

NEBA annual meeting tops best year ever

HAZELTON - NEBA recently held its sixteenth Annual Meeting at the Gus Genetti Motor Lodge in Hazelton. Approximately 150 voting delegates, guests,

directors, and personnel attended. According to NEBA President, Gary Ruckard, the Association enjoyed its best financial year ever. Ruckard

pointed out the completed Young Sire Development Complex, hay and storage barn, and improvements on buildings and grounds were paid for from cash flow.

General Manager of Sire Power, W. Lewis Campbell was the feature speaker at the meeting. Campbell's inspiring talk on "The Decade of the Seventies brought attention to changes in cow numbers and DHIA, genetic advancements in A.I. and the dairyman in the future.

Campbell said the future is bright for the dairyman and not to be fearful of new techniques and practices in the dairy industry. He said political downfall and inflation has been the enemy of all, but not to lose faith as a dairyman.

He pointed out the comparison of the increase of milk prices to the average breeding fee. The price per 100 pounds of milk has doubled

whereas the average breeding fee in the last ten years has risen from \$7.22 to \$11.31.

"Today's dairymen are better educated, more knowledgeable, and manage larger herds. They have opportunities for almost unlimited sire selection", says Campbell.

"The future of your co-op is up to you. NEBA is going into the 80's financially strong and the dairyman should demand good service from highly proven bulls for continued success," said Campbell in his concluding remarks.

At the meeting, retiring NEBA Vice-President, Chet Hale was honored with plaque in appreciation of long and dedicated service.

James Howard, Wyalusing, was elected as the new director for NEBA. John Epler, Northumberland, is the new Vice-President.

Also six new Junior Directors were elected to attend NEBA Board meetings. These young farmers serve for a one year term to acquaint them with the functions and responsibilities of Board Members. This provides a way for participation and suggestions for the benefit of NEBA.

Margie Stout, NEBA sales and service director, reviewed the financial report.

Stout said the progress can be attributed to experienced district managers combined with a good technician force and superior genetics from the Sire Power bull battery.



Retiring NEBA Junior Directors from left Vernon Kauffman, Belleville, District I; David Schantz, Alburtis, District II; and William Lambert, Dushore, District III. (Not pictured were Wayne Ritter, Muncy, District I; Dr. Craig Shultz, Berwick, District III; and Scott Sargent, Sussex, NJ, District IV.)

CCC purchases 43.9 million bushels of wheat

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Commodity Credit Corporation has purchased an additional 43.9 million bushels of wheat under its special wheat purchase program aimed at taking out of the commercial market a quantity equal to that suspended from shipment to the Soviet Union. The 43.9 million bushels purchased under the invitation issued March 20 brings total purchases to 60.3 million bushels.

Secretary of Agriculture

Bob Bergland said the wheat purchased will be isolated from the market and used only for overseas food assistance programs after the U.S. Congress approves the Food Security Act.

Wheat purchases announced today include 37,051,841 bushels of hard red winter, 4,479,292 bushels of soft red winter and 2,323,478 bushels of white. Later today the department will report the amount purchased in each state and the weighted average purchase price.

CCC announced April 7 that it will also offer to buy wheat at declared prices, beginning last Tuesday. Purchases will be made on a first-come, first served basis. County offices of USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will be notified of the local purchase price. Farmers who wish to know the acceptable purchase price in their county should contact their ASCS office.

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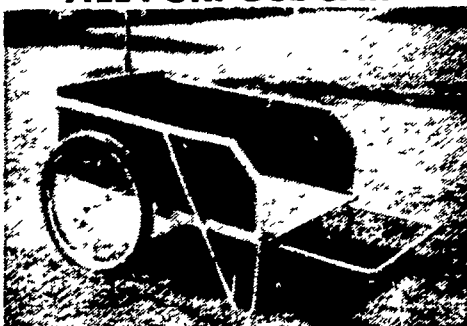
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