

Eastern Co-op

(Continued from Page 1)

three or four installments. Cumberland Farms has fully satisfied that debt.

Tewksbury said Cumberland Farms presently is on Eastern's accounts receivable list and is current in its payments "within two or three days, anyway."

Tewksbury said the agreement with Cumberland Farms in Order I was similar to the Grandview agreement which went sour.

"They got behind," he explained.

He added that Eastern had Cumberland Farms tied up for the money owed.

He pointed out the agreement in question was made before he took over the

reins at the Syracuse, New York, based co-op.

He said there had been another note up for Eastern with Farmers Cheese in Western Pennsylvania.

Tewksbury emphasized both of those cases had been satisfactorily resolved.

The Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers last week accused Eastern of "maneuvering" milk to avoid having to purchase a \$200,000 bond on the milk shipped to Grandview.

The dealers said Eastern purchased the milk for Grandview. Then, the

dealers said, Eastern changed title to the milk in New York state, thus

avoiding the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board's jurisdiction.

Had Grandview itself purchased and taken title to the milk in Pennsylvania, a bond would have been required.

The dealers said PMMB may have become aware of slow or defaulting payments in one of its regular audits and could have taken proper action.

Tewksbury denied there was any way PMMB or Eastern could have known about the impending default.

"On November 23 they were current, not delinquent," he said.

"As disgusted and mad as we are, on November 23 the milk was current," he said.

He also made a lengthy denial of several other

charges leveled by the Dealers Association in connection with the Grandview case.

He said the dealers lack understanding of the milk industry. Details appear on page 130.

Tewksbury said Order II milk was one of three federal orders which does not have an advance payment provision.

He said Pennsylvania requires advance payment worth half the value of the preceding month's milk.

"Even that would be an improvement in this case," he said.

Tewksbury said problems of this sort are one of the prime reasons why Eastern is going ahead with its Waverley and Horseheads cheese plants.

He said problems of the

sort Eastern had with Grandview and others are the result of surplus milk.

"When you get zinged you get concerned," he said.

"I'm concerned about how stable our markets are. Why do two or three dairies seem to make it with no problem and others take an early retirement?" he asked.

He said farmers can be sure they will be the first ones to get hurt in any such deal. He said that was one of the reasons Eastern is taking positive steps to assure themselves an outlet for its members' milk.

He added that NEDCO had similar problems.

While several sources, including some within the Eastern organization, have questioned the merits of Eastern's cheese plans, Tewksbury made it clear he does not expect to get burned in another Grandview deal.

While the co-op recovered from some exposed positions in past deals, the Grandview bankruptcy has turned Tewksbury off on any similar agreements.

Eastern, although it took a while, has learned that not playing with fire can prevent a lot of burns.

The new policy should save members a lot of dollars, too. — CH

Licensed pesticide applicators training slated for January 10

NORRISTOWN — The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has instituted a recertification program that involves all licensed pesticide applicators. This program requires licensed applicators to be recertified every three years.

Private applicators are currently required to attend at least one training program during the current three year recertification cycle which ends September 30, 1980. Commercial and private applicators must attend a minimum of one training program in each category certified during the three year recertification period.


The educational program to be held on January 10, 1980 will qualify as the necessary

training credit for private and/or commercial applicator recertification.

Applicators can fulfill the recertification requirement by either attending an Extension sponsored educational program or by taking another written examination.

Each person who plans on attending this educational program must have their restricted use pesticide license number with them on January 10, 1980. This number is needed in order to recertify the pesticide license.

In addition to this meeting, there will be a number of different meetings, seminars or educational courses that will be offered that will qualify for the recertification program.



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