

Smokey Hill sale averages \$1305 in Troy

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS
Staff Correspondent

Troy — When most cattle sales are falling short of the \$1000.00 average mark, the Smokey Hill Production Sale proved that "good cows still bring good prices."

Held on Saturday, July 14, at the Troy Fairgrounds, Troy, the 58 cows and bred heifers of the Roy Watson herd averaged \$1305.00 from buyers from New York and Pennsylvania. This major herd reduction by Roy Watson, Troy, helped him recoup from a lost milk market and enabled him to donate substantial funds to the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club.

At the direction of Watson, the sale was managed by the state organization who received a 15% sales commission from each animal. After expenses were paid, the remaining funds are to help to finance the 1985 annual meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Club

which will be hosted by the state club in Lancaster next June.

High selling animal of the day was Smokey Hill Saint Moe. This VG-86, three-year-old brought \$3000.00 on the bid from Craig and Terry Rhein, Pine Grove. "Moe" is due to freshen in late August to Mayfield Volunteer Bruce. She had to her credit over 13,000 pounds milk as a two-year-old and boasts a high testing "Quicksilver" dam and a Hall of Fame, "Generator" granddam.

Craig Rhein, president of the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club and acting sale chairman for this sale, farms with his brother, Terry, on his mother's, Meadow View Farm. With an increased demand for the high testing Jersey milk on their farm, the Rhein's bid to take nine head back to Pine Grove.

Second high selling animal

brought \$2500.00 on the bid of John D. Judson, Columbia Cross Roads. A Favorite Saint two-year-old, Smokey Hill Saint Mattie, is projected to 12,434 M, with a 5.5% test. Her dam has tests to 6.9% and is scored "excellent." Judson was the volume buyer of the sale, taking home 16 head of Smokey Hill stock.

Third high selling animal went to Craig and Terry Rhein for \$2400.00. Their purchase was a Milestones Generator out of a favorite Secret Triumph, due in January to the high PD bull of the breed, Quicksilvers Magic of Ogston.

Three more animals surpassed the \$2000.00 mark as auctioneer, Merlin Woodruff, cried the sale.

Officers and directors of the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club were pleased with the successful sale average and appreciated the generosity of Watson. They were also pleased with the participation of the junior club and the sale committee who worked with the cows the week before the sale and prepared them for the ring.

Del. to classify

Canada Thistle noxious

DOVER, Del. — The Delaware Department of Agriculture is taking steps to classify Canada Thistle as a Noxious Weed and a threat to Delaware agriculture making it illegal to allow the weed to grow in the state.

Since 1915, an outdated law has allowed the state to fine landowners \$5.00 for having Canada Thistle. That law was removed from the books last week as Governor duPont signed SB493 into law.

Since then the Delaware Department of Agriculture has opened the public comment period on placing the fast spreading weed on the Noxious Weed list. Written comments are being accepted through August 10.

The State Weed Advisory Committee will review the public comment and advise the Secretary of Agriculture of their findings. He is then empowered to designate Canada Thistle a Noxious Weed in Delaware.

Terry D. Van Horn, Noxious Weed Specialist with the State Department of Agriculture, says the farming community generally agrees that Canada Thistle is a threat to agriculture and needs to be controlled.

"Unfortunately, this weed is expensive and hard to kill and it spreads rapidly. It blooms in late June or early July forming a puffy seed head. Those seeds become airborne and the problem is spread to other areas. It also has a very tough underground root system," said Van Horn.

There are herbicides labeled to control Canada Thistle, according to Van Horn, adding the Department of Agriculture will help landowners design an eradication program.

Public comment on placing Canada Thistle on the Noxious Weed list should be directed to: Terry Van Horn, Delaware Department of Agriculture, Drawer D, Dover, DE 19903.



The high selling animal of the Smokey Hill Production sale was Smokey Hill Saint Moe purchased by Craig and Terry Rhein. Left to right are; Roy Watson, seller; Carol Dreisbach, 1984 Jersey Queen; Lori Sollenberger, at halter; Carmen, Brian and Craig Rhein, representing the buyers.

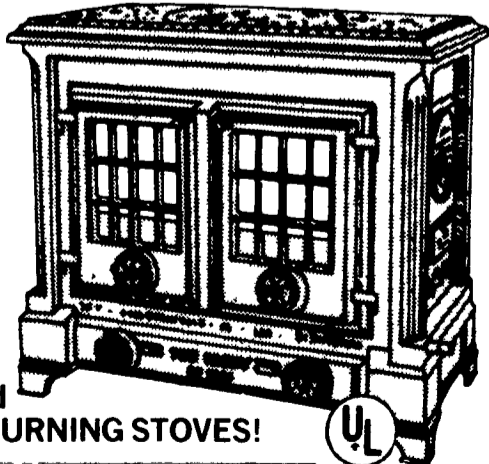


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