

Northeast Dairymen Can Survive

The dairy industry in the Northeast is basically sound, but to keep pace individual producers will either innovate or stagnate. This view was presented by E. C. Charron of Agway, Inc., at the recent Farm and Home Week at the University of Delaware.

He pointed out that the threats to dairymen in the Northeast are very real, but that they can be met.

Charron blamed the demise of thousands of dairymen on what he described as the management lag — "Technical progress in farm production has moved at a much faster pace than farmer's adoption of decision making technology."

Looking to the future he said dairy farm incomes of \$100,000 will be the rule rather than the exception. Economic pressures will dictate large volume forcing dairymen to increase herd size above the one hundred cow level.

On the subject of corporate farming in the dairy business, Charron said the real consideration is "Can the traditional efficiency of the family farm successfully compete with the potential efficiency of the larger corporate farm?" He said it can and will but not without sacrifices and adjustments. He said new government farm programs will be written for farmers grossing over \$50,000. Those dairymen who fall below this standard will supplement their incomes with off-farm work.

Family farms will give up some of their independence and rely more on technological advancements in feeding, forage

State Grange Sets \$5,000 Donation Goal For Work In Bahia

A goal of improved international good will was set today by the Pennsylvania State Grange for programs to be conducted in other countries, including Brazil where a Pennsylvania — Bahia partnership will be implemented with donations of hand cultivating tools suited to the agriculture and economy of that region.

A Wayne Readinger, state master today said his organization has set \$5,000 as a tentative goal for the work in Bahia although the total may run well over that figure. The Grange's aid to Bahia will be comparable, he said, to a "Goats for Guatemala" enterprise that it sponsored several years ago.

Aid to the Bahians, Readinger indicated, will incorporate a self-help principle whereby those able to pay a nominal sum for a kit of axe, hoe, pick, shovel and machete will contribute to a revolving fund for extending the program's duration and its usefulness.

Subordinate Granges throughout the state, of which there are 633 in 65 counties with a 60,000 total membership, are being asked to contribute to this worthwhile program. Furman H. Gyger, Kimberton, Grange representative on the Pennsylvania-Bahia committee, said plans for the work will be based on his personal observations made on a recent people-to-people visit to that country under Alliance for Progress auspices.

The Grange also will help to sponsor the International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE) program for fostering better world understanding, an activity which it has supported financially for the past twenty years. A selected small group of Pennsylvania young men and women will have farm working vacations abroad while a comparable delegation from other lands will be hosted by Pennsylvania farm families.

problem? He said they will improve with age and eventually capture 15 percent of the market. Consumer concern about calories and cholesterol rather than price may be the determining factor.

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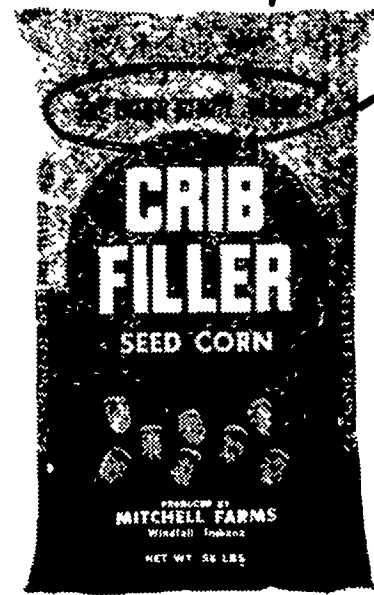
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