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# Lancaster Farming

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Paul E. Hand, Inter-State secretary, explains the proposed new Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Order to about 75 farmers at the Farm and Home Center Monday evening.

## Inter-State Urges New Milk Order

About 70 area farmers attended an Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative meeting Monday night at the Farm and Home Center on the proposed new Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Order.

Similar meetings were held Tuesday at Solanco and Thursday at Gap.

At the Monday meeting, Paul

E. Hand, Inter-State secretary, strongly urged area farmers to vote favorably on the new order when ballots are received by mail, probably in late June.

The new order would replace present Orders 3, 4 and 16. However, if the new Middle Atlantic order is voted down "there will be no blend market," Hand said.

"That's chaos," one farmer said, but most of those present did not comment on the proposal. Many questions were asked, however.

Hand said the new order resulted from changes in the old marketing areas. He singled out two key changes: expansion of A&P plant distribution, and closing of the Sealtest plant in Washington, D.C. "These mean changes and shifts in utilization (of milk)," Hand said.

To be enacted, the new order requires a two-thirds favorable vote. "It takes two positive votes to overcome each negative vote," Hand noted.

He also said that in the last such referendum only about 30 per cent of eligible farmers voted. Indifference is a big factor, particularly where there's a two-thirds majority, he noted.



Paul E. Hand

in urging farmers to vote for the proposal.

A key provision of the new order is that "the base can't be sold." If there's a continuing farm operation, however, the base can be transferred, such as from father to son.

Hand said this provision will rule out producers or dairymen from other areas, such as New York, coming into this area,

establishing a base, then selling it.

Such base sales increases cut down on income for all the farmers in the order, Hand indicated. He said one purpose of the new plan is to increase the proportion of higher priced Class I milk sales and therefore increase the overall income to the farmer.

In a prepared statement to the dairymen, Hand also said, "This plan was proposed to meet the challenge of the falling Class I utilization in the region."

"A significant part of this decline has been caused by transfers of unneeded milk into the Middle Atlantic region from the New York market."

"In addition, this plan will reward those producers who have level annual production and who plan their expansion in the fall months."

"It is estimated that the base price will exceed a market blend price by over 15 cents per hundredweight. This is the immediate reward of the program to fall producers and level annual producers."

"This program will be voted on by an individual producer referendum. If the plan does not receive a two-thirds favorable vote of those voting, we will have a wide open market-wide pool. Be sure to vote and we recommend a favorable vote."

"If you have not already attended one of the educational meetings on this program, try to attend one in a neighboring district. If you have any questions, direct them to Dr. Paul E. Hand at the Inter-State Office."

In summarizing reasons for the new order, Hand said, "A dairy farmer can increase his base the Class I percentage will increase, it stops the market 'inners' and 'outers' and if voted 'out', a marketwide blend price will result."

Inter-State, Maryland Co

operative Milk Producers and Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Association are members of the Pennmarva Dairymen's Cooperative Federation since it federated July 1, 1968. Pennsylvania has more than 5,000

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## Late Ballots Reported Good

Area Holstein Association members have been advised to go ahead and mail right away ballots received this week for election of directors to the National Holstein Association Convention in Boston in late June.

Although the ballots were mailed in March, the mail bag with the ballots for Pennsylvania was lost during the mail strike and the ballots are just being delivered this week.

If the ballots are marked and sent right away, they will be honored, Robert C. Groff, Quarryville RD3, Lancaster County Holstein Association news reporter, said Thursday evening.

Groff noted that the ballots call for selection of 32 delegates from among 82 names statewide, including 22 names from Lancaster County.

## Farm Calendar

**Saturday, May 2**  
Lancaster Pony Club Horse Show, John Gibson farm, Dumboie.

**Monday, May 4**  
7:30 p.m. — Elm Pinery 4-H Club, Penryn Fire Hall.  
8:00 p.m. — Dairy Princess Contest committee meeting, Farm and Home Center.

**Tuesday, May 5**  
9:30-11:30 a.m. — Pattern alteration workshop, Berwyn Red Cross Building, Chester Co.  
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## Sheep Producers Urged To Get New Handbook

A "Sheep Handbook" on various aspects of sheep production is available for \$2 from Penn State.

"We (at the county extension office) strongly recommend purchase of this handbook for management and planning purposes," Max Smith, county agent, said.

Prepared by the Penn State animal science staff, the handbook can be obtained from Agriculture Mailing Room, 110 Service Building, University Park, Pa. 16802.

The handbook has major sections on sheep management, economics, and potential; nutrition and feeding; forage production; sheep housing; health, and lamb and wool marketing.

Smith noted that Penn State has had similar handbooks on swine and poultry for the past year and he also recommended these handbooks as a management tool for farmers.

## Swine Producers Elect Nestleroth President

Mark Nestleroth was elected president of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association at a meeting Thursday night.

John Hinkel was elected vice president and Jim Horton, secretary-treasurer.

The directors for the coming year are Robert A. Martin, Earl S. Fisher, Melvin Hubel, Roy Mentzer, Robert Armstrong, Warren Leiminger and Donald Robinson.



Daniel L. Martin

## Lancaster Man Named Outstanding Ag Student

Eric R. Stoner, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Raymond Stoner, 1051 Eden Road, Lancaster, was honored by the Agricultural Alumni Association with the Penn State College of Agriculture's Outstanding Student of the year 1970 award.

Stoner is a senior majoring in agronomy. He received the award for outstanding qualities of leadership, scholarship and character.

Association directors elected to four-year terms are Robert K. Hamilton, Ambridge; Penelope Hollowell, Ottsville; C. Lee Rumberger, Pittsburg; and Ralph M. Horst, Lebanon.