By JOHN VOGEL

The upcoming Penn State Ag Progress Days promises to be a record-breaking mix of fun and ag progress, according to Bob Oberheim, APD manager. It all comes together Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 14-16, at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center, nine miles southwest of State College on state Route 45.

“We’re confident that we’ll top last year’s record, with about 450 commercial exhibitors this year,” he says. “Our show-and-tell program is being expanded to tractors.”

And a new touch of entertainment will be added to the field day’s research and education theme. A Mid-Atlantic antique tractor super-pull will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16. And Penn State University President Rodney Erickson is bringing his restored J.I. Case 810 tractor—not for tractor-pulling, though.

The Ag Sciences Exhibit Building will showcase the college’s teaching, research and Extension presence in energy, pest prediction and water quality. Its theater will host 20 presentations over the three days. Topics include animal welfare, stinkbugs, dairy profitability and longevity, animal composting, on-farm conservation innovation, the problem of too many cats, and more.

Crops, soils and conservation exhibits and demonstrations will be in a new structure at the end of Fifth Street on Harrison Lane. Penn State’s Small Business Development Center will offer free one-on-one business consulting from 9 a.m. to noon daily in the Everett Cash Mutual, or ECM, Building.

Key Points

**Ag Progress Days runs Aug. 14-16 near Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa.**

**A record 450 commercial exhibits showcase ag technologies.**

**Field demos, research tours and an antique tractor pull await.**

**Contact us:**
Editor: John Vogel
jvogel@farmprogress.com
5227B Baltimore Pike
Littlestown, PA 17340
Phone: 717-359-0150

Contributing Editors: Alan Newport, John Otte and Arlan Suderman

Executive Editor: Dan Drummond
Corporate Editorial Director: Willie Vogt, 717-359-0150
Sales: Tom Shearing, 585-476-2426
Subscription questions: 800-441-1410

Keep up on ag news in the region, check out www.farmprogress.com. We feature updates on a wide range of topics, including rural subjects.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to American Agriculturist, 255 38th Ave., Suite P, St. Charles, IL 60174-5410.

**News & Issues**

Mix Ag Progress Days, family fun

American Agriculturist
www.FarmProgress.com – August 2012
By JOHN VOGEL

The upcoming Penn State Ag Progress Days promises to be a record-breaking mix of fun and ag progress, according to Bob Oberheim, APD manager. It all comes together Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 14-16, at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center, nine miles southwest of State College on state Route 45.

“We’re confident that we’ll top last year’s record, with about 450 commercial exhibitors this year,” he says. “Our show-and-tell program is being expanded to tractors.”

And a new touch of entertainment will be added to the field day’s research and education theme. A Mid-Atlantic antique tractor super-pull will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16. And Penn State University President Rodney Erickson is bringing his restored J.I. Case 810 tractor—not for tractor-pulling, though.

The Ag Sciences Exhibit Building will showcase the college’s teaching, research and Extension presence in energy, pest prediction and water quality. Its theater will host 20 presentations over the three days. Topics include animal welfare, stinkbugs, dairy profitability and longevity, animal composting, on-farm conservation innovation, the problem of too many cats, and more.

Crops, soils and conservation exhibits and demonstrations will be in a new structure at the end of Fifth Street on Harrison Lane. Penn State’s Small Business Development Center will offer free one-on-one business consulting from 9 a.m. to noon daily in the Everett Cash Mutual, or ECM, Building.

The show-and-tell sessions will be held on the exhibit field’s east side. Here’s the daily lineup:

- **10 a.m.** Cover-crop seeding
- **11:30 a.m.** Tractor show and tell
- **12:30 p.m.** Planter and drill show and tell
- **1:30 p.m.** Raking and tedding
- **1:30 p.m.** Cover crop seeding
- **2 p.m.** High-moisture hay baling
- **3 p.m.** Bale handling and wrapping

At the tractor and planter-drill show-and-tell sessions, you can learn about the newest features on different brands. Hoober-Case IH and John Deere will host demonstrations of new tractors and sprayers with GPS or hands-free operation daily in a special area along the exhibit field’s north side.

**Take a learning tour**

Daily tours will highlight ag research and Extension programs. Here’s the bus schedule:

- **American chestnut orchard:** 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., plus 5 p.m. Wednesday
- **Animal composting:** 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday
- **Deer and wildlife habitat:** 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., plus 4 p.m. Wednesday
- **Harvesting your woods:** 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., plus 4 p.m. Wednesday
- **General research:** 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., plus 5 p.m. Wednesday
- **High-yield soybeans and corn:** 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- **High-tunnel vegetables:** 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- **Organic corn and soybean cropping:** 1 p.m.
- **Riparian stream buffers and prairie grasses:** 11:30 a.m.
- **Short-rotation woody biomass crops:** 12:30 p.m.
- **Sustainable cropping systems:** 1 p.m.

