

Pa. conservation

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Satellites will update conservation agencies knowledge of the state of America's farmlands, probably within 5 to 10 years. Orbiting equipment will relay information on the state of the land from millions of points, with local staffers only needing to make spot surveys as a check of the system.

New equipment makes fertilizer placing more exact and efficient, enabling farmers to avoid unnecessary cost, nutrient waste, and the pollution problems created by runoff into watersheds.

Pennsylvania's directors and conservation staffers were especially interested in Myer's opinion that implementation of the Mason-Dixon target area program is not "moving as fast" as it should.

The Mason-Dixon area includes 14 Pennsylvania counties in the Susquehanna River-Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Long-term studies of Bay pollution, affecting aquatic life and related seafood industries, point to nutrient and soil runoff from watershed farmland as a key source of imbalances in the estuary. Up to 65 percent of the Mason-Dixon farmland is reported experiencing excessive erosion problems.

Myers assured the conservationists that no "politics" are involved in target area selection. Designations are based on the criteria of need and resources available. Assistance from the agencies is expected to come in the form of additional staffers and increased funding.

Farmland protection continues to be a controversial subject, says the soil service chief, and federal goals are broader-based than strictly conservation. A dozen agencies with 40 assorted programs are responsible for policy implementation, under the leadership of USDA's Soil Conservation offices.

Most policy making, says Myers, must remain at a local level, where land use, water use and quality and land development issues originate.

"Conservation groups in the West are filing lawsuits against land protection measures," added Myers, predicting an upcoming legal fight over the issue.

During the brief press conference following his keynote address, Myers told reporters he hopes conservation methods implementation will remain voluntary, but foresees mandatory measures as a future possibility. Farmers will increasingly face public pressure on the "whose land is it" issue.

Although he admits enjoying turning ground with a plow, the farmer of 1100 acres in Missouri's "Bootheel" section is an avid promoter of no-tillage, and outspoken in urging plowmen to park their moldboards for other tillage methods.

The two full days of speakers and sessions included an address Tuesday by, Nicholas De Benedictis, secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

An awards program Tuesday evening honored conservation winners across the state, and Wednesday's wrap-up was a host tour to P.P. & L's Brunner Island electricity generating plant, which utilizes waste hot water to raise catfish and heat greenhouses.

Award winners included:

ORDER NO. 4 BASE MILK PRICE \$13.85 FOR AUGUST
ALEXANDRIA, VA. — Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine on September 9 announced an August 1983 base milk price of \$13.85 per hundredweight and an excess milk price of \$12.46. The weighted average August price is \$13.87 and

Conservation Organization of the Year — Jr. Woman's Club of Birdsboro.

Conservationists of the Year — George B. Wolff, Lebanon County; and Betty J. Geer, Elk County.

Conservation Educator of the Year — Lorraine Kinder, Northumberland County.

Conservation Farmer of the Year — Donald G. Cotner, Northumberland County.

Watershed of the Year — Middle Creek Watershed, Snyder County.

Maurice K. Goddard Forestry Award — Henry Chauncey Tree Farm, Bradford County.

County Commissioner of the Year — W. Donald Templeton, Cambria County.

Special recognition was paid to Robert Williams, Editor, Pennsylvania Farmer; and Seymour Fowler, Penn State.

the butterfat differential for the month is 17.0 cents. The base milk price is up 11 cents from July and is 13 cents higher than last August's price.

The advertising withholding rate, which is deducted from the base and excess milk prices but not the weighted average price is 14 cents a hundredweight. The gross value of August producer milk was \$71.0 million, compared to \$69.3 million last year. A total of \$717.8 thousand was deducted for advertising in August, up from \$707.5 thousand last year.

Mr. Shine said that producer milk receipts totaled 512.7 million pounds during August, an increase of 7.4 million pounds or 1.5 percent from a year earlier. The average daily delivery per producer was 2,365 pounds, up 91 pounds or 4.0 percent from the August 1982

average. Class 1 producer milk totaled 239.1 million pounds and was up 16.6 million pounds from a year ago. Class 1 producer milk accounted for 46.63 percent of total producer milk receipts during the month, up significantly from 44.03 percent last August. Base milk accounted for 91.95 percent of total producer milk receipts in August compared to 91.57 percent a year ago. The market average butterfat test of producer milk was 3.46 percent in August 1983 and 3.47 percent a year ago.

Middle Atlantic Order pool handlers reported Class 1 in-area milk sales of 197.1 million pounds during August, an increase of 3.04 percent over a year earlier, after adjustment to eliminate variation due to calendar composition

MILK MARKET NEWS



"We tried Hardy Brand corn..."



"It would be hard to beat in yield."

**Ken Hess
Hess & Sons
Bangor, PA**

"We have about 400 acres in corn, all Hardy, because it doesn't pay to be using different brands. Back when we were deciding who to go with, my son ran tests, with Hardy on one side and Pioneer on the other. He said that Hardy did a little better, and so that's what we ordered.

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"...exceptionally good tonnage."

**Bud Holmes
Pen Mar Farms
Hanover, PA**

"The 802X has been a real good silage corn for us. We've gotten 21½ tons to the acre, and it's good quality, with a lot of grain to it.

I've had 301XS and it did real good—terrific ear, and it yielded good too. And the 403XS looks terrific right now.

This year I tried another brand, and I'm not going back to it, cause it's the only place where I've got this 'up and down' corn. I'm staying with Hardy corn."



"It's clean-husking and stands nice."

**Paul Musser
Musser Farms
Manchester, PA**

"The Hardy 301XS has come up real nice, stood real good in the Fall, and picked clean. The size of the ears was good and some other brands picked a lot harder—that's one reason I like Hardy corn.

This year I've got some 270XS, and I don't think it could be any more perfect. It's taking the dry weather real good. And the 403XS performed well. It really threw the ears in the wagon. The bin filled up, and that's what you're looking for."

...and we like it!"

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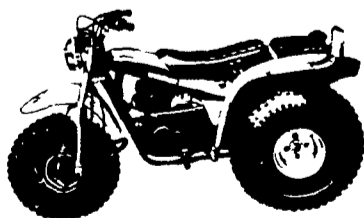
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