MAMMA qualifies as local promotion program

TOWSON, Md. - The Advertising and Promotion Agency of the Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Area (MAMMA) has been certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a qualified program under the new Dairy Research and Promotion Order, according to USDA Division Director Ed Coughlin.

Certification of MAMMA's advertising program will allow Federal Order No. 4 producers to receive a 10 cents credit against the 15 cents due to the National Dairy Research and Promotion Board for contributions to MAMMA's local program.

MAMMA was established in 1972 to increase the sale and consumption of dairy products through non-brand advertising. An 18 member board comprised of

dairymen directs the organization.
"We believe MAMMA's 'Milk. It's Fitness You Can Drink' advertising campaign is highly effective in the Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Area," said Penn-sylvania dairyman Dan Martin, chairman of MAMMA's board of directors. "Fluid milk sales in the middle Atlantic area are showing increased strength."

The most recent issue of the "Middle Atlantic Market Administrator's Report" gives evidence of this strength in milk sales. A total of 257.1 million pounds of producer milk was utilized for Class I products in March, an increase of 4.2 million pounds or 1.6 percent over last year the report stated. Class I utilization of producer milk was 49.97 percent this March compared with 47.30 a year ago.

MAMMA's advertising program is well established in the marketplace," explained board member Robert Gabel. "Market research and experience gleaned through the years has developed the MAMMA program into a sophisticated campaign that targets dairy promotion dollars to the proper medium in a cost efficient manner."

A variety of media are used in MAMMA's advertising and promotion campaign to reach and influence the consumer. These include television and radio. billboards, print media, in-store merchandising, food service and food publicity. Nutrition education conducted by Dairy Council of Philadelphia and Harrisburg is funded by MAMMA. MAMMA is also the largest financial contributor to the Pennsylvania Dairy Princess program.

Currently, MAMMA's advertising schedule is running four different television and radio commercials on local stations reaching a large target audience. Most Valuable Player (MVP) baseball personalities Mike Schmidt of the Phillies and Cal Ripken Jr. of the Orioles are pitching the "Milk. It's Fitness You Can Drink" slogan as the agency's milk spokesman. Growth posters of Schmidt and Ripken are to be given away to youngsters in two special June Dairy Month promotions at the baseball park.

On June 8 at Veteran Stadium in Philadelphia growth posters of Schmidt will be given to the first 20,000 children 14 or under who come to watch the Phillies play the Pirates in a double-header. Between the games special milk promotion activities will be performed on the baseball field. The following day a similar promotion will take place with the Orioles. where growth posters of Cal Ripken Jr. will be given away. The posters picture the ball players drinking a carton of milk and read, "DRINK YOUR MILK AND SEE HOW YOU MEASURE UP TO MIKE SCHMIDT (CAL RIPKEN)".

A June Dairy Proclamation Party is currently being planned for June 1, to kick off June Dairy Month. MAMMA is working together with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to put on this spectacular event in the capitol rotunda

in Harrisburg. Lt. Gov. William Scranton III and members of the legislature will salute Pennsylvania's dairy industry as part of the festivities.

A Foods For Fitness buffet will offer the public and media personnel a variety of delicious dairy foods. Male and female body ll perform fitness builders

demonstrations, and for the first time a cow will be milked inside the rotunda!

Year round promotion programs are conducted for in-store merchandising. MAMMA's marketing team works with convenience and grocery store managers on special dairy promotions, such as the June Dairy Month Real Seal Sweep-

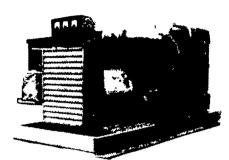
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stakes. Dairy case management seminars are given to dairy department managers and clerks to help them improve sales through improved merchandising and marketing techniques. This valuable seminar program will given to Weis Market personnel in the fall of this year.

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