

# Bollingers top Lebanon DHIA in milk production for 8th year

BY SHEILA MILLER

PRESCOTT — Lebanon County dairy producers gathered here at the Fire Hall on Tuesday evening to honor the top producers of the 52nd year of Dairy Herd Improvement Association progress in the county.

The crowd of approximately 300 people applauded the record turned in by Donald Bollinger's herd of registered Holsteins. Bollinger, along with his father, Harold, milks 42 head at Willow Maple Farm, located near Kleinfeltersville.

For the eighth consecutive year, these black and white milkers out-produced every other herd in the county. This past year they turned in a record of 20,884 pounds milk with 702 pounds fat. Bollinger attributes the consistent high production of Willow Maple Farm's Holsteins to a balanced feeding program.

The county award for high fat herd went to the 43 head of Holsteins milking for Kenneth Sellers, R4 Lebanon. These 'ladies' put out 741 pounds of butterfat with 18,758 pounds of milk. This is the second year in a row that Sellers' cows earned the top fat production award.

The award for top individual cow in fat production went to a registered Holstein owned by Dale Hostetter & Sons, R2 Annville. Hostetterdale Fobes Paclamar 92-2E made a record of 1,204 pounds fat with 27,941 pounds milk, for a 4.3 test. This was the highest lactation record for the 9-year-old daughter of Paclamar Astronaut, but all her previous records averaged 4.3 test, explained Hostetter.

A grade Holstein in the barn of Luke Patches, R7 Lebanon, produced the record poundage of milk in Lebanon County last year. Radar made 31,056 pounds of milk during her 305-day record with 982 pounds fat and a 3.2 test. This was the Willowlyn Sky Cross daughter's highest lactation, according to Patches.

Norman Kline, R2 Myerstown, and son David, accepted the award for highest percent increase in yearly herd average for milk and fat. Their 77-head herd made a record of 17,604 pounds milk and 673 pounds fat. Commenting on their accomplishment, son David explained, "It's not that we came up that much this year, but that we had dropped down that much the year before."

A total of nine herds in the county made more than 700 pounds in fat records. They were on the farms of: Kenneth I. Sellers; Bennetch Bros., R2 Myerstown, 73 head, 19,863 pounds milk, 735 pounds fat; Kenneth Mase, Lebanon, 78 head, 19,125 milk, 732 fat; Dale Hostetter & Son, 87 head, 19,372 milk, 731 fat; Marlin M. High, R1 Lebanon, 35 head, 20,105 milk, 727 fat; Raymond & Marlin Getz, Myerstown, 51 head, 18,688 milk, 716 fat; Marvin K. Meyer & Sons, R2 Annville, 89 head, 18,345 milk, 714 fat; Roy E. Nolt, R1 Richland, 49 head, 18,243 milk, 705 fat; and Willow Maple Farm.

The dairy producers elected three new directors to serve 2-year terms on the county DHIA board. They are Dale Hoover, Gary Lentz, and David Brandt. These men are replacing Harold Bollinger, Robert Lentz, and Ken Sellers, whose terms expired.

Penn State's Steve Spencer reminded the producers to watch their somatic cell counts and to use the new testing program which gives them a month-to-month status report on each cow. He pointed out when somatic cell

counts increase, production conversely decreases.

Some of the ways to combat the pathogens causing high cell counts include teat dipping and antibiotics. Spencer recommended farmers work with their veterinarians to determine which antibiotic is specific for the infective organism by using the sensitivity test.

A normal udder has a somatic cell count of less than 200,000. The white cell level in milk can be tested by several methods — the California mastitis test, which can identify a particular quarter infection; and the Wisconsin mastitis test, which screen tests the milk from the bulk tank; and a few others.

Spencer explained each cow that's tested receives a code from 1-9, with 9 representing the most severe infection. He pointed out the daily milk production difference between a cow that tests in Group 1 and a cow that tests in Group 2 is 5 pounds of milk per day.

"You have to search out those cows with high counts and reduce those counts for efficient production," advised Spencer. "There's no way a cow can produce up to her inherited capability, otherwise."

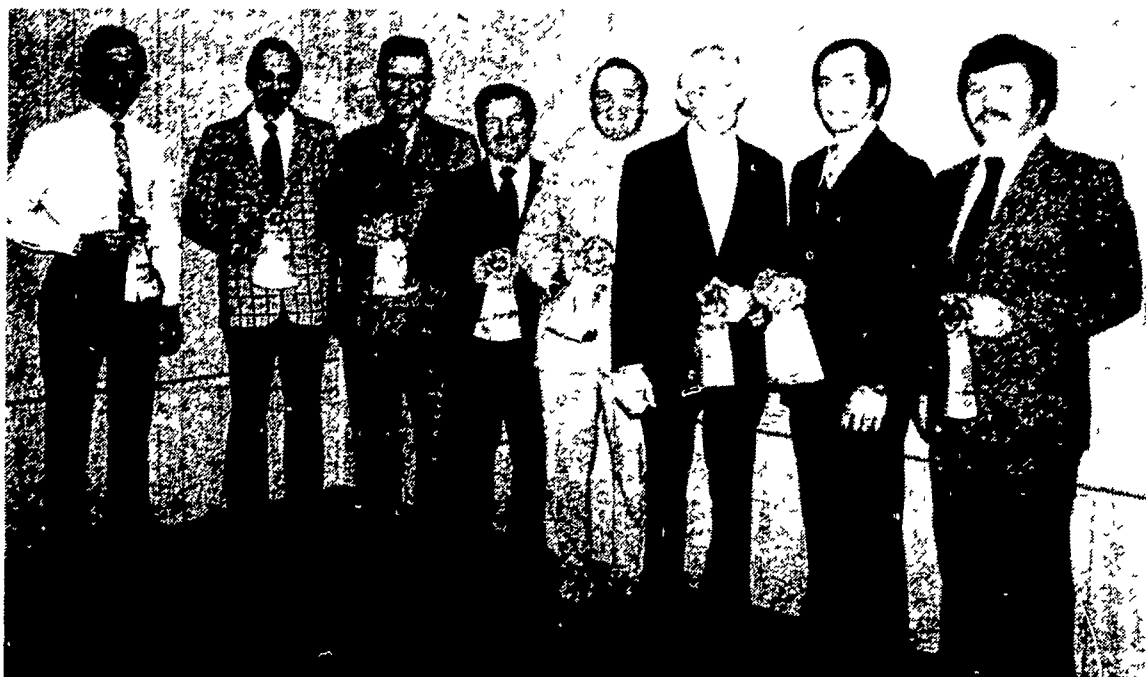
Spencer cleared up some old "dairy farmer's tales" about high counts being related to lactation and age. The dairy specialist cited experiments which separated infected cows from non-infected cows. The results of the studies showed non-infected cows did not change their somatic cell counts either as their lactation progressed or as they got older.

