

# Dairy Alliance Offers Course For Managers

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Good leaders aren't born, they're made, and teaching dairy farm supervisors the skills they need to lead their employees more effectively is the goal of the Management Essentials for Dairy Success (MEDS) program kicking off Dec. 16 in State College.

Presented by Dairy Alliance, MEDS is an intensive, hands-on educational program that teaches human resource management skills. The program is designed for farm owners, mid-level supervisors, or anyone who anticipates assuming a supervisory role in the future.

"The goal of the program is to help managers grow and develop in their supervisory role so they, in turn, can help others," explained Richard Stup, senior extension associate with Penn State Dairy Alliance. The course is customized for modern dairy farm managers so they can apply the concepts and techniques they learn on their own operations.

Topics covered in the program include: work-place communication, systems management, em-

ployee motivation, performance monitoring and feedback, performance problem-solving, coaching, delegation, transition to supervision, and understanding management and leadership.

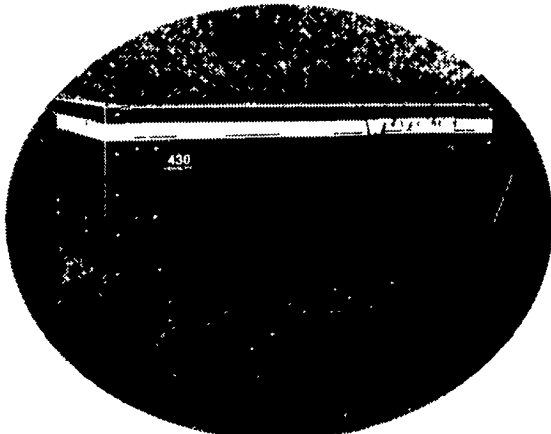
MEDS stresses small-group interaction, which helps in the learning process and provides participants an added benefit: an opportunity to network with peers confronting many of the same challenges they are.

The four-day MEDS course will be offered in two-day modules Dec. 16-17 and Feb. 17-18 at the Holiday Inn Express, State College. Instructors are Stup; Dr. John Park, associate director and instructor of Management Development Programs and Services at Penn State; and Dr. Lisa Holden, associate professor, Department of Dairy and Animal Sciences, Penn State.

Pre-registration is required. For more information or to pre-register, contact the Dairy Alliance at (888) 373-7232. The program fee is \$450 and includes program materials and meals.

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