

Lebanon Holstein breeders

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was the second dairyman to have freestalls and loose housing — since 1954.

Bomgardner's herd, from predominantly Rag Apple bloodlines, has a rolling average of 15,800 pounds milk and 596 pounds fat. Their daily production is shipped to Wengerts, Lebanon.

When Harvey started on his own in the dairy business in 1947, he owned 10 registered cows. "It took until two years ago to ever get a Junior All-American," he says, recounting how his son Dave's heifer, Mil-Harv Ivan Thunder, won the honors in 1979 at Madison, Wisconsin. "We haven't had an excellent cow yet, but maybe someday," he adds optimistically.

Although they may not wear the EX classification code in their names, the cattle that paraded before the dairy producers' critical eyes were excellent Holsteins, from the 'dew' on their noses to the swish of their tails. Official judge for the evening's contest was William Pettit of Huff 'N Puff Farms in New Jersey.

Pettit serves as a national director to the Holstein Association, along with operating a 100-plus cow herd. There are currently 135 milking cows plus young stock, making the number of cattle on the farm total about 300 head.

Pettit told the group his operation is involved in embryo transfers, and startled them with a statistic on the largest number of embryos he flushed from one cow — 84 embryos resulting in 60 pregnancies. Pettit has been involved with the registered Holstein business since 1958 when he began attending the New England planning meetings. He later became president of the New Jersey board, and was elected national director in 1978.

Pettit filled the dairy producers in on the current status and historic growth of the Holstein Association, and discussed some of the latest innovations in the business of breeding cattle, including frozen embryos and exporting.

He announced there might be a change from descriptive classification to linear classification within the next year. Also, gold medal dams will be more closely related to computers and percentages by next July. And, finally, he reported that cow indexes for type, similar to indexes for production, "are in the wind."

Pettit closed by recounting the recent blow to the dairy industry dealt by Borden when they announced their switch to imitation cheeses, putting six Wisconsin cheese plants into tailspins — taking \$170 million away from Wisconsin dairy farmers.

"We need to do a whole of a job promoting our product," he says in summation. "We're missing the boat somewhere."

Judging contest winners are:

Junior

13 and under

1. Kevin Meyers; 2. Brian Meyer; 3. Erica Layser; 4. Kathy Mase; 5. David Lentz.

Prizes donated by Larry Heistand, Lancaster Silo and Atlantic Breeders.

Junior

14-19

1. Dale Weaver; 2. Beverly Brandt; 3. Scott Timmons; 4. Donald Musser.

Prizes donated by Agway.

Women

1. Sherry Hoffer; 2. Mary Ann Hoover; 3. Linda Brandt; 4. Lucky Miller.

Prizes donated by Art Brandt, Agri-Service.

Men

1. Arden Bliss; 2. C.W. Miller, 3. Ray Bicksler; 4. Harold Bollinger; 5. David Vale.

Prizes donated by Russel Hitz



Harvey and Mildred Bomgardner have been in the dairy business since 1947. This is the second time they have hosted the county's Holstein field day. Harvey, gives a lot of credit to his assistants on the farm, son Dave, at halter of heifer Mil-Harv Majesty Sleek, Mark, and Jane.



Holstein breeders warmed up their judging eyes with this first class of 3-year-olds out of the Harvey T. Bomgardner herd. All four of the cows were paternal sisters to Mil-Harv farm's Junior All-American, Mil-Harv Ivan Thunder.



Official judge William Pettit, from Huff 'N Puff Farms, New Jersey, agreed with some of the Holstein breeders on placing the classes. Pettit has been a national director to the Holstein Association since 1978.

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