



MAILBAG

May 1, 2014

Clover Creek 832-3458

Keystone Mill 832-3113

www.millhillag.com

Happy Memorial Day!

Mill Hill will be closed on Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day. Please plan ahead for your feed needs that weekend!

Summer Field Days

Join us for Summer Field Days, focusing on soil health and cover crops. This event will be held on Thursday June 19th and Friday June 20th. King's AgriSeeds has teamed up with Penn State Extension, the Blair County Conservation District, NRCS and Mill Hill Farm Supply to make this a **FREE** and very informative event. Thursday evening from 6-8:30pm, will be a field walk at Mill Hill Farms, featuring John Tooker, a PSU Extension entomologist talking about pest management (including slugs) in a cover crop system. The other items on the agenda that evening will be the benefits of cover crops and the tools and practices needed to include cover crops and summer annuals on your operation. The evening will also feature tours of the bee pollinator plot and the newly planted riparian buffer at the farm. Friday's meeting starts at the Williamsburg Farm Show Building at 9am. Agenda items include manure management regulations and plans, planting into crop residue, interseeding cover crops and nutrient cycling in a cover crop system. Morning speakers include Dave Wilson from King's AgriSeeds, Rich Heuther from the Conservation District and Elina Snyder from Penn State Extension. Lunch will be served, and then the afternoon portion will be a field walk at Mill Hill Farms that will be similar to Thursday's session. The afternoon session will run from 1-3:30pm. The agenda will

include an overview of cover crops used on the farm and cocktail mixes used for interseeding. The farm will also talk about the soybean insect study that Penn State Extension is doing on the farm, plus you will be able to tour the bee pollinator area, the riparian buffer and summer annual fields.

You may choose which parts of the field days to attend. Thursday night and Friday afternoon will be similar programs.

As previously mentioned, there is no registration fee for this event, but we must have an RSVP from you if you are attending the Friday morning session and would like lunch. Please RSVP to the Blair County Conservation District at 696-0877, extension 5 by June 13th.

Crop Seeds are in stock!

As you begin your spring planting, remember that we have seed in stock if you run short. We have both TA Seeds and Masters Choice corn in stock. Stop by or call in to check on availability.

Restricted Use Chemicals

This is a reminder that you need to show ID and your pesticide license in order to pick up or have restricted use chemicals delivered. Please make sure we have a copy of these 2 licenses on file to make this process easier for you.

Hummingbirds

The hummingbirds will be arriving in our area any day now! Did your feeder survive last summer, or did you tell yourself that this year you will replace it? We have a beautiful selection of feeders, plus the nectar to attract these tiny birds to your garden.

Sweet Corn planting time!

We have a selection of sweet corn seeds at Mill Hill. Choose from yellow, white or bi-color in a variety of maturity dates. We are always looking for new kinds, so if you know of a good one, let us know, and we will try to order it. It may just end up becoming a new area favorite!

Royal 22% Calf Starter

We have made some changes to the Royal 22% Calf Starter formula, which includes more molasses! Your calves will love it!



Dairy Recipe

Spring is officially here and that means changes. Try changing up your daily food choices with some granola with your yogurt or trying a new cheese. Find a fun way to get nature's most nearly perfect beverage in your diet. In addition, I would also like to say farewell and thank you for supporting me in the past 2 years. This will be my last recipe as I will be retiring my crown on May 17th. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve our dairy farmers and the communities of Blair County and don't forget to get your 3 Every-Day-of Dairy!

From Katherine Orceck, 2013/2014 Blair County Dairy Princess.

Yogurt Cheese Pie

9 inch graham cracker pie shell

1/3 cup MILK

1 envelope unflavored gelatin

1 cup COTTAGE CHEESE

1 1/2 cup plain YOGURT

1/4 cup sugar or 3 TBSP honey

Combine milk and gelatin. Stir to soften gelatin. Warm over low heat, stirring constantly, until gelatin dissolves. Combine cottage cheese, yogurt, sugar or honey and dissolved gelatin mixture in blender or mixing bowl. Whirl or whip briefly. Chill mixture 20 to 30 minutes until it begins to set. Pour into pie shell and chill. Makes 6 servings.

From Alltech

How Mineral Nutrition Impacts SCC and Milk Quality

Including essential trace minerals such as selenium, copper, zinc, manganese and cobalt in the diet are important for optimizing the health and reproduction of dairy cattle. Adequate trace mineral status may protect the cow from adverse effects of acute inflammation caused by mastitis organisms. Further, supplementation with Cu and Zn proteinate and organic Se has improved udder health and reduced SCC. Reducing mastitis and lowering SCC will result in economic benefits and improved health and welfare of dairy cattle. Improving reproductive performance with Cu and Zn proteinate and organic Se will also have an economic impact on the farming operation. These nutritional approaches for improving milk quality and reproduction must be implemented along with proper mastitis management practices that reduce exposure of cattle to pathogens and proper reproductive management procedures. Feeding 100% organic trace minerals in the form of Sel-Plex and Bioplex will aid in optimizing your herd's performance throughout their lifecycle as production animals.



Thanks to all
who have
served our
country in the
military!