

Sheep Referendum Ballots Sent

Ballots for voting in the June 7-18 national referendum on extending the wool and lamb market promotion program have been mailed to all known wool producers in Lancaster County, announced Fred Seldomridge, Chairman of the Lancaster County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee.

"The vote will determine whether producers will continue their support for the wool sales promotion program," Seldomridge said, "but it will not affect present wool payment legislation."

Under the new agreement, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the American Sheep Producers Council (ASPC) would set up payment deductions of up to 1½ cents a pound on wool marketed during 1971-73 and 7½ cents a hundredweight on the unshorn lambs marketed. Funds collected would be used by the ASPC to continue a program of advertising, sales promotion, and related activities for wool and lamb.

The ASC Committee Chairman said a similar agreement was approved by 79.9 per cent of the wool producers voting in a 1966 referendum.

The wool and lamb promotion program, for the year ending June 30, 1970, cost about \$3.4 million. The budget for the current year is \$3.2 million. Because wool production has decreased, payment deductions have declined to about \$2.8 million. ASPC has been able to maintain

its promotion activities by using reserve funds. The Council's present wool promotion is on a national basis in cooperation with additional or matching funds from other segments of the industry. Lamb promotion now is concentrated in high lamb consuming areas.

Anyone who has owned sheep, 6 months old or older, for 30 consecutive days during 1970 may vote in the two-week referendum.

Approval of two-thirds of the total number of producers voting nationally, or of producers having two-thirds of the total volume of wool production represented in the referendum, must be obtained before the agreement can go into effect.

"Ballots may be mailed or brought to the County ASCS office beginning June 7," the Chairman said. "Anyone who believes he's eligible to vote but has not received a ballot by June 10 should get in touch with the County ASCS office."

"To be counted, ballots must reach the County ASCS office before close of business, Friday, June 18," he cautioned.

The Lancaster County DHIA Program

Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) testing has been a very important part of the dairy business for many years throughout the country.

Through this local testing service, dairymen are able to evaluate the production ability of their cows.

The Red Rose DHIA of Lancaster County has been the largest association in the state, if not in the country. The local

association includes approximately 700 herd owners with 430 herds on the regular DHIA program and the remaining 270 herds on the Owner-Sampler program.

For the past several years, dairy authorities have been promoting one testing laboratory in the state to do all of the DHIA testing. Late last year this laboratory has completed and was dedicated earlier this spring on the campus at Pennsylvania State University.

At the present time nearly all of the milk samples from all Pennsylvania counties are being tested at the central laboratory at Penn State.

Under the present program, the local DHIA Supervisor will

draw the milk sample from the local herd and send it to the central laboratory; the samples are tested there and results are mailed back to the dairymen. This method favors efficiency in the testing work and greater uniformity in reading the butterfat test.

The Red Rose Association includes 14 Supervisors who make regular monthly visits to the dairy farms. The head supervisor is J. Wilbur Houser, Lancaster.

The Association is operated with a board of directors including a director from each of 14 groups. President of the Board is Donald S. Eby, Gordonville, RD1.

Max Smith,
Lancaster Co. Ag. Agent

Co. Official Retires

Russell H. Anderson, vice president for purchasing of New Holland Division of Sperry Rand Corp., has retired, according to New Holland president Kenneth F. Thompson.

Anderson, 2631 Mondamin Farm Road, joined New Holland in 1947 as a purchasing agent and was named director of purchasing in 1951.

In 1965 he became vice president for purchasing. In that capacity he has had staff accountability for all domestic and international purchasing activities of the company.

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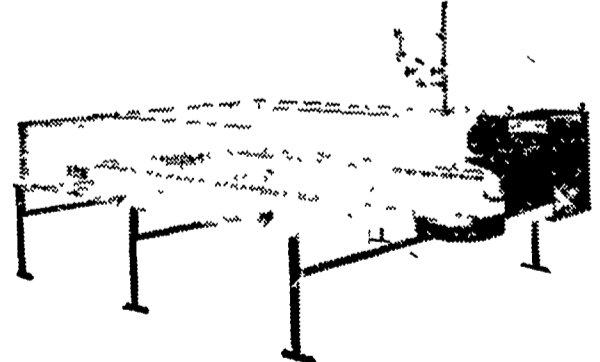
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