

Top herds in three counties cited for DHIA production

READING — A trio of top-producing dairy herds were honored recently for top production in their counties.

Each herd had the top Dairy Herd Improvement Association average in its county. And each herd is in a tie-stall barn, meaning the dairyman can give close attention to individual cows.

Lancaster County's top DHIA herd, owned by the Naaman Stoltzfus family had the top average in the Red Rose County.

Stoltzfus' 32 milkers averaged 18,669 pounds milk and 734 pounds fat.

Their milkers are primarily on a haylage program with corn silage

fed about six months. Their operation was featured last fall in Lancaster Farming.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Janos, R 1 Mohrsville, manage the top herd in Berks County. Their 31 cow herd averaged 20,706 pounds milk and 753 pounds fat.

The Janos herd sees mixed hay, silage and wet brewers' grains.

Janos feeds grain at one pound for every three pounds milk, although the heifers may see a bit extra grain because Janos realizes they still have a bit of growing to do.

The David P. Longacre farm near Hereford, Montgomery, had the top DHIA

program in Montgomery County.

With 86 cows milking, the Longacre operation averaged 19,170 pounds milk and 637 pounds fat.

All three herds were honored by F. M. Brown's Sons, Inc., a feed and supplement retailer which supplies each of the herds.

The dairymen and their wives were honored at a lunch at which time they were presented plaques for their accomplishment.

Morris Brown noted that no single program was assurance of top production. He said it was more important for each farmer to have the right cows and the right management



Stephen Janos, Berks County; Naaman Stoltzfus, Lancaster County; and David Longacre, Montgomery County, were cited for having the top DHIA herd in their respective counties.

How to ease tax bite

UNIVERSITY PARK — Some rather specific and complex laws can reduce total tax liability for the forest landowner, says James C. Finley, an area forest resources agent of the Penn State Extension Service.

Forest resources often are not fully used or they are under managed, Finley says. Many owners misunderstand their tax liability, perhaps paying more than is necessary.

Finley offers several

sources of assistance on the subject of forest landowners and the Internal Revenue Service.

The IRS maintains a nation-wide toll-free telephone network through which you can receive aid from IRS agents. Ask your telephone operator for the WATS number serving your district.

Forestry consultants usually are quite familiar with the tax codes relating to timber sales and can be quite helpful. Their fees are deductible from the gross

income from a sale. In addition, the county extension office in your county can help you find local sources of expertise.

Finally, the U.S. Forest Service has published a booklet, with the assistance of IRS, entitled "The Timber Owner and His Federal Income Tax, Agricultural Handbook 274." It is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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