Richlawn Farm sweeps York DHIA honors

BY JOYCE BUPP Staff Correspondent

YORK — Smyser's Richlawn Farm made nearly a clean sweep of top awards during York County's annual DHIA banquet last week at the Holiday Inn.

With 68 head of registered Holsteins averaging 21,485 milk and 792 fat, the family dairy operation topped the county's DHIA listing for October, 1962, through September, 1963. With a total of 690 pounds of protein, the herd also edged out all other county herds on protein production. Two individuals in the herd earned the Smysers plaques for high 305-day milk and fat lactations.

Richlawn Pritt Capsule Tara, completed a seven-year 305-day record with 33,278 milk and 1104 fat, testing at 3.3 percent.

Her herdmate, Richlawn Apollo Posch Alice, took honors in the fat division, with a six-year lactation of 26,620 milk, 1207 fat, testing at 4.5 percent fat.

Richlawn Farms, East Berlin Road, York, is operated by Richard and Marie Smyser and their sons, Robert and Rodney. Raised on the farm where the family maintains their outstanding herd of producers, Richard began milking cows in 1947. Robert and Rodney comprise the fifth generation of Smysers to dairy at the century farm.

An award for high lifetime milk and fat went to a long-time herd favorite of Philip Laughman, Thomasville R1.

Harbros Rag Apple Baron Fanny, during her 13th lactation and over 21 years old, finished with lifetime production totals of 239,880



The Smyser family's Richlawn Farm won a bevy of top honors during the York DHIA awards presentations. Among their accomplishments are high bred for milk, fat and protein, and high 305-day lactations for both milk and fat. From left to right are Joyce, Rodney, Marie, Richard and Robert Smyser.

milk and 10,077 fat.

Stump Acres, York R6, won recognition as the most improved herd in butterfat in the over-550pounds category. The 90-cow herd of Joe and Glendora Stump jumped 113 pounds of fat during the DHIA 1982-83 year, finishing with 773 pounds of fat and a milk average of 19,905.

Logging a 116-pound fat jump from the previous year was the 43head herd of Lonnie and Nina Robinson, Airville R1. The Robinson's herd finished the year with 527 fat, earning them a plaque for the largest herd increase in the 400-500 fat range.

Awards of merit were received by three of the county's testers. Marianne Walter, Jeff Grove and David Miller earned their certificates of recognition for efficiency and correctness in handling their testing duties.

During the business session, three new directors were elected to seats on the county DHIA board. Chosen to fill the three-year terms were Troy Zirkle, Manchester R2, Edwin Calhoun, Glen Rock R2, and Dale Doll, Glen Rock R1.

Martin Grey, president of the county DHIA organization, in his report to members, advised that a testing fee increase may be necessary in the next year to cover higher fixed costs encountered in operating the program.

A slowed cash flow situation, due to lagging payment by some members, has also created some bookkeeping problems for the association, and could result in tighter fiscal policies on testing fee payments.

Awards and ribbons were sponsored by several York area agri-businesses. Supporters included Spangler and Sprenkle, Agway, Farm Credit, W. L. Mummert, Carnation Milling, Service Feed and Supply, Pennfield Corporation, Beacon Milling Ashecombe Dairy and the Pennsylvania DHIA.



Phil Laughman, left, was owner of the high lifetime lactation cow for York DHIA in 1983. Lonnie Robinson, center, increased his herd fat production a total of 116 pounds, and Joe Stump accomplished a 113-pound fat increase.

