

## Class I milk price for Jan. same as Dec.

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - A January 1977 Class I milk price of \$11.04 per hundredweight was announced last week by Middle Atlantic Market Administrator

Joseph D. Shine. The price is unchanged from December 1976 and is 58 cents below the January 1976 Class I Price. The November butterfat differential is also un-

changed at 10.4 cents for each tenth of a pound of fat. Order No. 4 prices are announced for milk testing 3.5 per cent butterfat, f.o.b. plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia, and also within 75 miles from the nearer of Washington, D.C. or Baltimore, Md. There is

also a six-cent direct-delivery differential applicable to producer milk received at plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia.

Shine also announced a Class II price for November 1976 of \$8.34 per hundredweight. This price is

also unchanged from the previous month and is 58 cents below last November. These class prices are based on the November Minnesota-Wisconsin manu-

facturing milk price of \$8.26 per hundredweight for 3.5 per cent milk.

The USDA reported that the wholesale Grade A butter price at Chicago during November was 90.82 cents per pound and the nonfat dry milk price for the month was 62.60 cents per pound, f.o.b. plants in the Chicago area.

## Pay day may change

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has recommended amending certain payment provisions of the federal milk marketing order which regulates the handling of milk in the New York-New Jersey marketing area.

The order sets the minimum prices, based on supply and demand, that milk dealers or handlers must pay for milk purchased from individual dairy farmers or from dairy farmer cooperatives. The recommendations concern the timing of the payments.

Specifically, the recommendations would fix the 19th day of the month as the date by which cooperatives must receive payment from handlers at applicable class prices for milk delivered during the previous month. Halton said presently most processors who buy milk from cooperatives must pay the cooperatives by the 15th of the month. Processors who buy milk from individual producers, however, need not pay for it until the 25th of the month. Cooperative representatives testifying at the hearing urged that this 10-day difference be reduced to 6 days.

Another amendment would change the dates for making payments to and from the producer-settlement fund, from the 18th and 20th, respectively, to the 21st and 22nd of the month.

Other hearing proposals to require handlers to make partial payments to cooperatives and producers, and to advance the date for final payments to producers, have been denied, based on the hearing evidence.

Recommendations on the proposed amendments appeared in the Dec. 6 Federal Register. Comments may be filed, in four copies, until Dec. 21, with the Hearing Clerk, USDA, Washington, D. C. 20250, where the public may review them.

## Bee course available

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- Now that honey harvesting is over for the hobbyist or the apiarist, bees must be readied for winter. A correspondence course from Penn State lists steps to take for fall management for bees, such as providing quality food, top and bottom entrances to the hive, uniting weak colonies, and

weatherproofing summer stands.

In general, bees need no winter care. Penn State experts feel if bees are properly cared for in the fall, no winter management is necessary. For a copy of this course, send a check for \$5.50 to "Beekeeping," Box 5000, University Park, Pa. 16802. Make the check payable to Penn State.



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