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New England Order dairy farmers approve transport adjustments

NEW YORK – Dairy farmers operating under the New England Federal Milk Marketing Order have approved amendments to the Class I – or fluid-use – milk price structure of the order. The amended order goes into effect Dec. 1.

In a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) poll of dairy cooperatives, the amended order was approved by more than 76 per cent of the farmers supplying the market, according to Herbert L. Forest, dairy official with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service.

One major change, Forest said, increases the rate of plant location adjustments to reflect increased costs of transporting milk from the production area to city bottling plants. These adjustments are added to the "Class I" price which handlers pay and the "uniform" price which producers receive.

Another change divides a simple pricing zone into several zones. The division of the present zone, made up the Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, reduces prices in a westerly direction. Forest said a third change reduces the order's Class I price by a limited amount. This change, he said, will provide a better coordination of Class I prices that are applied at southern New England plants and plants in nearby eastern New York, which are under the New York - New Jersey milk order. Handlers under the two orders have overlapping sales areas in New York.

Copies of the amended order may be obtained from Market Administrator Oscar Zucchi, 230 Congress St., Rm. 403, Boxton, Mass.



MANURE PIT AGITATOR The new Hesston Model 1505 Slurry Agitator is the latest addition to the company's line of liquid manure handling equipment. It is designed to restore and maintain slurry quality in storage pits and lagoons. The Model 1505 attaches to

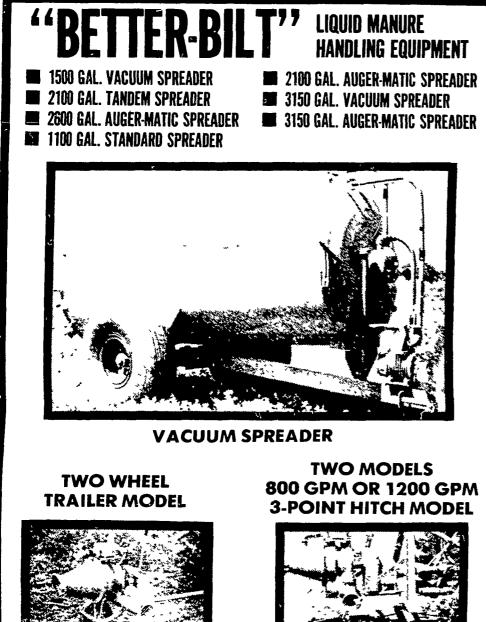
Category I, II or III Narrow tractors with a 3-point hitch.

02110; or from the Dairy Division, AMS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 2050. Minimum required PTO h.p. 18 65. The agitating propeller 18 22 inches in diameter and attached to the end of a 17-½ foot boom so it can reach far out into the pit. The operator backs his tractor up to the storage area and drops the propeller through the crust. When engaged, the rotating propeller sets up a subsurface flow that erodes the underside and edges of the crust to thoroughly break up the heavy masses of weeds, bedding and dried manure. Continuous flow and direct contact with the spinning propeller soon turns the crusty mass into useable, valuable slurry that is easily picked up by the spreader.

A heavy-duty "foot," attached to the propeller end of the arm, protects the blades from damage should the unit strike the bottom of the pit or lagoon.

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transferring manure to above ground storage or to a lagoon, filling spreader tank and can be used in irrigation

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