

Top Guernsey brings

LANCASTER The fifth Pennsylvania-Maryland Guernsey Sale, held here last month at the Guernsey Sales Pavilion, was a spirited and enthusiastic affair, according to John Blyholder, business manager of the

Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders' Association.

Thirty three head averaged \$1217, with the top animal commanding a price of \$3000.

A Blair County breeder, John B. Morrow purchased

the \$3000 bovine as well as the second highest price individual. The top animal was a bred heifer consigned by Dennis Wolff, Millville, Pa. Contending bidder was the Kellogg Guernsey Farm of Hickory Corners, Mich. The second high individual was a 3-year old consigned by Franchester Farms of West Salem, Ohio. She sold for \$2700 with Happy Hill Farm of Harrison, Ohio, doing the contending bidding.

The third high at \$2650 was purchased by Marvin E. Miller, Strasburg and consigned by Leader Farm, York. The contender on this animal was Ben Crocker, Belmont, Iowa.

One bull sold for \$1,800 consigned by Kellogg Guernsey Farm, and purchased by Jack Dendel, Allegan, Mich.

High buyer in the sale was the Carroll L. Ward Family, Astatula, Florida who purchased seven head for a total of \$7900.

The sale was managed by the Pa. Guernsey Breeders Ass'n., Camp Hill, Pa. and the Merryman Company, Sparks, Md.

Farm land to be protected

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a policy to help keep the nation's best farm, range, and forest lands from going into non-agricultural uses.

In announcing the policy, Secretary of Agriculture, Earl B. Butz, said the loss of prime lands well-suited to the production of food, forage, and timber is a matter of concern to the nation. Major consideration must be given to long-term needs to retain the productive capabilities of environmental values of American agriculture and forestry, he said.

USDA will urge all federal agencies to adopt the policy that federal activities that

take prime agricultural land should be carried out only when there are no suitable alternative sites and when the activity meets an overriding public need.

USDA also will work with private organizations and groups to urge the protection of prime lands from premature or unnecessary conversion to non-agricultural land use.

Land use alternatives are generally available that can minimize the impact on prime lands, the secretary said, and such alternatives should be explored carefully, particularly where federal funds are involved and when prime lands will be irrevocably committed to non-agricultural uses.

Other guidelines for protecting prime lands call for (1) environmental impact statements and review procedures, (2) inventories and evaluations of the nation's farms, range, and forest lands, and (3) cooperative efforts with states, local governments, and universities to assure concerns for food, fiber, and wood production are recognized and emphasized in identifying prime agricultural lands.

The prime lands policy also proposes review of all USDA programs to insure that they are consistent with the policy.

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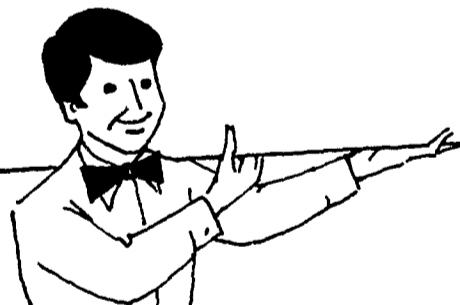
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