

94th Holstein convention to be held June 26-27

DENVER, Colo. — The benefits of a new sire type evaluation and the details of farm estate planning will be featured at early-bird sessions at the 94th annual convention of the Holstein Association at Denver, Colo., June 26-27.

The two educational seminars for breeders will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day before the convention business meetings.

Dr. Lynn Johnson, director of research for the Holstein Association will open the first session on Tuesday with a discussion of the benefits of the BLUP procedures for evaluation of sires for type.

Johnson's topic is timely since Best Linear Unbiased Prediction (BLUP) will be used to calculate type transmitting abilities of bulls in Volume II,

Registered Holstein Sire Summaries to be published in July.

An explanation of the advantages of BLUP over the present herdmate PDT system will be outlined. "BLUP" establishes a common ground from which a ranking of competitive sires is possible," Johnson said. It permits more information to be considered in the evaluation, he said.

In addition, Johnson said, the new procedures take into account these factors:

Daughters of each sire are compared with daughters of other sires in the same herd, year, and season.

Adjustments are made for the genetic competition faced by daughters of a sire.

Differences in the ages of daughters are considered and appropriately adjusted in all sire comparisons.

Sire evaluations are adjusted according to the amount of information available (repeatability).

Johnson, who becomes director of research July 1, has a broad background of research and practical experience in genetics, statistics and computer sciences.

While he was at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, he was directly involved with the national dairy sire evaluation program for production traits there. In his new position with the Association, he will concentrate on development of advanced technology that relates to improved genetic evaluation procedures.

Darrell Baugh, a farm estate planning expert, will show breeders how they can best protect their farm investment from excessive

taxes and combat inflation in the years ahead.

In a session at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, Baugh will discuss how the family assets can best be served by a trust operated for the benefit of the partners in a family partnership.

Under the title, "The Family Farm — New Concepts or Last Rites," he will compare the probable estate costs of a poorly planned estate now with the probable costs of the same estate, some 25 years later. These figures will be compared with the costs that result from a partnership/corporation for the same family situation.

"Estate planning makes an orderly transferral of property from one generation to the next," Baugh says. Due to the new tax laws and the inflated value of land, cattle and other property, it takes more than a will to smoothly administer an estate, he said.

To plan for future generations, Baugh believes that these steps need to be taken now—

Make a real effort to plan your affairs.

Re-think the way you own property.

Re-think the way you operate your farm.

Hire competent help, specialists in financial planning, to chart the future.

"We intend to show that no matter how fast farm values may be increasing, the estate taxes and costs are rising faster. The only way a family farm will survive to the next generation is going to be through competent,

creative estate planning," Baugh said.

Baugh is president of The National Estate Planning Institute of Boulder, Colo. He holds a master of science degree from University of Colorado and is a chartered life underwriter.

Census 'round up' launched

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A drive to round up reports that have not yet been returned from farm households in the 1978 Census of Agriculture was launched by the Bureau of the Census.

Bureau officials called the drive a "special effort to provide statistical results to the Nation's farmers and other users of census data as early as possible."

Most farm operators first received report forms last January, and most have, by now, completed and returned them. Although the rate at which reports have been returned has exceeded the pace of the last farm census, some farmers and ranchers have not sent in their reports.

"The completeness and accuracy of this important agricultural census depend upon each individual filling out the report form received," said Orvin

Wilhite, Chief of the Bureau's Agriculture Division. "I am sure that farmers and agricultural leaders want their county and State totals to be as accurate and useful as possible."

The farm census is the only government or private method for gathering and reporting agriculture information on a county-by-county basis for the entire Nation, Wilhite noted.

Important decisions will be made by farmer organizations, marketing associations and co-ops on the basis of information in the farm census, he said. Census figures also are widely used by many other organizations, both public and private, on which farmers depend for services, supplies, and equipment.

Operators who neglect to fill out and return their reports, Wilhite said, are doing themselves and all

other operators a disservice. They impair the accuracy of the statistics for their area and may even reduce their county's share of funds allocated for research and other agricultural purposes, Wilhite said.

