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Government reminded of co-op's value

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The National Council of Farmer Cooperatives last week recommended that an independent commission study milk marketing and farmer cooperatives, if an Antitrust Review Commission now holding hearings concludes that further study is necessary in these areas.

Testifying before the Antitrust Commission, NCFC Vice President General Counsel Donald E. Graham said that members of such a study commission should be selected from among responsible consumer, farmer and middlemen interests, and not from the Federal Trade Commission, Agriculture or Justice Departments.

Graham also advocated implementation of a 1955 national antitrust committee recommendation for more formalized coordination between the Secretary of Agriculture and government antitrust agencies concerning complaints and investigations pertaining to agricultural cooperatives.

He further suggested that the 1955 recommendation be broadened to include market orders.

Graham said that the NCFC "isn't opposed to a full study of federal market orders, nor are we opposed to a full and complete reexamination of the need for the limited immunity provided for farmers by the Capper-Volstead Act."

But he noted that not one person on the Antitrust Commission, including its advisors and staff, has any credentials in agricultural economics. "This is a flaw so serious it calls into question the work of this body," Graham asserted.

The NCFC attorney pointed out that the Commission staff person heading up agricultural exemptions and immunities is an economist with the Justice Department. He added that for more than four years this staffer has engaged in activities attacking farmer cooperatives and milk market orders, as well as being one of the principal government witnesses in a recent Justice action against a dairy cooperative.

Furthermore, added Graham, two of the congressmen appointed to the commission previously introduced bills which, if enacted, would seriously weaken farmer cooperatives. He also noted that one of the attorneys appointed to the commission

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The Arthur Hershey family of Cochranville, complete with a Dairy Princess they can call their own, were the outstanding exhibitors at the 1978 Goshen Fair Holstein Show, held Thursday night near West Chester. From left are Mrs. Hershey (Joyce), Julie, 8; Chester County Dairy Princess

Beverly, 19; Brad, 15; Art Hershey, and Duane, 17. The family captured the Premier Breeder banner, had both the grand and reserve grand champion, and won numerous other titles and blue ribbons as well. A total of 18 exhibitors vied for the honors.

Art Hershey wins major dairy titles

WEST CHESTER - The Arthur Hershey family of Cochranville, owners of Ar-Joy Holsteins, captured major titles, banners and ribbons at the Goshen Fair on Thursday night. Exhibiting both the grand and reserve grand champion, the family went on to win the Premier Breeder banner and captured several other major first prizes as well, including Dairy Herd, Produce of Dam, Best Three Females, and Senior Get honors.

Premier Exhibitor honors went to Donald Eastburn of Toughkenamon who had eight animals entered in the competition, which was judged by James Shaw of Linden Loch Holsteins, Oley.

Among 4-H and FFA entries, animals shown by Oxford's Ed Breckbill stood as champions.

The Hersheys, Eastburn and Breckbill accounted for most of the blue ribbons handed out at the show.

Following are class placings:

Senior Calves - 1. Ed Breckbill, 2. Susan Pepple, Oxford; 3. Donald Eastburn, 4. Dean Yarnall, Oxford; 5. Ed Breckbill.

Junior Yearlings - 1. Ed Breckbill, 2. Nancy Yarnall, Oxford; 3. George Lamborn, Nottingham; 4. Lynn Eastburn, Toughkenamon; 5. Alice Mark, West Grove.

Senior Yearling - 1. Ed Breckbill, 2. Nancy Yarnall, 3. Ed Breckbill, 4. Ed Breckbill, 5. Darrell Guest, Pottstown.

Junior Champions - Ed Breckbill.

Junior Get of Sire - 1. Ed Breckbill, 2. Tom Roth, Pottstown.

Two Year Olds - 1. Donald Eastburn, 2. Ed Breckbill, 3. Donald Eastburn.

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Field day reveals new technology

LANDISVILLE - The possible return of the potato as a major cash crop for Pennsylvania, how to reduce disease, insect and weed problems in tobacco; the advantages of anthracnose resistant varieties of alfalfa; likely fertilizer cost savings as a result of an advanced soil analysis, and the promise of better combining with low-growing soybeans were just a few revelations farmers were told about at this year's Open House at Penn State University's research farm near here.

Well attended despite rain for much of the day, visiting farmers were treated to numerous lectures and discussions by agronomy specialists from Penn State. Wagon tours gave each visitor the opportunity to inspect fields and test plots while professors explained their meaning, and made themselves available for questions concerning problems farmers may be experiencing on their home farms. The expertise represented during the day-long event ranged from soil scientists to plant pathologists and crop specialists.

Among the highlights of the

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Dr. Richard Fox, assistant professor of soil science at Penn State University, is experimenting with trials to determine exact Nitrogen fertilizer needs in crop production. The corn leaf he's holding shows evidence of Nitrogen deficiency by way of a brownish-yellow inverted "V" stripe. Fox believes the savings in fertilizer costs could be very significant once the Nitrogen analysis test is perfected.

Strong prices seen for dairy farmers

ALLENTOWN - Dairy farmers whose milk prices are established by the Federal Milk Marketing Order 4 "Mid-Atlantic Market" are likely to reach over \$11 per hundredweight before the end of the year according to John C. York, vice-president, Member Relations, Lehigh Valley Cooperative Farmers, Inc.

The support prices to be announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for October 1 of this year could conservatively be \$9.65 per hundredweight for 3.5 per cent fat milk compared with the present support level of \$9.21. The support prices are tied to changes in the cost of production. The index of costs has increased nine per cent since October of 1977. An increase in the support price will help bolster farm milk prices and stabilize the erosion of net dairy farm income according to York.

The government's support price level will raise the Minnesota-Wisconsin milk price is the basic price currently used in establishing prices to

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