

## Holly Hill

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not to the capacity once quoted. While the plant can handle the 2 million pounds daily that it was designed to process, that peak capacity was intended only for periods of about two weeks maximum, not months at a time.

Holly's capacity is being stretched beyond the planned limits, with over 45 million pounds of milk run through monthly. But the planned-capacity figures overlooked the time needed to shut down processing every several hours for clean-up and maintenance, a crucial operation if all systems are to be kept in peak running order and efficiently, as well as meet stringent cleanliness requirements.

According to Strock, one bottleneck is in the compatibility of two key systems: the evaporator, which removes water from the milk; and the dryer, which then powders the fluid by spraying it into a fine mist that dries inside a furnace-like enclosure.

Evaporator lines can handle milk faster than the dryer can process it into powder. But if the evaporation system is slowed to accommodate dryer limitations, milk deposits build up on the equipment.

"We must find a way to make those two systems more compatible," Strock observes. "Maybe we just need a better way of handling it. If we could operate full-blast at all times, and hold condensed ahead, possibly we could increase the capacity."

James Honan, Inter-State general manager, concurs on the maintenance problems that sometimes slow up the milk processing.

"The plant's now four and a half years old," Honan says. "We're running into routine replacement of equipment like motors and pumps. We are on target for modifications to the sewer system and should finish in July."

Holly has been plagued almost from its inception with problems in the sewage disposal facility. Modifications are being made on the treatment plant, but some of the necessary equipment to complete the system has not yet been delivered.

Monthly reports from the state's Department of Environmental Resources showed phosphorus was the only element not meeting regulatory limitations, an item limited only by DER, and not the federal guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency.

"We're meeting the requirements easily," affirms Strock. "Modifications are continuing and the warmer weather is helpful."

While the facility can't begin to process all of the area's milk glut, it's also doing steady business as a reloading station for large tankers hauling the excess to available

manufacturing plants, sometimes halfway across the country.

Ironically, Inter-State's president, Robert McSparran of Peach Bottom, says he recently attended a milk marketing conference that affirmed the Northeast is actually a dairy deficit area, unable to supply the volumes of dairy products consumed.

But the supply gap is in processed dairy products, like cheese and butter, not fluid milk, and there are simply not enough manufacturing plants in the Northeast turning out those particular products being bought by consumers.

The processing plants that do have the capacity to handle more milk are in states like Wisconsin and Iowa, and to get milk sent that far costs at least \$3.50 per hundredweight.

So, while dairy products in this area continue to increase the poundage on their milk tank measuring ships, they're paying for it in skyrocketing hauling costs incurred in selling the product.

Both Inter-State and MCMP leveled assessments for April milk shipped over base.

Inter-State, with over 2,000 members, with held \$1.64 for each hundredweight of milk shipped over a producer's base. MCMP deducted \$2.00 per hundred from any of the 1,000 plus shippers sending over their base allotment.

Members of both Cooperatives apparently understand the necessity of the assessments and have stoically accepted the price cuts.

Assessments are likely to continue through May and June milk payments.

"If current volumes continue, we'll have to do something about surpluses," says Honan. "We can't continue to haul milk these long distances."

Strock echoes that sentiment, adding, "We simply can't go on producing this much milk. And we're not going to advertise our way out of this problem."

Neither can farmers rely on Class I fluid milk sales in the future to bail them out of the milk glut, according to Honan. He says that Inter-State's head economist, Paul Hand, recently noted figures showing population losses of up to 15 percent in the high-density urban areas of the Philadelphia-Baltimore-Washington market.

"And as the people are moving out, those Class I sales figures are dropping," he emphasizes.

Ultimately, what dairy farmers do or don't do about production problems will show up on the bottom line of the bankbook.

"May was worse than April. June will likely be worse than May," concludes Strock. "We've been preaching over-production for over two years. Price will eventually dictate production."

## Local erosion enforcement eyed

LANCASTER — The Lancaster Conservation District has applied for the option to take over local enforcement of erosion and other conservation-related violations.

Thomas Johnston, District administrator, said application for the local enforcement has been made to the State Department of Environmental Resources, which has been handling any prosecutions under its Bureau of Soil and Water Conservation.

Approval is expected in July for the local handling.

Johnston said that a few commercial and residential developers had been prosecuted last year for erosion violations. But the cases had been dismissed by district magistrates due to small technicalities.

He explained that handling of

prosecutions, if situations reach that stage, are expected to be better at the local level, rather than involve the state, which can affect magistrates' consideration in a case against a local developer or farmer.

The administrator explained that more cooperation is generally obtained from farmers than from developers.

"The biggest problem in agricultural areas is the growing amount of farmland that is being rented," Johnston said.

"Some estimates range from 10 to 30 percent of the farmland in Lancaster County now being rented.

"On rented land, generally there are no provisions for proper soil and water practices worked out

## 2 weeks left in photo contest

LANCASTER — Don't wait until the last minute; less than two weeks remain for you to submit your favorite photo in Lancaster Farming's Dairy Month Photo Contest.

Deadline for receipt of entries in our office is Friday, June 26.

Thus far, the cute or comic category has been the most popular.

And we've been literally amazed at some of the unusual or funny situations in which dairy animals can get themselves.

So, keep those comic or cute photos rolling in.

