

HFAA executives re-elected; color marking restrictions lifted

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Holstein dairymen celebrated the nation's bicentennial in Philadelphia, June 29 - July 2, by exercising the democratic process during the 91st annual meeting and convention of the Holstein - Friesian Association of America.

The 224 delegates at the convention re-elected HFAA President Gordon W. Newton, owner-operator of Gorlib Farm, Tatum, S.C., for a second one-year term.

W. R. (Dick) Brooks, co-owner and manager of Paclamar Farms, Boulder, Colo., was re-elected vice-president of the national dairy breed association.

Four directors were elected to the 16-member national board. Dr. David G. Smokler, Lancaster, Texas, was re-elected to another four-year term. New members elected to the board were Max K. "Kip"

Herzog, Petaluma, California, Donald V. Seipt, Easton, Pennsylvania and Donald V. Crowell, South Dayton, New York. They replaced Wesley Sawyer, Waterford, California, Donald Collins, Malone, New York and Obie Snider, Imler, Pennsylvania.

COLOR MARKING RESTRICTION LIFTED FOR BULLS

HFAA delegates also liberalized the color marking restrictions, allowing both male and female Holsteins, which are distinctly black and white or red and white to be registered. Previously, certain color marking restrictions prevented bulls from being registered. The delegate action stipulated, however, that animals whose color patterns may vary from traditional standards be labeled by having an O.C. (off-color) suffix attached to their registered names.

In other action, the dates for nominating and electing Holstein Association delegates were advanced by 110 days. In past years, balloting for delegate election has closed on about May 1. By advancing this date to early January, newly-elected delegates will have an opportunity to participate in Winter Holstein Forums, conducted on a regional basis throughout the country.

Entertainment highlight of the Philadelphia convention was an evening banquet, hosted by Joe Paterno, head football coach, Pennsylvania State University. Fred Waring and his Young Pennsylvanians were featured after the dinner.

The convention concluded July 2 with the sale of 74 head of superior breeding stock at the Sales Pavilion in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The sale averaged \$7,364.



LIFE on the farm

By Dieter Krieg, Editor

Our pond was always a big attraction to not only us, but to kids from nearby homes as well. By far the largest "swimming hole" in the neighborhood, it offered many refreshing moments after having hauled hay all day or milked cows during the hot afternoons.

Nobody ever wasted any time when an opportunity for swimming came along, especially my brother, Ingo, who practically lived in the pond once the chores were done. The time a swim was appreciated most was after haymaking. We'd all be soaked with sweat, and covered with dust and alfalfa debris, which was never a very comfortable state to be in. But somehow it always looked a whole lot worse than what it really was. Nobody ever complained. It made swimming that much more meaningful and appreciated.

The bottom of the pond was mostly clay, which made it extremely soft, and in some places, treacherously slippery. For this reason we usually wore sneakers.

Ingo had made a nice, big raft, using an old bed from a wagon, and placing six 55-gallon drums underneath it. We hopped on to it and shoved off, using a long pole. "Shep", our dog,

usually preferred to stay on shore, barking excitedly for a while, then just watching intensely, and finally going to sleep until he managed to get splashed by someone.

Getting wet was the first order of "business". The idea wasn't just to cool off, but also to rid ourselves of the itchy particles of hay. We'd swim around the raft in circles, or all over the pond — which covered approximately three-quarters of an acre. A few inner tubes were used to just float around on, or dive through. It didn't take long for the water to get muddy. It was a scene of lots of splashing and happy shouting. We wouldn't really be clean by the time we were done swimming, but we'd be refreshed — and that's all that mattered to us.

The sunlight glistened on the surface of the water, as we watched from the raft — where we'd eventually end up once the initial bursts of energy had worn off. The water and air were calm. The raft hardly moved, unless we'd make it move. We could have stayed out there all day.

A farm, warm summer days, and a nice big pond is something extra special. It's something every boy should be able to grow up with.

USDA buying beef

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz has announced that the U. S. Department of Agriculture is starting a beef purchase program.

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service will purchase ground beef for distribution to schools, institutions, and elderly feeding programs. In announcing the program, the Secretary emphasized that this is a very opportune time

for USDA to enter the market and that the ground beef will be available for delivery to schools shortly after they reopen this Fall.

Fed cattle prices have been under considerable pressure for several weeks and the USDA Cattle on Feed report, released July 19, indicates that marketings will continue large for some time. The specification for ground beef provides for a wide selection of grades and

wholesale cuts in preparing the product. USDA officials indicated that because of the present price and supply situation they expected processors to rely heavily on wholesale cuts from fed beef in making the ground beef.

Two separate purchase programs are being started, one for bulk ground beef and one for ground beef patties. Funds for the purchases are provided under Section 32, Public Law 74-320.

USDA studies drought

WASHINGTON - A two-man USDA grain team is conducting a two-week investigation of drought conditions in western Europe. The team will view damage to grains, protein crops, pastures and forage, and will meet with feed compounders and other leaders to assess feed utilization and the impact on livestock and poultry industries. France, the largest agricultural producer in western Europe, appears to be most seriously affected.

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