

NPPC approves 20 cent checkoff

DES MOINES, Ia. — Delegates to the 1980 American Pork Congress have given their approval to an increase in checkoff funding raising the present 10 cents per market hog to 20 cents per market hog as of January 1, 1981, reports the National Pork Producers Council.

The action came at the end of a delegate session marked by six hours of debate, a knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order and considerable caucusing whenever the opportunity presented itself.

The 20 cent checkoff funding will be distributed with approximately 60 percent of the increase to the National Pork Producers Council with NPPC-member

states and the National Livestock and Meat Board each receiving approximately 20 per cent of the funding. Funding for the Meat Board carries with it the stipulation that the Board undertake a study paving the way for pork producer representatives on the Board to be elected by NPPC delegates.

The five cent per head feeder pig checkoff rate remains unchanged.

The increased funding plan should, according to NPPC's Orville Sweet, executive vice president, nearly double funding available for carrying out important Council programs. Budget for the past year was \$2.2 million.

USDA raises limits for bovine TB payments

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Department of Livestock officials have raised the limits for indemnities paid to livestock owners whose cattle must be destroyed because of tuberculosis. Also, for the first time, indemnities will be allowed for swine exposed to tuberculosis-infected cattle when the cattle herd is destroyed.

Pierre A. Chaloux, deputy administrator for USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said higher indemnity levels will provide more equitable compensation to owners whose animals must be destroyed because of exposure to tuberculosis-affected cattle.

Chaloux said USDA will

increase the maximum federal indemnity for tuberculosis-affected cattle from \$350 per head to \$750.

Indemnity limits for tuberculosis-exposed cattle will be \$450 per head. The indemnity was \$100 per head for nonregistered cattle and \$200 per head for registered animals.

When swine are destroyed because of exposure to cattle infected with bovine tuberculosis, owners may be compensated up to \$200 per head. Previously there was no federal indemnity.

These payments, together with any state indemnities, may not exceed the appraise value of animals destroyed, and will make allowances for the salvage value of animals slaughtered.

BAIR — Last Saturday was a memorable day for the York County Sheep and Wool Producers and 4-H shepherd Troy Ness of Dallastown R1.

Over 300 Pennsylvania and Maryland sheep enthusiasts turned out for the group's first field day, held at the 4-H Center. Highlight of the day was the afternoon breeding stock sale, with Ness's registered Suffolk consignments topping all three divisions of the auction.

Topping the market lamb division was Ness' entry, which went for \$130 to James Moxley, Jr., of West Friendship, Maryland. Average for the total 37 head in the market animal division was \$66.06.

There were nineteen registered ewes in that category of the breeding stock sale, bringing an average of \$147.40. Purchaser of the top selling Ness Suffolk female was George

Urbanchuk of Harleysville, with a final bid of \$380.

Lynn Laudenslager of Dalmatia bought the high seller of the dozen breeding rams. He paid \$250 for the Suffolk, while the sale averaged \$96.25.

"We were very pleased with the way the day went," said George Dutrey, secretary of the county sheep breeders group. "And we'll probably be making it an annual event."

A major goal of the field day was to broaden membership and interest in the organization. A total of 31 new families signed up for

membership during Saturday's activities. The morning program featured sheep dog and lamb carcass cutting demonstrations and a Penn State specialist on sheep management.

Also on hand throughout the day were a variety of wool-related craft demonstration and sheep supply

exhibit booths and wool fleeces for sale to home spinners.

York County flock owners interested in joining the sheep and wool producers organization are invited to send their \$3 yearly membership to: George Dutrey, R2, Box A202, Dallastown, PA 17301. - JB



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The new indemnity levels were recommended by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture as a means for protecting the public through a more effective tuberculosis eradication program.



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