Don’t forget the food — there’s plenty of it, along with family living area activities, the corn maze, wildlife displays and the Pasto Agricultural Museum antiques.

GSP users can punch in this address: 2710 W. Pine Grove Road, Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. Admission and parking are free. For more detail, visit the website at apd.psu.edu or call 814-865-2081.

**Last chance to ‘pic’ your tractor**

**Ag Progress Days runs Aug. 14-16 near Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa.**

**A record 450 commercial exhibits showcase ag technologies.**

**Field demos, research tours and an antique tractor pull await.**

**Contact us:**
Editor: John Vogel
jvogel@farmprogress.com
5227B Baltimore Pike
Littlestown, PA 17340
Phone: 717-359-0150

Contributing Editors: Alan Newport, John Otte and Arlan Suderman

Executive Editor: Dan Drummond
Corporate Editorial Director: Willie Vogt, 717-359-0150
Sales: Tom Shearing, 585-476-2426
Subscription questions: 800-441-1410

Keep up on ag news in the region, check out www.farmprogress.com. We feature updates on a wide range of topics, including rural subjects.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to American Agriculturist, 255 38th Ave., Suite P, St. Charles, IL 60174-5410.

**News & Issues**

Graze at the forage research tour and picnic

Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council will sponsor a wagon research tour at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. It’ll be at the Agronomy Research Farm, just east of the Ag Progress Days site.

Tour topics include forage variety plots, insecticide and herbicide evaluations, organic pasturing systems, seedling-rate studies, glyphosate-resistant alfalfa management and biomass species.

This year’s PFGC picnic will also be held at this site, with dinner served at about 6:30 p.m. The picnic portion costs $14 per adult and $9 for children under age 10.

Picnic reservations are due by Aug. 6. Send a check, payable to PFGC, to: Richard Hann, PFGC, P.O. Box 355, Hershey, PA 17033.

**Contact us:**
Editor: John Vogel
jvogel@farmprogress.com
5227B Baltimore Pike
Littlestown, PA 17340
Phone: 717-359-0150

Contributing Editors: Alan Newport, John Otte and Arlan Suderman

Executive Editor: Dan Drummond
Corporate Editorial Director: Willie Vogt, 717-359-0150
Sales: Tom Shearing, 585-476-2426
Subscription questions: 800-441-1410

Keep up on ag news in the region, check out www.farmprogress.com. We feature updates on a wide range of topics, including rural subjects.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to American Agriculturist, 255 38th Ave., Suite P, St. Charles, IL 60174-5410.

**News & Issues**

**Last chance to ‘pic’ your tractor**

A MERICAN Agriculturist’s 23rd annual Northeast Rural Living Photo Contest is heading for the finish line. This year’s photo contest theme is “Me and my favorite tractor,” and we’ve extended the entry deadline to Aug. 6.

Send in your photo, and tell us why it’s your favorite tractor. If, for instance, you’ve had a tractor romance, we’d like to hear about it. And if that tractor has a name, tell us why.

So crank up your imagination and photo creativity. Winning photos vie for up to $600 in prize money, with the first prize worth $250.

Send only photo prints or high-resolution digital images (jpeg files) that are in razor-sharp focus. Digital camera photos may be submitted by email.

**Contest entry rules**

- Photos must have been taken within the last 18 months.
- Submit only photos of Northeast rural subjects.
- Include a copy of the contest entry blank below with each photo.
- Mail entries to: Northeast Rural Living Photo Contest, American Agriculturist, 5227B Baltimore Pike, Littlestown, PA 17340. Or e-mail them with your entry information to jvogel@farmprogress.com.

**2012 Northeast Rural Living Photo Contest**

**Photographer:**

**Address:**

**City:** State: ZIP: **ZIP:**

**Phone:**

**Photo description:** _________________________________

Phone: __________________ Email:  _________________

City: _____________ State: ____________ ZIP:  _________

Photographer: _____________________________________

**Contact us:**
Editor: John Vogel
jvogel@farmprogress.com
5227B Baltimore Pike
Littlestown, PA 17340
Phone: 717-359-0150

Contributing Editors: Alan Newport, John Otte and Arlan Suderman

Executive Editor: Dan Drummond
Corporate Editorial Director: Willie Vogt, 717-359-0150
Sales: Tom Shearing, 585-476-2426
Subscription questions: 800-441-1410

Keep up on ag news in the region, check out www.farmprogress.com. We feature updates on a wide range of topics, including rural subjects.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to American Agriculturist, 255 38th Ave., Suite P, St. Charles, IL 60174-5410.