

MILK MARKET NEWS

Federal Order 4

September base jumps 15 cents
Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine announced a September 1982 base milk price of \$13.87 per hundredweight and an excess milk price of \$12.40.

The weighted average September price was \$13.89 and the butterfat differential for the month was 17.1 cents. The base milk price was up 15 cents from August but was 12 cents below last September. The advertising withholding rate, which is deducted from the base and excess milk prices but not the weighted average price, was 14 cents a hundredweight in September 1982 compared with 13 cents last year.

A total of \$678.9 thousand was withheld for advertising in September. The gross value of producer milk during September was \$67.1 million, compared with \$65.6 million a year earlier.

Shine said producer milk receipts totaled 484.9 million pounds during September, an increase of 13.7 million pounds or almost three percent from a year earlier. A total of 7,094 producers were shipping to Order 4 pool handlers in September, a drop of 151 from a year ago.

The average daily delivery per producer was 2,278 pounds during the month, an increase of 110 pounds or 5.1 percent from last September. Class I producer milk totaled 238.7 million pounds and was up over one million pounds from a year ago. The Class I utilization percentage was 49.23 in September, down slightly from a

year ago but up seasonally by over 5 points from August.

Base milk accounted for 92.02 percent of total producer milk receipts. The average butterfat test of producer milk during September was 3.53 percent compared with 3.47 percent in August and 3.57 last September.

Middle Atlantic Order pool handlers reported Class I in-area milk sales of 201.0 million pounds during September, a decline of 1.8 million pounds or 0.9 percent from a year ago, after adjustment to eliminate variation due to calendar composition.

Federal Order 2

September milk nets \$13.74

Dairy farmers who supplied milk plants regulated under the New York-New Jersey marketing orders during September will be paid on the basis of a uniform price of \$13.74 per hundredweight (29.5 cents per quart).

Market Administrator Thomas A. Wilson stated that the price was \$13.59 in August 1982 and \$13.83 in September 1981.

The seasonal incentive fund returned a total of \$3,879,204.16, or \$.447 per hundredweight, to the dairy farmers' uniform price for September. This fund was generated by reducing the uniform price during the high-production spring months.

A total of 17,479 dairy farmers supplied the New York-New Jersey Milk Marketing Area with

867,061,065 pounds of milk during September 1982. This was an increase of 1.3 percent (about 11 million pounds) from last year. The gross value to dairy farmers for milk deliveries was \$120,352,631.83. This included differentials required to be paid to dairy farmers but not voluntary premiums or deductions authorized by the farmer.

Regulated milk dealers used 376,232,154 pounds of milk for Class

I, 43.4 percent of the total. This milk is used for fluid milk products such as homogenized, flavored, low test and skim milks. For September 1982, handlers paid \$14.67 per hundredweight (31.5 cents per quart) for Class I milk compared with \$14.78 a year ago.

The balance, 56.6 percent, was used to manufacture Class II products including butter, cheese, ice cream and yogurt. Handlers

paid \$12.52 for this milk.

The uniform price is based on milk containing 3.5 percent butterfat. For September 1982, a differential of 17.1 cents was applied to the price for each one-tenth of one percent that the milk tested above or below the 3.5 percent standard.

All prices quoted are for bulk tank milk received within the 201-210 mile zone from New York City.

Toxic gases in manure pits dangerous

NEWARK, DEL. — Gases in liquid manure storage pits can be dangerous for animals and people. Gases can be present in above-ground, below-ground or open pits, although most accidents occur in below-ground storage facilities.

The most dangerous time is when the liquid manure is being agitated before or during pumping. This motion releases the gases.

The four gases primarily generated in manure storage pits are hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, ammonia and methane, says Ron Jester, University of Delaware Extension safety specialist. Hydrogen sulfide may be the most dangerous, and is often directly responsible for fatalities.

There is no reliable way to determine the amount of hydrogen sulfide gas present except with a specially designed meter. A low

concentration produces an odor similar to rotten eggs. But concentrations above 200 parts per million cannot be detected by odor because the sense of smell is deadened by the gas. Hydrogen sulfide at 500 to 1,000 ppm causes dizziness, nausea, respiratory paralysis and unconsciousness.

A concentration higher than 1,000 ppm causes immediate unconsciousness and death. Lethal concentrations of 1,000 ppm or higher are possible during vigorous agitation.

The specialist says a farmer should enter a pit only when wearing a self-contained breathing apparatus. A gas mask and respirator are not adequate because of the potentially high levels of toxic gases.

Another precaution is a "lifeline." The person entering the pit

wears a harness connected to a rope being held by at least two people outside the pit. These people should be strong enough to pull him out if he becomes incapacitated by the gases.

If someone is overcome by manure gases, Jester says to get him to open air immediately and if the victim is not breathing, apply pulmonary resuscitation.

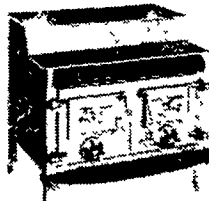
He said self-contained breathing apparatuses are expensive and require training for proper use and maintenance. A group of farmers could buy such equipment jointly so individual costs would be reduced. It is also possible to rent the equipment from safety equipment firms.

When possible, animals housed above an open pit should be removed before agitation. If this can't be done, all ventilation fans should be set on maximum.



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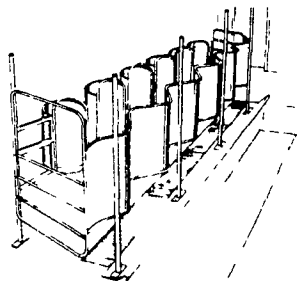
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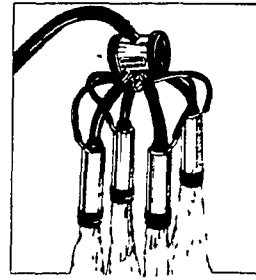
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