

Holstein Assn. reports big year

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — The national Holstein Association, the nation's largest breed organization, reports it had a year in 1980 unlike any other in its history.

Located here, the Association implemented a number of major expansion programs last year including a major step forward in the computerization of the

organization. And, at the same time, the Association had a dramatic increase in the number of purebred cattle registered.

"While expenses increased, it is significant that for the first year in many years, income grew faster than did expense," Executive Secretary Zane Akins said of the Association's financial year. Akins

said he believes that the more critical the economic crunch, the more need farmers will have to use the Association's services. Therefore it has to grow to meet those needs.

The Holstein Association now has files on more than twelve million cattle, including lineage, and performance records. In 1980, more than 350,000 heifers were

registered — a record year, Akins said. New totals were set for animals registered and identified, herds, classified, new members enrolled and corrective mating programs completed.

Last year, the southern Vermont headquarters branched out across the country. Five new regional offices, each with its own manager

and staff of consultants and specialists, were organized to offer better coordination of the field services. The new offices are in Fresno, CA; Kansas City, MO; Eau Claire, WI; Shelbyville, KY; and Harrisburg.

"We are now closer to the centers of the cattle population," Akins said.

While the Association is moving closer to the cattle centers in the United States, its marketing efforts are branching out to all parts of the world. The Association has exported purebred

cattle to more than 50 countries. Last year the Association was invited to present a Holstein exhibit at the first U.S. National Economic and Trade Exhibition in Beijing, China, where Chinese dairy producers became acquainted with the genetic qualities of the U.S. Holstein cow. The exhibition provided the initial step toward establishing a relationship between the Chinese people and U.S. dairy cooperators.

Technical assistance programs were signed in a half dozen countries in Europe and South America with further prospects likely in 1981, Akins reported. The dairy cattle breeding and management skills programs are geared for three to five years of assistance. A breeding and management program in Hungary, for example, has more than doubled milk production and made the country self-sufficient in dairy products.

"And this organization did it," Akins said.

U.S. Holstein breeders who sell to private and state farms throughout the world often use the Holstein Association as the agent to transact the sales. The cattle are actually shipped through Holstein-Friesian Services Inc., a subsidiary of the Association. The company acts as an agent between the member and buyer, making all the arrangements for the shipment of the animals. In early January, two 747's filled with 750 cattle were shipped to Chile, Akins cited as an example of the service.

Walker asks EPA to study dump site

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, Anne M. Gorsuch, Congressman Bob Walker, Lancaster County, requested that no action be taken to license IU Conversion Systems Inc.'s proposed hazardous waste dump site in Narvon, until a full Environmental Impact Statement

has been completed and "without adequate opportunity for public hearing at which time my constituents and I might convey our concerns to the appropriate authorities."

"Inasmuch as the Environmental Protection Agency has federal jurisdiction over such matters I am taking this op-

portunity to call this situation to your immediate attention and to request your careful review," Walker said in his letter.

Walker says the agreement by EPA officials to conduct such a study would most likely involve many months of research and would likely prohibit any further

action by IU Conversion Systems until the investigation was completed.

The 16th District Congressman contacted EPA on behalf of several hundred constituents who have expressed grave concerns about the proposed establishment of a hazardous waste site in their community.

"Officials of the three townships involved, Caernarvon, East Earl, and Salisbury, have indicated that their zoning boards are not likely to grant IU Conversion Systems' request to relocate its present waste treatment and disposal facility at Lanchester to the Narvon mine site, approximately two miles away. Subsequently, the company officials announced their intention to take the matter into court," Walker explained in his letter to Gorsuch.

"Such blatant disrespect for local decision-making officials is highly objectionable in my view, particularly when the health and safety of area residents appears to be threatened. There is a great deal of controversy about this situation in Narvon and surrounding communities and I find the attitude of IU Conversions Systems to be extremely disturbing," he charged.

"The continued health and safety of area residents is of the utmost concern to me," Walker's letter stated in summation, "and your cooperation in assuring that health and safety standards are maintained will be extremely helpful."

USDA offers grain weighing service at export

NEW YORK, N.Y. — On June 8, U.S. Department of Agriculture grain inspectors started to provide a new supervision of weighing service on request for grain coming into export elevators at port locations.

The service—Class Y—is available on request for inbound rail, truck and intra-company barge receipts and outbound domestic shipments of grain, said Kenneth A. Gilles, administrator of USDA's Federal Grain Inspection Service. The service is also available at interior locations.

Class Y weighing is limited supervision of elevator employees who weigh grain that is exempt from official weighing.

Official weighing—Class X—by USDA or delegated states, will still be required for all export grain shipped from export elevators and inbound inter-company barge receipts.

Gilles said the action follows legislation which eliminated the requirement for mandatory weighing or most grain coming into export elevators.

"The legislation resulted in a void in the kind of weighing services available at export elevators," Gilles said. "With this action, we will be able to provide a weighing service where and when needed by the grain elevators."

Gilles said members of several trade groups and managers of export elevators have asked FGIS to provide the Class Y service.

Charges for the Class Y weighing service at export locations will be \$5 per barge; \$1 each for boxcars, hopper cars and each car in a unit train; and 50-cents each for trucks or trailers.

Charges for Class Y services at all other locations will be \$10 for barges, \$3.50 each for boxcars, hopper cars and each car of a unit

train, and \$2.50 each for trucks or trailers.

Gilles said USDA can provide Class Y weighing at less cost at export elevators because, in many cases, trained employees will already be on hand at those locations performing official inspection and weighing services for grain going into export.

Requests for Class Y weighing services must be made for a minimum of three months for all truck, rail car and barge shipments at either export or interior locations, or for selected individual unit trains.

Comments should be sent by Aug. 5 to: Issuance and Coordination Staff, Rm. 1127 Auditors Bldg., USDA-FGIS, Washington, D.C. 20250. For more information, contact: George T. Lipscomb, Weighing Director, Rm. 3117 Auditors Bldg., USDA-FGIS, Washington, D.C. 20250. Phone: 202/382-1731.

New addition to 'People on Farm' series available from USDA

"People on the Farm: Raising Beef Cattle," is the latest in a series of slide and filmstrip presentations about farm people now available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The 129-frame, 16-minute presentation shows how the Gene Ritschard family of Kremmling, Colo., and the Herbert Schutte family of Kahoka, Mo., raise and tend beef cattle.

"People on the Farm: Raising Beef Cattle" may be purchased from USDA for \$21.50 as a filmstrip or \$29.50 as a slide set. The prices include one copy of an illustrated narrative guide, one copy of a companion publication and a cassette soundtrack. The cassette has inaudible 50 Hz and 1,000 Hz pulses for automatic slide changing with the proper equipment.

This presentation is the fifth in the "People on the Farm" series of slide sets and filmstrips. Others are "Dairying," "Broiler Growing," "Corn and Hog Farming" and "Growing Oranges."

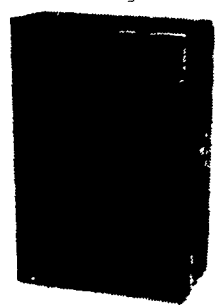
USDA prepares the sets to aid urban students and others who are unfamiliar with farming operations.

Order the slide sets and filmstrips from: Photography Center, Office of Governmental and Public Affairs, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250, phone (202) 447-6633.


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