

Off Flavor Milk More Prevalent In Summertime

The problem of bad tasting milk, especially in the summer, has plagued dairymen for years. Often it is blamed on the ration, but this may not always be the case. Off-flavored milk, according to many studies, may be caused by outside sources including handling and processing.

W. R. Hesseltine, extension dairyman, University of Delaware, has compiled a list of some of the common milk flavors and their probable cause. He indicates dairymen can use this reference for troubleshooting off-flavor milk in their herd. Many of the flavor problems, he points out, can be easily remedied if the source of fat flavor is known.

1. Taste-grassy or weedy, cause-presence of weeds (often wild onions) in the feed
2. Taste-silage, cause-feeding silage and hay before milking
3. Taste-sour, very high bacteria count, cause-dirty utensils, poor cooling
4. Taste-bitter, rancid like butter, or like soap, cause-stripper cows, slow cook cooling, with foaming, cooling warming, and cooling again
5. Taste-salty, cause-mastitis, stripper cows, and individual cows
6. Taste-malt, cause-high bacteria, dirty utensils, poor cooling
7. Taste-like cardboard, cause-exposed copper or iron in equipment, cans need retinning, milk exposed to daylight

Pa. Sweet Corn Competition Was Great in '61

Stiff competition from New York and New Jersey in 1961 kept demand for Pennsylvania sweet corn at a generally low level during the peak of its marketing season — through August to mid-September.

According to the annual report of the Federal-State Market News Service, these states, with heavier supplies, influenced price trends which Pennsylvania had to follow because of its weak marketing position.

As a result, 1961 prices were lower than in 1960. In 1960, Pennsylvania yellow sweet corn ranged from a low of \$1.50 to a high of \$2.25 per crate. In 1961, the range was from 90 cents to \$1.90.

The one bright spot in the 1961 picture for Pennsylvania sweet corn was that hydrocooled ears averaged about 25c more per crate than non-hydrocooled corn. John P. Capus, U.S. Department of Agriculture Market News representative in Philadelphia, noted that hydrocooled stock sold well when it was difficult to sell the non-hydrocooled product, and many standing orders went unfilled on some days.

In volume shipped into 41 cities during its main 9-week season ending in September, Pennsylvania ranked sixth. More than half of Pennsylvania's corn went to Philadelphia with Pittsburgh the next biggest market.

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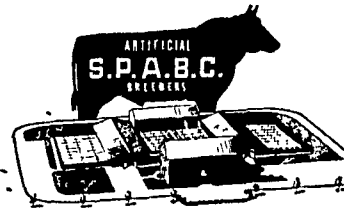
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