

New Central Milk Testing Lab at Penn State Is Dedicated

Dedication ceremonies for the Central Milk Testing Laboratory on the Pennsylvania State University campus were held April 20 with officials of the College of Agriculture and Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association participating.

The laboratory, which tests 200,000 milk samples per month for butterfat percentage by using automatic equipment, is the only one of its kind in the United States. The lab, completed last

November, runs tests on all cows enrolled in the state DHIA program.

The project is paid from fees collected for services offered by DHIA. The Association and College of Agriculture maintain the facilities.

Dr. Russell E. Larson, dean of the College of Agriculture, speaking at the dedication ceremonies, pointed out that the establishment of the laboratory is one more example of meeting a

need within the dairy industry. "Results of the tests are utilized to maintain complete and continuing herd production records for DHIA members using

Herr Attends Seminar

Paul H. Herr, Holtwood RD1, was one of 50 men attending a Regional Seminar of American Breeders Service, Inc. recently at Harrisburg.

Willard Krueger, vice president, marketing, American Breeders Service, described the rapid growth in the organization, and the new methods of marketing and distribution that have meant so much in the expansion of service throughout the United States and the entire world.

A day long seminar included panel discussions and work sessions, involving business topics in which Herr took part. Herr provides local artificial insemination service for dairy and beef herds.

Corn Shellers Received

Donald Stoltzfus, an Eastern Board agricultural development worker in Tanzania, has reported, "I want to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of four corn shellers. If nothing else, there will at least be fewer blisters this year in four villages."

Stoltzfus said that four hand-powered corn shellers contributed by members of the Conestoga Mennonite Church, Morgantown, will be placed in four Tanzanian villages: Tarani, Bumangi, Biharamulo, and North Mara.

While considered obsolete by most United States farmers, the hand-powered shellers will contribute to development in the Musoma area by saving time in an area where most of the corn shelling is now done by hand

this service," Dr. Larson said. "All results of tests and testing procedures are available to faculty members for research and educational purposes."

Clyde S. Robison, Coal Center RD1, state DHIA president, emphasized that Pennsylvania dairymen will appreciate the new service. He also pointed out that construction of a facility of this type is the biggest step and most solid one the state DHIA has ever taken.

Herbert C. Gilmore, Penn State Extension dairy specialist and supervisor of the state DHIA program, in explaining the functions of the lab, said a staff of 14 are employed. Five automatic

milk-o-testers record the butterfat percentages of 900 samples per hour.

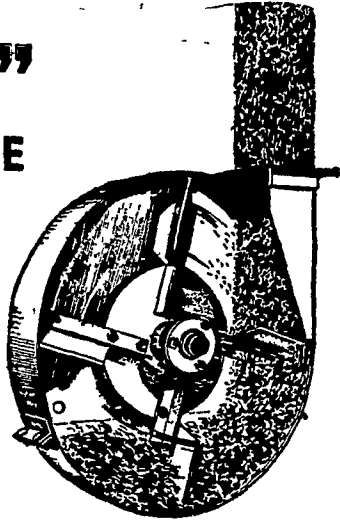
The DHIA supervisor in each county takes a sample from the milk of each cow in the herd on test. This is placed in a plastic bag to which a preservation has been added, Gilmore noted.

Samples are then packaged in specially designed containers and mailed to the laboratory. After the samples are removed from the containers, the entire procedure is automatic.

Policies of Central Milk Testing Laboratory operations are governed by a 15-member DHIA board of directors and faculty members of the College of Agriculture.

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