



For Immediate Release

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Center Announces Dates for 'Open House and Dairy Tours'

Events Showcase Modernization, Innovation and Conservation Efforts on Three Dairy Farms

Harrisburg – The Center for Dairy Excellence will host a series of three “Open House and Dairy Tour” events on Mercer, Venango and York county dairies in July and August. Each event will feature a tour of the farm, a look at the dairy’s best management practices and recent innovations on the farm and a review of programs available from the center.

“These three dairy operations are looking toward the future by investing in growing and modernizing their facilities,” said John Frey, executive director of the Center for Dairy Excellence. “Each of the farms offer fine examples of methods other dairy producers can use to improve their own operations.”

All three tours are free and will be held from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., with a picnic-style lunch. Dates and locations include:

- Thursday, July 21, at Kurtz Valley Holsteins, owned by the Myron Gehman family, at 396 Dairy Lane in Mifflintown, Juniata County.
- Thursday, July 28, at Rolling Spring Farm, owned by Charlie and Denise Bean, at 133 Wilsey Road in Franklin, Venango County.
- Thursday, August 11, at Walk-Le Holsteins, owned by Leroy, Brenda and Brad Walker at 6898 Oak Lane in Thomasville, York County.

The Open Forums and Dairy Tours are open to anyone within the local dairy community. The events are free, but pre-registration is requested by calling 717-346-0849. For more information about the events, visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org and look under “Upcoming Events.”

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the center’s mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more about the center at www.centerfordairyexcellence.org.