

'Calves with complexes' aid disaster victims

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

LEBANON — What do dairy calves and heifers off Pennsylvania farms have in common with coastal residents of North Carolina who just suffered multi-million-dollar losses from Hurricane Diana?

They have a lot in common — as was in evidence over the past weekend at the Church of the Brethren Relief Auction at the Lebanon Fairgrounds.

Proceeds from the sale — and this year's goal was \$125,000 — are used for disaster relief domestically and overseas. The latest example was the aid dispatched to North Carolina to help the hurricane victims.

Just before the start of the heifer sale on Friday, Sept. 14, two victims of the recent flood in Bedford County personally paid witness to the help given them by Brethren volunteers.

"While the National Guard had the heavy equipment, the Brethren volunteers helped with the heavy hand labor of carrying the pails of mud and debris from what was left of our homes," one of the victims explained.

"It is the kind of help that you never forget."

And the Brethren Heifer Sale is getting the reputation for developing a new kind of dairy animal — one that might be called "calves with complexes."

These animals are developing their "complexes" because their early years are being spent at least annually in a sale ring in which three or four or more buyers are purchasing them and then reselling them immediately.

In this way, participants in the Brethren heifer sale are raising the maximum amount of disaster relief funds possible from the sale of the donated cattle.

The September 14 sale started off in fine style with the purchase of a just freshened two-year-old by Mel Kolb for \$4500. Kolb was volume buyer at the sale. "Shelmar-Acres Sky High Hertha" was in the relief sale last year and was bought back by the sale committee for this year's auction.

A calf with a "real complex" might be the year-old Dongla Blend Lucille out of the Mount Joy area, Three times A.D. Matz bought her and each time turned her back into the ring for resale. Thus, she brought well over \$2,000 for relief purposes.

Another little girl that is already scheduled to return to next year's sale is a grade calf out of the herd of Cyrus and David Bomberger. She ended up with three "step-



Sale of used farm machinery launches Church of the Brethren Relief Auction at Lebanon Fairgrounds.

owners — including Messick Farm Equipment and Young's Minerals, who turned her back for resale and Wenger's Inc. of Myerstown, who bought and donated her for next year's sale.

Thus, these calves with complexes, who are bought and sold multiple times, become heifers with hearts full of hope and eventually cows with compassion

for possible disaster victims around the world.

And, in addition to the heifer sale, everything from quilts to crafts and from chicken corn soup to truck loads of hay come into play at the relief auction to lessen the load of someone who must bear the fury of fire, flood or some other type of disaster.

Milk exhibit set today

HARRISBURG — Milk and fitness are natural allies, and to emphasize this union the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program is sponsoring an exhibit at Hess's Capital City Mall store today from 12-4 p.m.

The exhibit is part of an overall fitness promotion sponsored by the department store. The dairy

exhibit boasts three county dairy princesses offering lowfat milk samples — both plain and chocolate — as well as yogurt samples.

Agriculture is the commonwealth's leading industry, with dairy products the number one component of that industry. The milk and dairy products industry contributes \$2 billion to the

state's economy.

In addition, dairy products are a primary source of dietary calcium, a nutrient needed in everyone's diet, especially women. Calcium is important both to bone health and overall health — not only during childhood and adolescence but also throughout life.



Bidding continues on heifer that's resold several times at Brethren Auction to raise funds for disaster relief.



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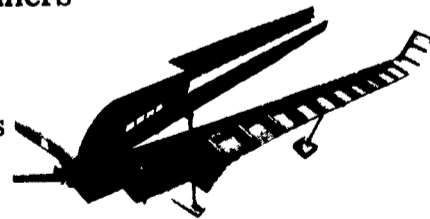


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- 1250 Gal DeLaval
- 1500 Gal Dari Kool
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