

# Herd averages cited at Red Rose DHIA dinner

By DIETER KRIEG  
SMOKETOWN — Lancaster County's top dairymen were honored at a dinner here on Tuesday during the annual Red Rose DHIA recognition banquet. Among those recognized for distinguished achievements were those with butterfat averages exceeding 675 pounds and production leaders in breed divisions. Lancaster Farming lists all dairymen with 1978 DHIA averages of 600 pounds of fat or more elsewhere in this edition. The overall leader was Quarryville area Holstein breeder Curt Akers. He is featured in a story beginning on the front page.



K.D. Linde

Tops among Lancaster County Guernsey breeders was the K.D. Linde family of Oxford R1. It was the third year in a row that the Linde herd won both the county and state honor. Average production this year at Lindenhof on 45.7 registered Guernseys was 14,267 pounds of milk and 650 pounds of butterfat. The herd consists of nine first-calf heifers and one purchased cow. The herd replacement rate for the year was at 22 per cent. Per cent days in milk was calculated at 86.3.

Lindenhof's performance ranks 44th out of the 436 herds enrolled in the Red Rose DHIA program. It is the second-highest herd average of any colored breed herd and, with one exception, is surpassed only by all Holstein herds or herds which are predominantly black-and-white.

Karl Herr of Kirkwood took the distinction of having the highest producing herd among colored breeds. His 55.2 Red Polled cows and heifers averaged 17,047 pounds of milk and 647 pounds of butterfat. The per cent cow days in milk figure was pegged at 91.2. The Herrs had 15 per cent of the herd in its first lactation and no purchased animals.

The top mixed herd belonged to John M. Weaver and son of New Holland. Their 79.6 cows averaged 18,154 pounds of milk and 713 pounds of butterfat. With 17 per cent of the milking string in their first lactation, and just one purchased cow, the herd replacement rate figures out to 22 per cent. The per cent cow days in milk figure shows up at an even 88 per cent, according to official DHIA data.

Tops among Ayrshire breeders in the Garden Spot was Harold Shelly of Manheim. With 13.8 registered cows listed in his summary, he managed to



Herbert Shelly

pump out an average of 14,942 and 607 pounds of milk and butterfat respectively. The per cent cow days in milk is at 87.1; the herd replacement rate is at 33 per cent. None were purchased.

Robert Ulrich of Quarryville R1 had his herd of registered and grade Jerseys come out on top in his breed division. With 76.7 bovines included in the final summary, they averaged 85.1 per cent cow days in milk, 10,779 pounds of milk and 562 pounds of butterfat. Heifers accounted for all the herd replacements. The removal rate for the year was 29 per cent.

J. Rohrer Witmer of Willow Street R2 captured the crown among Brown Swiss breeders. His 38.2 cows averaged 13,219 pounds of milk and 561 pounds of butterfat. The per cent cow days in milk was among the highest anywhere: 91.3. The Witmer herd experienced a 26 per cent herd replacement rate, with none of the animals being purchased. Nineteen per cent of the milking herd were first-calf heifers.

A year ago the breed winners and their averages were as follows:

Holsteins: J.Z. Nolt, Leola, 19,349M, 724F

Guernseys: Karl Dieter and Else Linde, Oxford, 14,204M, 663F.

Ayrshires: Harold Shelly, Manheim, 15,830M and 644F.  
Brown Swiss: Donald Trimble, Peach Bottom, 14,195M and 596F.

Jerseys: Paul and Marvin Herr, Holtwood, 11,477M and 553F.

The Red Rose DHIA had 24,476 cows on test during the 1978 testing year. A year ago that figure stood at 24,270 and in 1976 it stood at 23,600.

Association president Robert Kindig of Conestoga praised the members for their participation and achievements but also noted

the printed report that the Association "continues to grow and to be one of the strongest organizations in the country. Both cow numbers and production figures continue to increase. This progress makes it possible for the dairy en-

terprise to continue as the leading agricultural industry in Lancaster County."

"All members, directors and supervisors are to be commended for their accomplishments in keeping the dairy industry at the top

of the list. Your Association is just as strong as its membership. We urge you to continue to support the various activities. You are a vital part of one of the greatest organizations in the dairy industry," Smith wrote.

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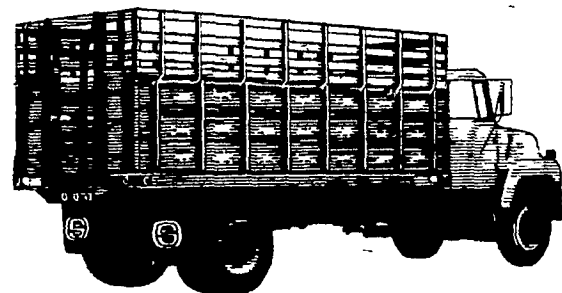
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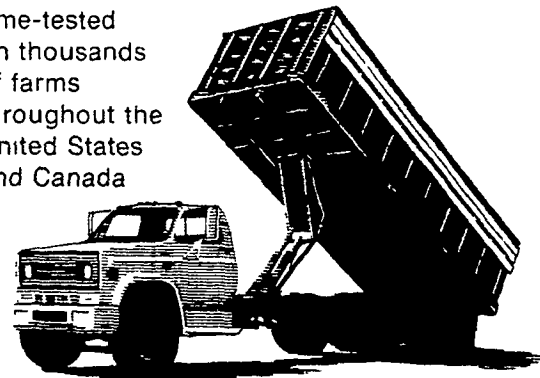
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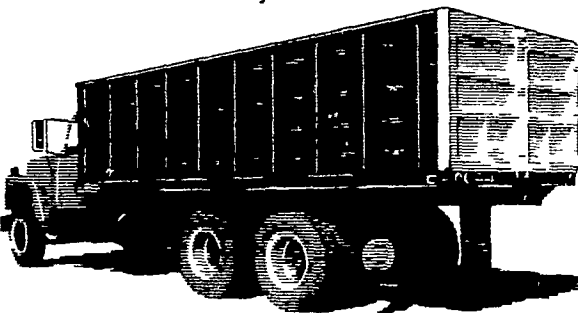
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