

MILK MARKET NEWS

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine announced April 5, a Class I milk price of \$14.86 per hundredweight for May 1984. This price is up two cents from April but is 45 cents below last May's Class I price.

Order No. 4 prices are announced for milk testing 3.5 percent butterfat f.o.b. plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia and also within 75 miles from the nearer of Washington, DC or Baltimore, MD. There is also a 6-cent direct-delivery differential applicable to producer milk received at plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia.

Shine announced a Class II milk price of \$12.05 per hundredweight for March 1984 and a butterfat differential of 16.3 cents for the month. The Class II price dropped five cents from February while the butterfat differential increased one-tenth of a cent.

The May Class I price and the March Class II price are based on the March 1984 Minnesota-Wisconsin manufacturing milk price of \$12.08 per hundredweight at a 3.5 percent butterfat content.

The USDA reported that the wholesale price of Grade A butter at Chicago for March was \$1.4211 per pound and the nonfat dry milk price was \$.9104 per pound, f.o.b. plants in the Chicago area.

Announcement Of Minimum Class Prices

Hundredweight Price for 3.5% Milk, f.o.b. Plant Location within 55 miles of Philadelphia, PA and also within 75 miles from the nearer of Washington, DC or Baltimore, MD

CLASS I MILK	MARCH 1984	APRIL 1984	MAY 1984
Basic Formula Price (Sec. 1004.51)	\$12.05	\$12.06	\$12.08
Plus	2.78	2.78	2.78
Class I Price	\$14.83*	\$14.84*	\$14.86*
CLASS II MILK			
Basic Formula Price (Sec. 1004.51)	\$12.08		
Adjustment for March (Sec. 1004.50 (b))	-.03		
Class II Price	\$12.05*		
Butterfat Differential to Producers	\$.163		

Price Quotations For March 1984

Basic Formula Price for March (Sec. 1004.51) \$12.08
 Average price per hundredweight for manufacturing grade milk f.o.b. plants in Minnesota and Wisconsin for March

Butterfat Content 3.73%.....\$12.47
 Butterfat Content 3.5 %\$12.08

Average price per pound for Grade A (92 Score) bulk creamery butter wholesale at Chicago for March \$ 1.4211

* Price does not include 6-cent direct-delivery differential pursuant to Sec. 1004.79

Check cornfields for slugs

NEWARK, Del. — Now is the time to check cornfields for slugs. By doing this before planting, says University of Delaware extension pest management specialist Joanne Whalen, farmers can select the production practices most likely to reduce potential damage in vulnerable plantings.

Start by checking fields that experienced slug damage last spring, as well as those with heavy cornstalk or weed residues. Whalen also recommends checking PIK acres having a heavy cover. Slugs generally overwinter as eggs; however, immature and mature forms can also survive. Slug eggs are translucent to opaque and slightly smaller than a fertilizer pellet. Look for them on the soil surface under heavy plant residues. Check for young slugs on the soil surface, attached to crop residues or in the top few inches of soil.

"The potential for slug damage this season will depend largely on spring planting conditions," the specialist says. "Last year's mild winter and cool wet spring were extremely favorable to slug development. As a result, in 1983 many mature and immature slugs as well as eggs could be found in cornfields throughout the winter. This year's overwintering population appears to be lower."

Fields surveyed in February and early March contained fewer eggs and only a few immature slugs. These low populations may be a result of the deep freezes experienced this past winter. If spring conditions are "more normal," Whalen says the potential for slug damage may be reduced this season.

Actively growing corn as well as corn more than 6 inches tall is less

susceptible to yield reduction from slug damage. However, it is still important to check fields now to determine the potential for economic damage and decide on the best control strategy where infestations are found.

In cornfields with large slug populations, the best option is rotation to soybeans. This will help break the slug cycle. Also, soil surfaces are usually drier by the time soybeans go in.

Where continuous corn is planted, Whalen advises moldboard plowing, chisel plowing or disking to bury plant debris which otherwise can shelter slugs during the day. "Be sure to consider the effect of these tillage practices on

soil erosion problems," she cautions. "If tillage isn't an option, it's important to spread out piles of heavy residues by chopping or mowing." Since slugs require a humid environment to survive, these practices will help dry out the soil surface, making conditions less hospitable for them.

Insecticide treatments for slugs will only be cost-effective for spotty infestations, the specialist says. Currently, Sevin 5% bait is the only material labeled for slug control on field corn. Other materials may be available as 24C registrations this spring. For information on these, farmers should contact a county extension agent in Newark, Dover or Georgetown.

Penn State Dairy Science Club to fall Holstein sale

UNIVERSITY PARK — The Nittany Lion Fall Classic, the newest activity of the Penn State Dairy Science Club, will debut Nov. 2. This Classic will be a consignment sale featuring registered Holstein cows, heifers and calves.

The Fall Classic will be the first major sale in the new Ag Arena on the Penn State Campus. The sale will be co-managed with the Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA). It will provide club members with valuable experience and knowledge in merchandising and running a consignment sale and will involve students with purebred dairy cattle breeders.

Committees have been established to work in areas of

selections, advertising and promotion, pedigrees and catalogs, food, finance, and arena and animal preparation. The committees are overseen by sale chairman Mark Wolfskill, a 6th semester dairy production major from Robesonia.

Selections are currently being made for the event. According to Wolfskill, animals are being selected by club members who are following guidelines set up jointly by the club and PHA.

Dairymen who have a top quality cow, heifer, or calf that they wish to consign, are asked to contact the Penn State Dairy Science Club at 814-863-4205, 212 Borland Lab, University Park, PA or the PHA at 814-234-0364, 839 Benner Pike, State College, PA.

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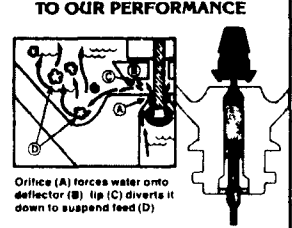
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