

Milk juggers

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prices between Class II products and blend milk prices. Milk juggers are not under control of the Federal Order for as long as they are producer-handlers — that is they produce, process and sell milk produced on their own farm. The law for Order 4 even has a liberal clause in it which allows such producer handlers to purchase up to 10,000 pounds of additional milk per month from pool handlers. In the Pittsburgh (Order 36) marketing order it's even more liberal in that producer-handlers may purchase unlimited amounts of extra milk for their bottling purposes.

Basically, all the Federal Order requires is that juggers submit monthly reports on their operation. This is to determine whether or not they are operating entirely on their own milk production, and if not, then how much was purchased elsewhere. Some juggers have refused to comply with this regulation, although they are getting to be fewer in number.

The misunderstandings and difficulties began approximately a year ago when the Order 4 marketing area was expanded to include a number of juggers who were previously not within that area. They had been under Pennsylvania regulations (the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board), but according to one source of information, the laws were not being enforced.

Hence the offenders are complaining about not being able to do business the way they have always done for years, and they're letting their grievances be known loudly and bitterly. The Federal regulations have been enforced and thus some friction has been created.

Officials and others within the industry are quick to point out, however, that the offenders are just a few.

Basically, the problem is being solved. They also stress that producer-handlers are not regulated — they are exempt — unless they reconstitute milk without paying that difference in prices. All that is normally required of Pennsylvania's 60 milk juggers is that they file monthly reports.

According to one source of information, the entire issue boils down to disallowing special privileges to a few at the expense of the majority. There are, for example, 8000 dairy farmers in the mid-Atlantic (Order 4) marketing order — with approximately 5000 of them in Pennsylvania — and the regulations are designed to protect their shares of the market.

As one observer put it: "These juggers don't want to share any of their Class I sales, but they expect to cut in on those of others."

The money which is now being assessed to those juggers who have been in violation of the Order is going into the Order 4 pool from where it is to be distributed among all dairymen within the Order. It is not, therefore, a payment made to the government, although a government agency is handling it. The idea behind it all is to protect prices for all dairymen, not just a handful.

Leaders within the dairy industry favor that juggers be allowed to operate independently and that they be exempt from Order 4 regulations, but they do not favor waiving the infractions which have been described, and they are hopeful that a workable solution will be forthcoming.

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Many crops

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tobacco growers, Lueck reported, is a tremendous explosion of the aphid population. Pointing out right away that the problem is not serious, he did warn, however, that the situation could make curing "very difficult" at harvest time. He recommends that growers check their fields now and look for the pest. If it's there, he suggests spraying the crop with any of several chemicals, including Cygon 267, Pennacap M, Thiodan, and Diazinon. The Extension Office should be consulted for further details.

Aside from possibly making curing difficult, the aphids also slow growth of the crop somewhat. Lueck assumes that it's the wet weather which is probably responsible for the sudden numbers of the tiny insects and the succulent leaves are

providing them with excellent food. The aphids first became really noticeable in early July.

SOYBEANS, POTATOES AND TOMATOES

There's not a whole lot that can be said for soybeans, tomatoes, and potatoes, except that they're doing very well. Soybean fields have been described as "excellent" and particular mention is being made of the crop being weed-free. Lueck considers good weed control in soybeans to be a real key to good production.

The foliage looks especially good on vine crops — tomatoes and potatoes — and a good harvest is expected if favorable growing conditions continue. The only tarnished spot in this otherwise brilliant crop picture is that there have been some isolated reports of late potato blight due to too much rain in parts of the state.

HAY

Hay producers, on the

other hand, are not benefitting very much from the kind of growing season we've been experiencing. There is some good hay being made, but more cuttings are getting wet rather than staying dry and the majority of hay is being classified as only "fair."

In summing up briefly the situation with other crops, Pennsylvania's Agriculture Department estimated the barley harvest so far at

averaging 45 bushels per acre, which is down 15 percent from a year ago. Most people contacted by Lancaster Farming indicated harvesting only a "half crop." State-wide, barley is now just over half harvested, while southern counties were done more than a week ago.

A few fields of oats have been combined, but reports received here are not sufficient to produce a picture. Some cereal leaf beetle damage has been reported.

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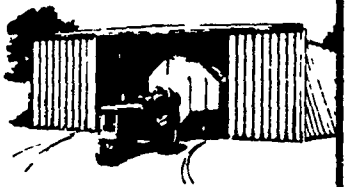
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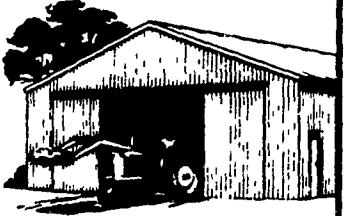
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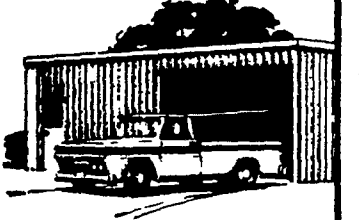
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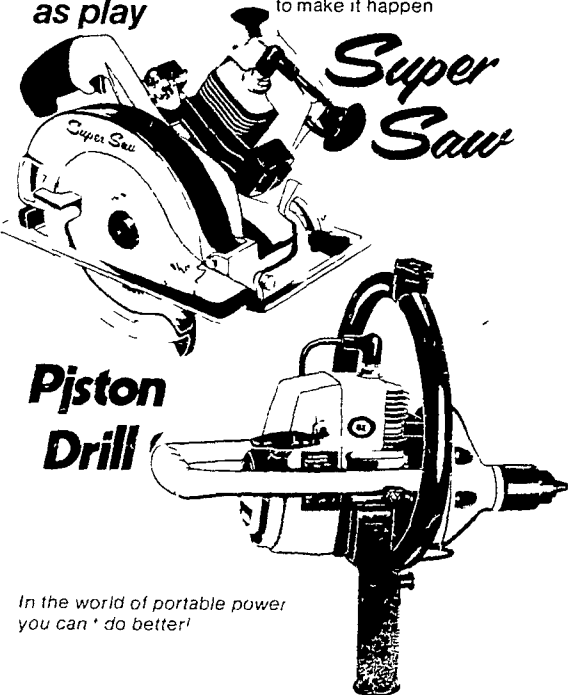
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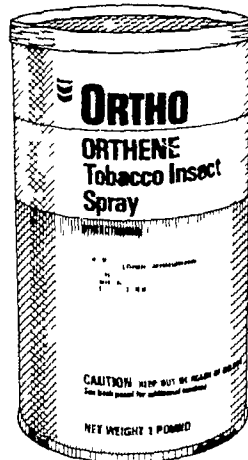
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