustainable Hog Farming Summit. Following the first two summits, conducted in North Carolina and Iowa, respectively, this year's event will focus on alternatives to large-scale, industrialized hog production, and strategies for marketing high

quality pork directly to consumers, restaurants, and other retail outlets.

A host of speakers will cover topics ranging from the health, environmental, and social effects of industrialized farming practices to proven methods of raising hogs in diversified, organic and/or pasture-based systems, as well as marketing alternatives.

Speakers will include Helen Browning of Eastbrook Farm in Great Britain. Eastbrook is a 1,337-acre, diversified organic farm that markets meat products through supermarkets and a nationwide home delivery service. Joining her in a morning panel will be Ridgeway Shinn of Mas-

sachusetts, from the New England Livestock Alliance, and Paul Willis, farmer and manager of the Niman Ranch Pork Company in Iowa.

Other farmers speaking in afternoon workshops will represent the states of North Carolina and Wisconsin. A keynote address in the evening will feature the president of the Waterkeeper Alliance, Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

On Friday, June 6, the day before the Hog Summit, a field day sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) will be conducted at Spring Water Farm in Paradise. The field day will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will feature

a multi-species, pasture-based system that includes Tamworth hogs. Additional presentations at this event will feature swine nutrition with representatives of the Fertrell Company from Bainbridge, and comments from Helen Browning of Great Britain as well.

To register for the Hog Summit, call the Waterkeeper office at (914) 674-0622, or visit their Website (www.waterkeeper.org, click "events"), where a full program for the event can be viewed. Registration is \$35 for the full day. Rooms are available at the Eisenhower Inn at a special conference rate by calling (800) 776-8349.

Registration and directions to

the PASA field day are available by calling (814) 349-9856 ext. 6. A registration fee of \$10 for PASA members and \$15 for non-members will be collected at Spring Water Farm. Lunch is included.

Those who are attending the Hog Summit and/or PASA field day are also invited to attend a barbecue pig roast on Friday evening, June 6 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Allstar Pavilion, located directly behind the Eisenhower Inn in Gettysburg. The theme for the night is local fare, including food, drink and music, featuring a bluegrass band. A suggested donation of \$12 per person for the meal and entertainment will be collected at the door.

Pa. Junior Holstein Judging School July 8-9

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — The Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association Judging School is scheduled for Tuesday, July 8, and Wednesday, July 9, from 12 noon - 12 noon.

This year's school is hosted by the Tioga County Holstein Club. The teacher will be David Trotter, Enon Valley.

The school is open to all youth interested in learning

about dairy cattle judging. The program covers the basics of animal evaluation and reason giving. Individuals that attend have the opportunity to learn terminology, animal and class breakdowns, and how to effectively give reasons.

The cost of the school is \$30 for those staying overnight. This includes school costs, hotel room, and evening meal.

For those who commute, the fee is \$20 to cover school costs

and the evening meal.

This year, a second member of the same family who attends will receive \$5 off their registration cost.

For more information, contact the: Pennsylvania Holstein Association, 839 Benner Pike, State College, PA 16801. Phone (814) 234-0364, fax (814) 234-1698, or see Website at [HYPERLINK http://www.paholsteins.com](http://www.paholsteins.com)

Lancaster/York Fruit Grower Twilight Meeting May 20

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Lancaster/York Fruit Grower's Twilight Meeting will be Tuesday, May 20, at 6:30 p.m. at Cherry Hill Orchards, 400 Long Lane.

The meeting program is 6:30 p.m., introduction to the orchard, Tom Haas; 6:45 p.m., chemical thinning update, Dr. Rob Craswell, Penn State pomologist; 7:15 p.m., spring insect and mite control, Dr. Greg Krawczyk, Penn State fruit entomologist, and 7:45 p.m., general questions and answers. Pesticide credits

will be offered (pending approval).

Directions: Cherry Hill Orchard is located at the intersection of Long Lane and Millersville Road. From the east or west: Exit Rt. 30 at Rohrerstown Road (Rt. 741) and proceed south toward Millersville. Cross over Rts. 23, 462, and 999. Just past the intersection of Rt. 324 you will come to a traffic signal. Cherry Hill Orchard will be on the left. Total distance traveled from Rt. 30 is 5-6 miles.

For additional information, contact the Penn State Cooperative Extension, Lancaster at (717) 394-6851.

Envirothon To Highlight Farmland Preservation

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — State Agriculture Secretary Dennis C. Wolff said Pennsylvania's farmland preservation efforts will be on the minds of students participating in the 20th annual Pennsylvania Envirothon in Franklin County next week.

"Farmland preservation and agricultural education are two priorities of this administration," Wolff said. "The Department's participation in the Envirothon allows us to demonstrate our commitment to preserving farmland. The earlier we start educating the public about the importance of farmland and the value of environmental stewardship, the better the chance for ensuring the availability of farmland. Education is certainly a key."

As an Envirothon partner, the department has educational seminars across the state and has staffed the issues booth at county competitions. In coordination with the State Envirothon Board, the Bureau of Farmland Preservation helped to develop the educational materials and curriculum for the Envirothon. Teaching on this year's current issue fulfills standards adopted by the state board of education.

"The Bureau of Farmland Preservation was pleased to participate in this year's Current Issue competition," Wolff said. "Pennsylvania leads the nation in the number of acres and total number of farms preserved, and it is important to include the commonwealth's young people in our farmland protection strategy."

For more than 20 years, the Envirothon has educated high school students in natural resources and environmental sciences. In addition to farmland preservation, students will compete in forestry, soils, wildlife, and aquatics.

The State Envirothon will be May 19-20 at Penn State Mont Alto Campus in Franklin County. Students qualify for the state competition through county competitions. The winner of the state will compete at the National Envirothon later this summer. Last year, five students from Media won the national event.

For more information about the Envirothon, visit <http://www.envirothonpa.org>. For more information about Pennsylvania's farmland preservation efforts, please contact the Bureau of Farmland Preservation at (717) 783-3167.

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