

Lancaster Farming

Ag



The Lancaster County 4-H Baby Beef and Lamb Club met Wednesday night at the Farm and Home Center to elect officers for the coming year. The newly elected officers were installed at the meeting. They are, from

left to right: Rick Hess, Strasburg RD1, vice-president; Linda Good, Lititz RD2, secretary; Gary Brubaker, 345 Running Pump Road, Lancaster, treasurer, and Joseph Lefever, Manheim RD4, president.

\$2021 Average at Bare Dispersal

A lot of good cows left Pennsylvania on Monday after the dispersal sale by Lebanon County's Bare Brothers. The buyers, though, both out-of-state as well as Pennsylvanians, parted with a lot of cash for the privilege of trucking away the cows. The brothers took in close to \$250,000 for their 123 head of Registered Holsteins, for a record-

breaking average of \$2021 per cow. This is the highest per cow average ever paid at a complete dispersal in Pennsylvania.

The previous average, about \$1700, was set just last fall at a dispersal in Northampton County.

Hershey Bare told Lancaster Farming on Thursday that at least half the cows went out-of-state to

California, Washington, Canada, Virginia, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Jersey. The sale was conducted by the R. Austin Backus auctioneering firm from Mexico, New York.

The top price of the day was paid for a two-year old which milked 17,000 pounds (Continued On Page 23)

1974 Dairy Day Attendance Good

Close to 300 dairymen crowded into the Lancaster Farm and Home Center on Tuesday for the 1974 Dairy Day program. They heard from four main speakers who talked about the measurement of management ability, dairy imports, mastitis control and dairy waste problems.

Ralene Harbold, reigning Lancaster County Dairy Princess, also addressed the group.

Donald Ace, dairy extensionist from Penn State, told the assembled milk producers that if they couldn't make a living with their forage programs, then they wouldn't be able to balance their budgets with purchased feed ingredients. Penn State's forage testing service, Ace noted, has shown that silage quality across the state this year has not been too good. "The samples we've seen usually look OK on a dry matter basis," Ace said, "but they have more water than in other years. Last year, if you fed a cow a bucketful of silage with 60-percent

moisture, she's not going to do as well this year on that same bucketful of 76-percent silage."

Hay crops, in contrast to silage, were exceptionally good this year, Ace said. Especially in Lancaster County.

Although he feels corn silage as a crop is unsurpassed for value and energy, Ace cautioned the dairymen on overfeeding the material. "I've seen some (Continued On Page 22)



Dairy Day speakers Donald Ace, top, and Jerry Dryer.



FARM TRENDS

by Dick Wanner

Time to Hit Garlic in Wheat

This is the year to knock garlic out of your wheat acreage. Garlicky wheat isn't much of a problem locally in most years, with buyers here docking a nickel or so for each bushel. Expectations are for a bigger crop this year, with more garlic, and that could push up dockage rates as buyers get more choosy. One grain buyer we talked to said dockage could go to 10-, 15- or even 20-cents a bushel this year.

If you're docked on the basis of weight, garlic this year will cost you more than last year simply because wheat prices will likely be higher. And 3- or 4-percent of \$4.25 a bushel is more than 3- or 4-percent of \$3.00.

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Farmland Assessment Meet Set

Farmland assessment legislation will be the subject of the second in a series of educational seminars presented by the Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County. This public seminar will be held Wednesday evening, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster.

The program will be conducted as a panel discussion including Reno Thomas and Kent Shelhamer from the Pennsylvania State House Agriculture Committee at Harrisburg; Benjamin F. Weaver, County Administrator of Lancaster County and J. Arthur Rohrer of Paradise, RD1, farmer and member of (Continued On Page 22)



Mrs. Margaret Jacobs has been milking goats since 1934, and is presently milking 15 head on her Chester County farm.

Margaret Jacobs Claims . . .

'Goats are Smarter than Cows'

Margaret Jacobs can rattle off goat pedigrees faster than most people can say the alphabet. One of Chester County's premiere goat boosters Mrs. Jacobs has been milking goats since 1934. Her farm is just off Route 23, near St. Peter's Village.

We visited Mrs. Jacobs recently to find out a little bit about her operation, and a little bit about goats. We asked her, first of all, why she kept goats instead of cows. "I like goats because they're easier for a woman

to handle. I'm a widow, and I do most of this work myself. And then, you know, goats are smarter than cows. And they make wonderful pets. Actually, I used to have cows, but I sold them when I ran into labor problems."

There are presently 15 goats being milked on the Jacobs farm. Mrs. Jacobs milks twice a day, and her best milker is currently producing about 16.5 pounds daily. All her producers get grain in the milking parlor.

Modified milking machines - with only two teat

cups - are used to speed the milking chore. "It really takes more time to milk 20 goats than it does to milk 20 cows," Mrs. Jacobs said. "We work pretty hard for our money." Milk from Mrs. Jacobs' goats is sold on the quota system, and she tries to have her animals bred for peak production over the winter months. The herd is on DHIA test, and Mrs. Jacobs says she pays the same testing fee for a 100-pound goat that a dairyman pays for a 1200-pound cow. Production records for

goats are figured on a 305-day lactation period, just as for cows. A goat, however, may continue producing for anywhere from 12 to 18 months. In fact, one of the Jacobs goats, a Tagenborg, produced 4000 pounds of milk, 120 of fat in one 305-day lactation period, and didn't even pause for breath before starting her second 305 days in which she posted a 3000-pound record. Mrs. Jacobs has a son of that female, Shagbark Erica's Eric,

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