

Witmer family gathers top Guernsey honors

LANCASTER — The Lancaster County Guernsey breeders recently honored the top herds in the county and presented awards to several club members.

The lion's share of the spotlight went to the

Raymond and Peter Witmer herd, R1 Willow Street.

Among numerous other awards, they took home the top award for butterfat production in the County.

K.D. and Else Linde, R 1 Oxford, were cited for

having the highest milk production in the county.

The Lindes' cows pumped out 14,126 pounds milk and 658 pounds fat on an average 46.4 cows. The Linde herd has a total of 65 cows.

Lindes also were cited for

having the top production by an aged Guernsey with 17,053 pounds milk and 750 pounds fat.

The Witmer herd churned out 674 pounds butterfat average on 64.4 cows.

Their increased produc-

tion, 65 pounds over their 1978 DHIA test, gave them the high Guernsey butterfat record both in Lancaster County and in Pennsylvania. Their herd averaged 1³/₄ 748 pounds milk.

The Witmers also were

cited for a 16 year old cow who now holds the sixth highest lifetime butterfat production record for all U.S. Guernseys, according to Association Business Manager Lee Yost. The cow has a lifetime production record of 8105 pounds butterfat and 179,586 pounds milk.

Fred Crider, R2 Nottingham, had the highest production from a two year old and highest production from a four year old Guernsey.

Crider's two year old produced 15,965 milk and 803 pounds butterfat.

The four year old surpassed 20,000 pounds production. She made 20,023 pounds milk and 837 pounds butterfat.

Crider's herd also was cited for its outstanding increase in production. Crider's 1979 DHIA output was 1954 pounds milk higher per cow than his previous year's production.

Highest individual butterfat production from a three year old in the County was made by the Melvin Breneman family, R 1 Strasburg. The Romella Farms cow produced 784 pounds fat.

Top milk production honors went to Francis Kirk's Cedar Fringed Farm, R 1 Peach Bottom.

One of Kirk's animals turned in production of 16,863 to top the list. The cow also produced 744 pounds fat.

Kirk's aged cow, Porcia, had the high butterfat record for aged cows. She made 799 pounds fat and 15,033 milk in 305 days.

Also cited were Gerald Garber, son of Mrs. and Mr. Kenneth B. Garber, R 2 Willow Street; and Connie and Carol Balmer, daughters of Mrs. and Mr. Jesse Balmer, 572 Mullway Road, Litz.

The trio were presented with youth awards from the Guernsey breeders.

Also present at the meeting was Pennsylvania Guernsey Queen Millie Linde; Lancaster County Dairy Princess Lucinda Landis; Ginger Secrist, promotional director for the State Guernsey Breeders Association; and Lee Yost, Association business manager.

Yost reminded Guernsey breeders that the 49th annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders Association will be held Wednesday, January 9, 1980 at noon in Schindler's Restaurant.

The restaurant is located on 21st Street in Camp Hill, just West of Routes 11 and 15, near the Penn Harris Motor Inn.



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