

Dairy reps present policies

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tanker load and Inter-State picks up the rest of the costs.

Dairymen Inc. has a different policy. Waybright outlined that if a fieldman finds antibiotics in the milk one time in a two year period, the farmer will get \$12 per hundred weight for the dumped load. If he finds them twice in 12 months the farmer will receive \$6 per hundred. If found a third time, the farmer receives nothing.

Sumser emphasized that Lehigh Valley is very concerned about its milk quality. Both fieldmen and drivers have test kits. If a farmer is found to have antibiotics in his milk, the following policies are implemented: for the first time

within one year, the farmer is put off pickup for two days, if found a second time he is put off for four days, and if found a third time he is put off for six days and probably permanently. He stated that Lehigh presently does not levy fines for antibiotics in milk.

Transportation costs are of major concern to the co-ops with the rising cost of energy. Gill stated that Inter-State is actively involved in trying to have the legislature change existing restrictions on axle lengths for trucks. They are also exploring the possibility of mixing loads of milk with different co-ops.

Waybright stated that Dairymen works on the domino effect

wherein milk is hauled in to replace that which is taken out thus resulting in shorter hauling distances.

Sumser emphasized that Lehigh now has independent haulers. Their hauling charges are based on a sliding scale between the haulers and the farmers. He stated that 100 percent of the milk goes to their own plants so producers do not have to pay to have surplus milk hauled away. He also stated that in some areas Lehigh has no stop charges at all.

The question of surplus milk in the face of the upcoming spring flush provided for several comments and questions for the panel members. Gill reminded the group that the surplus problem is a national problem. She and Waybright expressed

discouragement toward herd expansion while Sumser stated that Lehigh Valley needs more milk. He said that Lehigh will need at least 200 more producers by July 1, 1982 and possibility that many more by the end of the year.

Gill pointed out that Inter-State has the contracts necessary to guarantee a market for its 3,200 members. Still, surplus will have to be marketed at a loss and thus is passed on to producers.

Waybright agreed that Dairymen also expects a spring surplus problem. He predicted a

greater spread between base price and excess price.

Lehigh, who is looking for milk, will take in 100 million more pounds of milk from its members in 1982 than it did last year according to Sumser. He outlined Lehigh's payment program which includes a 10 cent month quality bonus, a two cent premium on base and excess, plus a 30 cent fall production bonus. Sumser also came out strongly for brand-naming advertising while the others spoke out for generic advertising.

Southeast Production Credit plans annual meetings

LANCASTER — The Annual Joint Stockholders' meeting of the Southeast Production Credit Association and Southeast Federal Land Bank Association will be held on two days, March 8 and 9.

The program, the same on both days, will feature election of directors and the 1983 nominating

committee.

Tuesday's meeting will be held at the Oxford Fire Hall in Chester County and Wednesday's meeting will be at the Christopher Dock Mennonite High School in Kulpville of Montgomery County.

Both meetings are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

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