

Now is the Time

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weekly intervals, or as needed, to control ticks.

To Test To Determine If Liquid Pesticides Stored Over Winter Are OK To Use

The shelf life of most pesticides, when stored in their original containers, is usually several years. The greatest problem with stored pesticides comes from freezing temperatures. Cold temperatures may cause a breakdown of the emulsifiers in liquid materials. These materials may not mix properly when added to the spray water.

To determine if the pesticide will still mix properly with water, follow this easy procedure: (1) place 1/2 pint of water in a small container, (2) add 1/2 to 1 teaspoon of the pesticide, (3) shake or stir thoroughly (you should get a milky mixture), (4) let stand for about one hour. The spray mix should remain an even milky mixture. If an oily scum or layer forms on top, or if a layer of curds appear on top, don't use the material.

To Check Water Supplies

Water is one of our most important resources, but it should be checked periodically. Many families depend on wells for their water supply. But they pay little attention to the water unless the pump fails or the well runs dry. Your water should be tested periodically to determine its quality.

It is important to test water following any reconstruction or addition to the water supply or its distribution system. Then the system should be checked once a year for continued safety. Water supplies should be checked whenever a disease occurs that may have been caused by unsafe drinking water. If water changes in taste, odor or appearance for no reason, it should be tested.

There are many tests and analyses that can be used. Two of the most important are for nitrates and bacteria.

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OUR READERS WRITE, AND OTHER OPINIONS

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mismanagement of the firm.

Those proposals would have farmers sell their milk to Scheps under the disguise of "new management" when actually it's nothing but a shuffling of the old management. It's wrong to ask farmers to participate in such a proposal. This same management has cost creditors millions of dollars in unpaid bills and has admitted falsification of records.

The former management is now in court justifying its actions to federal prosecutors, because of the allegedly false information they provided previous lenders.

False hope is the cruelest part of this type of proposal, offering farmers a so-called solution, when in reality it places the farmer's financial future in grave jeopardy. These proposals for reorganization lack the financial resources to be successful.

These reorganization plans offer nothing but "pie-in-the-sky" schemes for repayment of monies due farmers, and seem to minimize the extremely high risk placed on all creditors, especially farmers. Any financial recovery plan should be based on realities, not foolish dreams.

We will oppose any reorganization plan that misleads dairy farmers in to more crippling financial situations. We will and must oppose any plan that asks the dairy farmer to take unrealistic risks, including the use of the management team that created the present financial crisis.

As we look to the future, we must learn from our mistakes. We must continue to pursue a legislative solution in Harrisburg and Washington to provide adequate protection for monies owed to dairy farmers in a bankruptcy procedure. Federal bankruptcy laws need to be as fair to farmer creditors as they are to parties filing the bankruptcy. Strong support should be offered by all of us in funding the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board activities to monitor the financial status of milk dealers.

As farm leaders we must

diligently evaluate the needs, the financial resources and management of any new dairy plants before giving blanket endorsement to such operations.

The road to economic recovery for these farmers is going to be long and discouraging at best. Let's not place added hardships on their backs with reorganization plans doomed to failure before they start.

Sincerely,
Keith W. Eckel
President
Pennsylvania Farmers Assn.

Zimmerman's Market plans Field Day

LEWISBURG — Zimmerman Farms Market, R3 Mifflinburg, will sponsor a Field Day on June 11 at its Lewisburg market to demonstrate the use of drip irrigation systems and to answer questions pertaining to the growing of small fruits and vegetables.

Zimmerman's Market, which specializes in strawberries, is holding the Field Day which begins at 1 p.m. in response to an interest shown in growing produce, according to owner Paul Zimmerman. The main topics will include the use of a drip irrigation system, growing produce under plastic, fertilizing practices and general information on horticulture practices.

Snyder County extension agent Jeff Mizer will speak on water quality for trickle irrigation systems. He will also present information on growing berries and vegetables. Penn State Extension horticulture specialist Peter Ferretti will speak on general fertilizer practices. He will also demonstrate how to use the drip irrigation system as a mode to apply fertilizers.