A few landlords and other persons who did not operate farms in 1978 may have received report forms, and others may have received more than one form, each addressed differently. Wilhite explained this as follows:

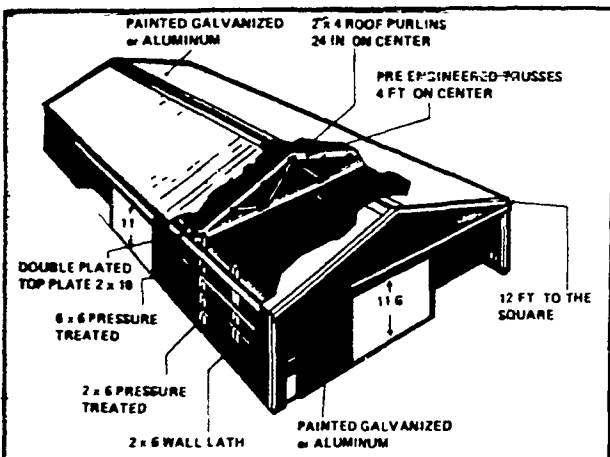
"Each report that the Bureau mailed was assigned its own census file number (CFN). We need a response for each CFN so that the record can be cleared. Anyone who did not farm in 1978, for whatever reason, and anyone who received extra reports with different file numbers should note these facts on the forms and return them so that additional followups can be avoided."

The Bureau realizes that some farmers and ranchers need reassurance that their report is confidential. "By law," Wilhite said, "the report may be seen only by sworn census employees, and used only to tabulate totals for your county, State and the Nation."

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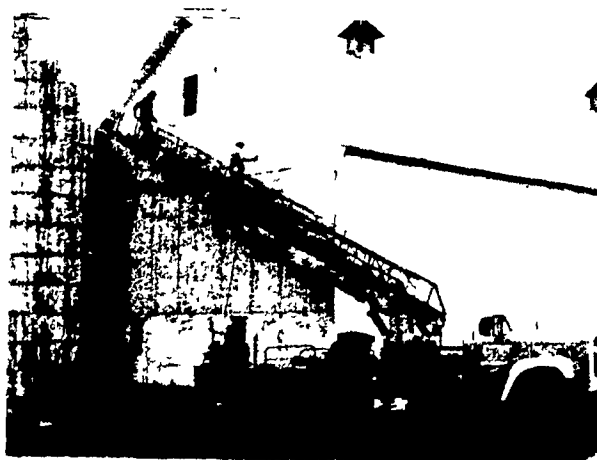


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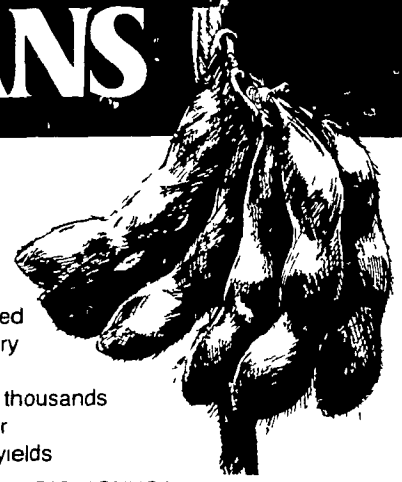
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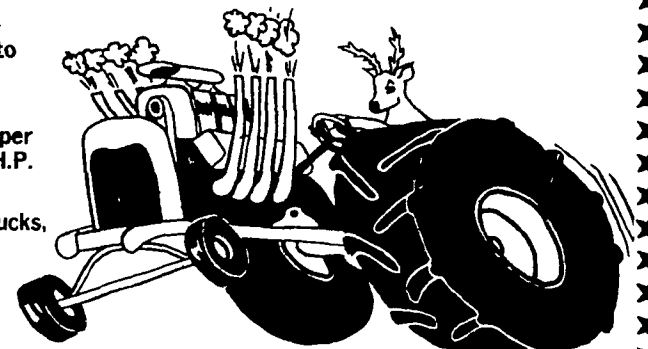
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