# U.S. senators urge Block to strengthen farm prices

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator Jesse Helms and four other senators met last Thursday with Agriculture Secretary John Block to urge him to take immediate actions to help improve farm prices and to offer their assistance in developing other measures to address current agricultural problems.

The suggestions to Block were made at the instigation of Senator Howard Baker, Senate majority leader; Helms, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Senator Pete V. Domenici, chairman of the Senate Budget Committee; Senator Bob Dole, ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee and chairman of the Senate Finance Committee; and Senator Thad Cochran, chairman of the Agricultural Appropriations Subcommuttee.

The Senators commended Block for the actions he has already taken under the 1961 Farm Bill which are helping farmers overcome low prices and unacceptably low net farm income levels.

- The Senators encouraged Block to take further actions which would complement the initiatives already in place.

Helms said, "We are very encouraged with the response that farmers have already given to Secretary Block's farm program, particularly the very high level of participation in the reduced acreage program for grains, cotton, and rice. However, more needs to be done if farmers and ranchers are to get through these unusually difficult times.'

In an hour-long meeting with Block, the senators discussed a wide range of issues. The requests for action included:

-Block should announce 1983 commodity programs at the earliest possible date, but no later than July 31, 1962, for winter crops and Oct. 31, 1962, for spring crops. Early announcement of program

details will allow farmers maximum flexibility in planning for the next crop year, the Senator said.

-Additional on-farm storage is needed to accomodate the 1982 production and avoid forced selling and dumping of grain, which would further depress prices and increase government costs. They recommended that the secretary use his existing authority to implement the farm storage facility loan program as soon as possible.

The senators further stated that they want to work with Block with bi-partisan support in developing "other measures that address the underlying problem of weak demand and excess supply "

'Further initiatives on which we

wish to work with you are designed to strengthen farm prices and will ultimately result in reduced government deficiency payments, thus providing savings to the taxpayer," the senators emphasized

Heims said, "We have taken the initiative today to tie up some of the loose ends and to 'finetune' some of the programs and authorities USDA has to help strengthen farm income We shall continue to watch the situation carefully We are sensitive to just how difficult a time many farmers and ranchers are having, and we want to make sure that the Congress is in a position to do what it can in a fiscally responsible manner, of course.'

# Utah's Sen. Hatch wins Ag Committee seat

Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, has announced that Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah has been appointed to the Senate Agriculture Committee

Helms explained that Hatch was named a member of the Agriculture Committee due to an increase in the Senate Republican Majority. With the appointment of Senator Nicholas Brady of New Jersey, several Senate committees gained new members.

Helms said, "Orrin Hatch is one of the outstanding members of the U.S. Senate. We have worked closely on a number of important issues over the years. I look forward to continuing that

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator relationship into the areas of farming, ranching and agriculture. He is welcomed to our committee and will be an effective addition to it '

> Helms added that Hatch will be appointed to subcommittees of the Agriculture Committee later

'I'm extremely pleased to have been appointed to the Agriculture Committee," said Hatch. "No Utah member of Congress has ever served on that committee, and although I have supported Utah farmers and ranchers through my votes, this is a way to deal with legislation from the very beginning.'

Hatch is chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. He is also a member of

# Guernsey winner

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Lily's two sons have sold well at the auction block in 1980 and 1981, with one the highest-selling Guernsey bull in the nation last year She also has a maternal brother with a predicted difference for milk of over 1,000 pounds.

Alisa Marie Fava of Scenery Hill, Washington Co., was named the Outstanding Guernsey Youth in the United States at the Youth Banquet during the Convention. In making the presentation to Fava, National Youth Committee Chairman Janet Harding of Brookville, Pennsylvania commented that this award is given in recognition of outstanding leadership and well-rounded experience in the dairy industry

A junior in Dairy Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Fava is the owner of 36 registered Guernseys in her home herd of Co-Hill Farms. In her dairy career thus far, she has been named the Pennsylvania Guernsey Queen, served as president of the Pennsylvania Junior Guernsey Breeders' Association and judged in the national 4-H Contest.

An integral part of the home dairy farm, this 20-year-old has been responsible for calf feeding, milking and the nutritional needs of the milking string. She also handles the selection and preparation of the family show string which regularly travels to the Maryland State Fair, Pennsylvania All-American and the National Guernsey Show in Louisville, Kentucky

In her response to the award presentation Fava said. "I truly believe in the spirit of competition. And, I believe that this spirit lives in the Guernsey cow...To be a success you have to be able to

the Budget, Judiciary, and Small Business committees. The Utah senator serves as a member of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, as a member of the governing board of the Office of Technology Assessment, and as a U.S. delegate to the International Labor Organization.

produce a quality product in an efficient manner...The future of the breed lies with the youth, and is also a reflection of the past '

Another Pennsylvanian recognized during the week's festivities was Guernsey Breeders' **Association Business Manager Lee** Yost Prior to the National Heifer Sale, he was the special guest at a birthday party buffet in his honor.

Connie Shick of Brookville. Jefferson Co., represented the Keystone State as its nominee in the National Guernsey Queen Contest. During the state costume portion of the national contest, she dressed as George Washington and gave conventiongoers background on her home state's history and highlights The nominee from America's Dairyland, Linda Basse of Muskego, Wisconsin, was named the 1982 National Guernsey Queen.

New directors elected to the national board during the convention included W Lee Moore, Jr of Plano, Texas; Tom Konecky of Wahoo, Nebraska; Daniel Brubaker of Harrisonburg Virginia; and Walter Frahm of Frankenmuth, Michigan. Reelected as president of The American Guernsey Cattle Club was Russell Wirt of Lewiston. Minnesota. The new first vice president is Myron Erdman of Chenoa, Illinois with Jack Dendel of Allegan, Michigan serving as second vice president.

In the Dogwood Classic Sale, Shenmont Telestar Dixie was the high selling animal at \$4,500 for consignor D. Lynn Brubaker of Dayton, Virginia. Her new owner is Leroy Lindley of Hamilton, Ohio. Thirty head entered in this sale averaged \$1,548.33.

Marvin Q. and Mary E. Sanner, along with David B. and Mervin K. Myers, all of Littlestown, Pennsylvania were successful bidder on the top-selling animal in the National Guernsey Heifer Sale. They purchased Clearbranch Jeans Amelia from H.J. and H.J., Jr. Haga of Fort Valley, Georgia for \$4,400. In this sale 34 head averaged \$1,370.58.



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