Zimmerman's Market, located in Union County, grows 12 acres of strawberries in addition to other produce. About 12 acres of land utilizes the drip irrigation system,

Milk promotion signups top 500

HARRISBURG — Signups by dairymen in Pennsylvania's new Milk Promotion and Marketing Program have topped 500.

Total signups stood at 514 from the first five days of mail receipts of authorized forms, the PDA's Bureau of Markets reported.

While the majority of those signups include dairymen not enrolled in Federal Order promotion programs, a number of authorizations are also being received from state dairymen who are members of Federal Order programs.

Dairymen who are contributing to Federal Order programs also can authorize that 10 cents of their nationally mandated 15-cent per hundredweight deduction go to the state program.

PFA's publication, "The Voice," carried an authorization form in its May 11 issue and a number of these are being received by the Bureau of Markets in Harrisburg.

If a dairy farmer contributing to a Federal Order program authorizes the 10-cent allocation of his deduction for the state, the Market Administrator will so reimburse the state.

It was reported that a number of dairy managers have expressed support for authorization to the state among Federal Order dairymen.

In the PDA mailing, authorization forms only went to those dairymen not contributing to Federal Order programs, including juggers. This mailing totaled about 2500.

But added to that, the PFA mailing went out to some 23,000 farmer members statewide, which would have included both dairymen who contribute and do not contribute to Federal Order programs.

Md. Brown Swiss recognized

CLEAR SPRING, Md. — Two registered Brown Swiss cows, owned by Arthur Litton of Clear Spring, Md., were recently recognized by the Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association for DHIR production records.

The cows recognized were Vindobona Tinas Dora and Vindobona Dollys Connie. At three years, Dora produced 15,710 pounds of milk and 699 pounds of fat at a 4.4 percent butterfat test. Connie produced 22,250 pounds of milk and 838 pounds of fat with a 3.7 percent butterfat test at six years.

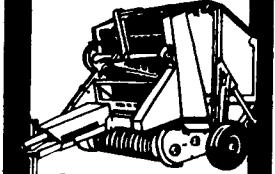
The Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association, Beloit, Wis., recognizes all cows on official DHIR test that complete 305-

day lactations on twice a day milking exceeding 550 pounds of butterfat as less than 2-year-olds; 600 pounds as 2-year-olds; 650 pounds as 3-year-olds; 700 pounds as 4-year-olds and 800 pounds at five years of age or older.

Cows milked three times a day must attain levels approximately 15 percent higher than those milked twice a day. The three times levels are 625, 685, 740, 800 and 900 for cows at less than two, two, three, four and five years or older, respectively.

The weighing and testing of the Litton herd cows on DHIR was done under the supervision of the local DHIA supervisor and the University of Maryland in cooperation with the National Brown Swiss Association.

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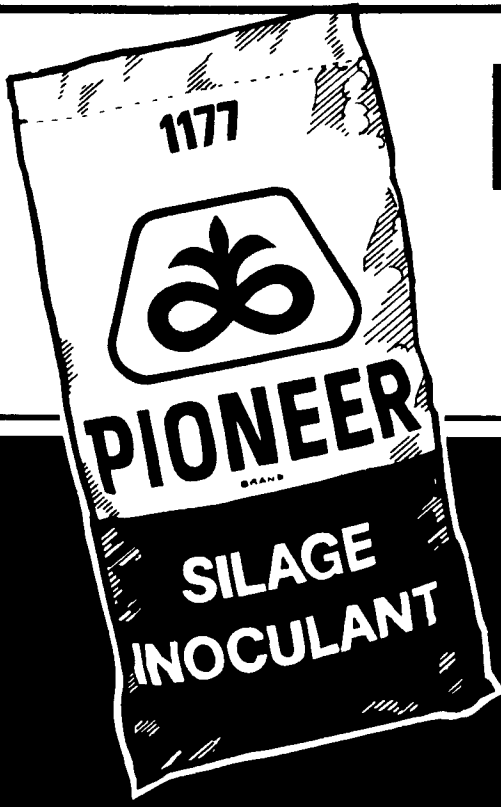
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