We've quite a few entries in the other two categories, too. These are the posed photos of dairy animals with people and scenic photos with dairy animals in them.

The two main requirements for photos are that they must have been taken by an amateur photographer and they must have dairy animals in them.

Three cash awards are planned in each of the three categories — \$50 for first, \$30 for second and \$20 for honorable mention.

But we need your photos for you to have a crack at one of these nine cash prizes.

The photos can be either black & white or color and must be at least snapshot size. If you want it returned, send along a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Each entry should be accompanied with your name, address, telephone number and a Lancaster Farming mailing label.

Send only photo prints; no transparencies or slides.

Sends your dairy photos to:  
DAIRY MONTH  
PHOTO CONTEST  
Lancaster Farming  
P.O. Box 366, Lititz, Pa. 17543

## Hazardous waste dump

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was a prime farmland area in which funds were needed to help control agriculturally related pollution.

"I'm sure this will be a fundamental consideration by both the state and federal officials — providing money to clean up surface water pollution in an area in which is proposed a hazardous waste dump, which could possibly have an effect on subsurface water supplies.

"My personal initial position is one of objection unless absolute assurances are provided that there won't be any problems with effluent from these toxic wastes and possible pollution.

"And are such absolute assurances even possible?"

Funk said he favored the position taken by East Earl Township supervisors this week in which the board decided to make a thorough engineering study of the dump location proposal.

Some 400 people attended Tuesday night's meeting of the East Earl supervisors at which they authorized the study.

Those attending the two-hour session expressed solid opposition to the dump location as they have at previous meetings in Caernarvon and Salisbury townships. The 450-acre site of the Narvon Mine is located where the borders of the three townships meet in eastern Lancaster County.

The East Earl study of the dumping proposal will be made by the Huth Engineering firm, of Lancaster, the township's consulting engineers. Township solicitor Charles B. Grove Jr., was also authorized to hire such other experts as necessary to make the thorough investigation.

Clyde Martin, chairman of the East Earl supervisors, said that concerns to be studied will include transportation of toxic wastes in the area, water pollution and general welfare of the community.

Purchase of the mine and proposed use as a hazardous waste dump is being sought by IU Conversion System, Inc. of Horsham. The firm has submitted ap-

plications to the townships for a special exception to zoning regulations to locate a hazardous waste landfill.

Also attending Tuesday's meeting was State Rep. Noah Wenger, whose district includes East Earl Twp. He told the group that when application for location is made to the Pa. Department of Environmental Resources, he

would request that a local hearing be held in the Narvon area.

DER is one of the state agencies that assigned high priority to the same area for the federal pollution control project.

Citizens from the three-township area are joining together into a Red Rose Alliance to take part in what they expect to be a long and costly fight against the proposed hazardous waste dump.

## Calf

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will not be alone for long according to Brackett. The procedure has been done to six other cows with one receiving two eggs.

The research has been supported by Child Health and Human Development and the Canadian Medical Research Council.

## Eastern hikes dues by 4 cents

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Delegates to the annual meeting of Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative decided on a four-cent per hundredweight increase in membership dues rather than a proposed flat monthly rate plus a hundredweight increment this week.

The proposal to amend by-laws and go to a \$25 monthly rate for all shippers regardless of size plus a hundredweight charge of about 7 cents was voted down by the delegates.

Instead, beginning July 1, membership dues will be hiked from the present 10 cents to 14 cents per hundredweight.

The flat monthly rate had been proposed in an attempt to hang on to larger shippers, but the delegates felt that the proposal would not help accomplish this purpose. Also, it could be considered discriminatory against smaller shippers.

The annual meeting also saw two changes in the roster of officers of the co-op.

Franklin Wagner Sr., of R2 Hummelstown, secretary, stepped down, because he has purchased a dairy farm in Huntingdon County. Although he will also be maintaining residence at the Hummelstown area farm, he thought it

best to step down, Wagner said. Wagner was replaced as secretary by Earl Forwood, of Hop Bottom.

Also, Daniel W. Fox, of R1 Ephrata, was elected director from District 8 in southeastern Pennsylvania to replace Wagner.

Clyde Wilson, of Rushville, retired as assistant secretary-treasurer. He was replaced by Charles Shoop, of Halifax.

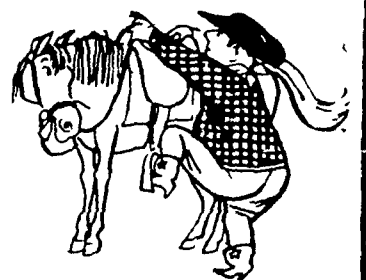
Other officers, including Stanley Korona, R4, Amsterdam, N.Y., president; David Clements Jr., R1, Frankfort, N.Y., vice-president; and George Fuller, Houghton, N.Y., treasurer, were re-elected.

Elected directors on the executive committee include Leo J. Connor, Brigport, Vt.; George Haddad, Bainbridge, N.Y.; and Noah Prior, Evans Mills, N.Y.

A resolution was passed for the president of the association to become more involved in keeping track of the activities of the directors. The move was seen as an attempt to curtail activities of certain directors and keep a tighter rein on expenses.

Another resolution was passed for the co-op to become more active in trying to help shape the national farm bill, particularly in determining the rate of parity at a level above 75 percent.

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