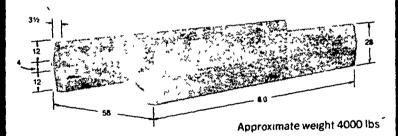
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#### USDA seeks comments

# New York applies for official grain inspection

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is asking for comments on New York State's application for designation as an official grain inspection agency, a Federal Grain Inspection Service official announced recently.

David R. Galliart, acting FGIS administrator, said the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has applied for designation as an official agency to inspect grain in the state of New York, except for Albany, the state's only export port location. FGIS is currently providing inspection services at Albany, and will continue to do so.

Comments must be postmarked by June 10, and should be mailed to: Issuance and Coordination Staff, 1127 Auditors Bldg., FGIS-USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. For more information, contact J.T. Abshier, Director, Compliance Division, FGIS-USDA, at 202/447-8262 A.E. Herron, an official inspection agency operating out of Pittsford, N.Y., has asked its designation be canceled. FGIS requested comments on whether an agency was needed to replace A.E. Herron and to provide official inspection and weighing services in the rest of the state except for export port locations, and asked for applications from interested parties.

Several comments were received indicating that an inspection agency is needed, and the state of New York was the only applicant for designation to perform inspection services.

Until an official agency is designated, A.E. Herron will provide inspection services in the Pittsford area, and FGIS will provide services in the rest of the state.

Notice of the request for comments was published in the Federal Register on May 6.

### The Milk Check

TOM JURCHAK
County Agent



Rising Flood

Producer receipts by Order 2 handlers rose to 974 million pounds in April, the highest in 14 years giving another indication of the magnitude of the spring flush to be expected this year.

As early as the last week of April, USDA's Dairy Market News was reporting milk moving from eastern and southern regions to mid-western plants and from California to northern coastal and mountain states.

Increases in production are pretty general all over the country. With two more months of high production yet to come a lot of money will be spent hauling milk anywhere it can be sold, at whatever prices a handler or co-op can get.

Meanwhile, back here in Order 2, your four percent increase in production over last month meant an extra 1.36 million pounds of milk a day coming to market. Coupled with a daily drop of 350,000 pounds of Class I sales, you ended up with a Class I utilization of only 38.5 per cent — the lowest for April in 27 years.

Lucky 13

Thirteen was a lucky number for Order 2 producers last month because that was the uniform price for April. You may not think that \$13 is enough but with all things considered it could have been

First there was the drop in Class I utilization from 41.4 in March to 38.5 in April. You had an increase in your Class I price from \$14.89 to \$14.91, but a drop in Class II from \$12.62 to \$12.55. Add to that an increase in your Louisville Plan take out from 20 cents to 30 cents. Put them all together and they spell \$13.00 a hundred for April milk and that was only 20 cents less than March

As I said, it's not a great price and the 20 cent drop is more than you usually get between March and April, but by next spring you may wish you had it back.

Price Drought

Such a flood of milk usually is accompanied by a drought in price. Even your old inflation fighter friend — the price support program - hasn't been much help lately.

In spite of dairy product purchases by the Commodity Credit Corporation that reached a milk equivalent basis of 625 million pounds the first week of May (the largest weekly purchase so far this year), the Minnesota-Wisconsin price actually dropped three cents in April to \$12.64 for 3.5 milk. The average price for manufacturing grade milk increased only a penny to \$12.56 — still 24 cents below the support price of \$12.80.

More importantly, that M-W price of \$12.64 in April is the same as it was in January and no one looks for much improvement into the "forseeable" future.

Here in Order 2, your 4.5 per cent increase in production over April, 1980 is typical of the national pattern. But, it means an extra 44 million pounds of milk to sell in a month. Compared to April, 1979, it's an 8.5 percent increase or 76 million more pounds to sell.

While you usually expect seasonally lower prices in the spring, there is no indication of any let up after two years of increasing milk production. Add to that the prospect of no increase in the support price before October, 1982 and the erosion of the present price caused by inflation, you begin to get the picture of a record breaking milk price drought that can extend over the next two years.

It's hard to believe but you may be watching a drought caused by a