

Berks Farmers' Assn. holds annual picnic

BY LAUREL SCHAEFFER
Staff Correspondent

LEESPORT — Over 300 members of the Berks County Farmer's Association turned out last Sunday afternoon for their annual picnic, hoping the event would carry the same tradition it has for the previous two years — bringing rain.

The lack of any mid-day precipitation didn't dampen the spirits or enjoyment of the farm families gathered at the Leesport Market and Auction here, however.

Members had the opportunity to visit with

political candidates and State Association Officials also present at the picnic.

Jack Kooker, County Association President, noted several important dates and urged the local members to come to the events. He said 16 group meetings have been scheduled throughout the county for policy development between August 15 and 30. Anyone interested in attending a meeting to express their views or seek a solution to a problem can contact Policy development chairman, John Koch, Birdsboro, at 215/582-4143.

Important topics for discussion involving the National, State, and local levels will be explained and then opened for discussions for policy development.

Some of these topics are inflation-budget and government spending, trade and embargoes, nutrition and labeling, the role of the USDA, transportation, taxation and land and environment (federal ownership-purchases), Pennsylvania land owned by foreign investors, antibiotics tolerances in milk, civil defense, sewage sludge, protein pricing, acid rain

and water rights. A special discussion will also be presented on school property taxes and several alternative ways of funding the educational system.

The Annual meeting scheduled for October 3 will conclude the local policy development program. This is when members will vote on the policies developed at


the local meetings for county approval and backing. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Berkshire Inn, Wyomissing.

Other dates noted included candidates night October 24th at the Berks County Agricultural Center and August 17, Jim Haldeman's retirement luncheon.

Kooker also noted that Mr. and Mrs. John Bartsch, Bethel, will be representing Berks County at the Pennsylvania Farmer's Association information booth at Ag Progress Days and Kevin and Lois Hertzog, Oley, will attend a Statewide training seminar at Toftress August 14 and 15, sponsored by the Farmers Association.




Serving at the Berks County Farmers' Association picnic were, from left, Mr. and Mrs. John Bartsch, Jack Kooker, and picnic committee chairman Gertrude Moore.




Leon Riegel

Ask the VMD



Tim Trayer



Edgar Sheaffer

If you have a question you would like answered by the team from Valley Animal Hospital, send it to Ask the VMD, Box 366, Lititz, Pa. 17543. Questions will be kept anonymous on request.

Collecting test tubes

A reader asks:

What's the proper method for collecting samples for subclinical mastitis tests?

Dr. Sheaffer comments:

You must first obtain sterile sample tubes from your veterinarian or the laboratory that will do the culturing. (Be sure you know how to collect the tubes without contaminating the lids.)

Wash off the udder with a clean disposable towel and either allow it to air dry if you have time to wait or dry it with another towel — of

course one that is clean, dry and disposable.

Next, the end of the teat that is to be sampled should be wiped with cotton and 70 percent isopropyl alcohol. The alcohol should be allowed to dry by evaporation, taking half a minute to dry.

For a right-handed person, the test tube is held in the left hand, removing the top with the little finger of the right hand.

Take two or three squirts of milk to clear the stream canal of any dirt or alcohol that has not been washed off. Squirt the third or fourth stream directly into the sample tube, being careful not to hit the edges, if possible.

Immediately place the lid back on the sample tube and

mark it according to the cow's number and quarter and place the tube back in the rack.

We recommend that tubes should be kept in an upright position until the culturing is done in order to prevent any contamination of the sample from the lid.

It is important to sample each quarter of the udder and mark it individually. It is possible to find that one quarter may have a streptococcus organism, while another quarter on the same cow may have a staphylococcus or another type of organism. Then, too, there will be quarters that will be free of any clinical or subclinical infection.

HOLSTEIN PROGRESS SALE

Tues., Aug. 19th - 7:00 PM

55 Head of Central Pa's Finest
Centre Hall, Pa.

At The Grange Fairgrounds in Centre Hall,
During Ag Progress Days

Outstanding Cows

An EXCELLENT ELEVATION fresh in March, bred to GLENDELL and making 1000 fat. A high test family, her dam is a VG87 IVANHOE STAR with 4.6%, 979 fat.

A VG-2 yr old ELEVATION WITH 16353 4 1 671 at 1y10m and milking 100 lb. a day now

A fancy 3 yr. old ELEVATION due with 2nd calf in September. She is from a VG87, 22,000 lb LUCKY dam and an KINGPIN granddam

A fancy uddered ELEVATION with 18357m as a 2 yr old Sells with her WAYNE daughter and both are bred to GLENDELL

Another ELEVATION fresh in July and milking 90 lb. now She has a VG 16,400m dam and an EXCELLENT full sister

VG87 cow fresh in June sells with her JEMINI heifer calf She has records to 724F and her dam is a 21,000 4 6% KINGPIN

Two BETTY CHIEF daughters sell fresh with their first calves One from a VG, 25,000m dam and a 30,000m BOOTMAKER granddam The other from an ASTRONAUT dam and a VG granddam

A GP 83 IVANHOE STAR sells fresh to CHAR-SAM. Has over 19,000m as a 2 yr old Dam and granddam both over 20,000m

A JET STREAM due in September after a 18,000m 2 yr record

A JOB from a +1303 index ELEVATION sells due in September to JEMINI

An ELEVATION granddaughter with 21,000m as a 3 yr old sells due sale time Her dam has several 20,000 lb records to 21,400 and the granddam is a VG88GMD with 20,000

A fresh ORBIT starting well from 2 generations of good record dams

A fancy uddered DOUBLE TRIUNE sells just fresh after a 19,800m 4 yr. record

CAPSULE due sale time with 3rd calf after 2 21,000m records

A GP BOOTMAKER with 17,000m 4 1%, sell just fresh

A Few Of The Good Bred Heifers

An ASTRONAUT from a GP83 ELEVATION sells bred to CONDUCTOR

A fancy IVANHOE STAR from a VG87 CHIEF with 755F

An ELEVATION due in September from a GP82 1023F KINGPIN

Three ENG-AMER IVANHOE JERRYS -one from a VG 26,000m dam and a 24,000m granddam

-two others from high test pedigrees A deep pedigreed JOB from a VG dam with 4 4% The granddam is GP83 The 3rd dam VG-GMD and the 4th EX-91 with 28,000m.

A BETTY CHIEF due in October from a GP83 700F dam

A big JET STREAM from a VG87 19,000m dam and a VG granddam

Another ELEVATION from a 15,000 lb dam and a KINGPIN granddam

Some Fancy Calves

A deep pedigreed ELEVATION Her dam a VG86 KINGPIN with 700F Next 3 dams all VG with good records

A pair of MILESTONES - one from a VG 22,000m dam The other from a 20,000m dam

An Oct WILLOW from a VG 2 yr KINGPIN dam making 22,000m Granddam EX, 20,000m, 3rd dam a VG ASTRONAUT

A pair of JET STREAMS from 2 generations of 20,000 lb dams

A July 1 JEMINI from a good record ELEVATION dam

This sale represents a fine cross-section of daughters of the best sires from outstanding maternal lines A real showcase of Pennsylvania's finest Holsteins

Sale site is only 20 minutes from Ag Progress Days, so plan a day at the exposition and take in the sale that evening

Sponsored By-
Centre Co. Holstein Club
Mifflin Co. Holstein Club

Sale Chairmen —
Jay Howes 814-692-8980
James Hostetter 717-899-6386

Auctioneers -
Mark Glick
V. Art Kling