State director Harold Bollinger reported to the dairy producers that on a statewide level, the number of farmers who are having their milk tested for protein has increased from 192 members in July to the present 231 members.

In Lebanon County, 139 herds completed the DHIA year, all exceeding an average production of 400 pounds butterfat. Since DHIA's start in the county in 1929, the number of cows increased from 382 to the present 8,651. Production averages also went from 9,061 pounds milk to 15,855; fat jumped from an average of 335 pounds to today's average of 593 pounds.



Lebanon County dairy producers honored for their top DHIA records on Tuesday evening include: from left, Dale Hostetter, high record cow for fat; Luke Patches, high record cow for milk; Donald Bollinger, high herd for milk; Kenneth Sellers, high herd for fat; and Norman Kline, highest percentage increase in yearly herd average.



Those dairymen whose herds made over 700 pounds fat in their 305-day record were: from left, Bill Bennetch, Jim Meyer, Dale Hostetter, Donald Bollinger, Roy Nolt, Raymond Getz, Kenneth Sellers, and Kenneth Mase.

## MILK MARKET NEWS

### Federal Order No. 4

#### Middle Atlantic Marketing Area Base milk price up two pennies

Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine recently announced an October 1981 base milk price of \$14.01 per hundredweight and an excess of milk price of \$12.47.

The October weighted average price was \$14.01 and the butterfat differential for the month was 17.3 cents. The base milk price was up two cents from September, while the weighted average price increased three cents.

The October base milk price was 29 cents higher than last year. The advertising withholding rate, which is deducted from the base and excess milk prices but not the weighted average price, was 13 cents a hundredweight and the amount withheld totaled \$631,615.92. The gross value of producer milk during October was \$67.8 million compared to \$64.9 million a year ago.

Shine said that producer milk receipts totaled 485.9 million

pounds during October, a drop of 0.2 percent from September, on a daily basis, but up 11.6 million pounds or 2.4 percent from a year ago.

During the first ten months of this year, producer milk receipts were up 6.3 percent, on a daily basis, or almost 300 million pounds. Class 1 producer milk totaled 250.9 million pounds and accounted for 51.64 percent of total receipts.

A year ago Class 1 producer milk totaled 262.3 million pounds and represented 55.31 percent of total milk receipts. Base milk accounted for 91.78 percent of total October production compared to 90.92 percent last year. There were 7,098 producers supplying pool handlers in October.

This was 147 less than in September and a decline of 399 from June. A year ago there were 7,362 producers. The average daily delivery per producer was 2,208 pounds for the month, an increase of 40 pounds from September and 130 pounds or 6.3 percent higher

than the October 1980 average. The average butterfat test of producer milk increased from 3.57 percent in September to 3.72 in October.

Middle Atlantic order pool handlers reported Class 1 in-area milk disposition of 216.9 million pounds during October, a drop of 3.6 percent from a year earlier, after adjustment to eliminate variation due to calendar composition.

#### December Class 1 price up 6 cents

Shine also announced a Class 1 milk price of \$15.30 per hundredweight for December 1981. This price is up six cents from the November price and is ten cents above the December 1980 Class 1 price.

Order No. 4 prices are announced for milk testing 3.5 percent butterfat t.o.b. plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia, PA and also within 75 miles from the nearer of Washington, DC or Baltimore, MD. There is also a 6-cent direct-delivery differential applicable to producer milk received at plants located within 55

miles of Philadelphia.

Shine announced a Class II milk price of \$12.60 per hundredweight for October 1981 and a butterfat differential of 17.3 cents for the month. The Class II milk price is up six cents from the previous month while the butterfat differential is up two-tenths of a cent.

These class prices are based on the October 1981 Minnesota-Wisconsin manufacturing milk price of \$12.52 per hundredweight adjusted to a 3.5 percent butterfat content.

The USDA reported that the wholesale price of Grade A butter at Chicago for October was \$1.5057 per pound and the nonfat dry milk price was \$9369 per pound, t.o.b. plants in the Chicago area.

#### NATIONAL OUTLOOK

##### Sterile milk plants are popping up

According to W.F. Johnstone, Extension Ag Economist, ultra-high temperature pasteurized milk is poised for take-off during the coming year. Starting with juice

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