

NE farm bill unit drafts policies

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Farm organization representatives from New York, Pennsylvania, and New England have agreed to take back to their members a "Discussion Draft" listing policies and programs the Committee believes should be considered for inclusion in the upcoming 1985 Farm Bill.

During four meetings over some five months, the Farm Bill Committee, chaired by Clyde E. Rutherford, a dairy leader from Otego, N.Y. has sifted through many proposals aimed at stabilizing the agricultural economy through the soon to be written Farm Bill.

In the end, according to Rutherford, there was general agreement on five concepts "although each organization clearly has the right to support or

not support what is finally developed in the form of specific programs or legislation."

The Committee believes that the 1985 Farm Bill should include: 1) a national agricultural policy that recognizes the need for programs and policies that will maintain the variety and abundance of production that has made America strong; 2) a continuation of the Dairy Price Stabilization Program, with provisions for a new formula for adjusting the support price to reflect the costs and efficiencies of today's dairy industry; 3) an economic adjuster that, with limits, will move the support price up and down in response to the relationship of supply and demand (as reflected in the rate of CCC purchases of surplus dairy products); 4) an

extension of the present National Dairy Promotion Program, but only after a referendum of producers; 5) establishment of a standby program for dealing with a potential surplus problem before it reaches crisis proportions. This could include one or more of such things as a diversion program, a heifer control program; a production control system (base-excess, quotas, etc.) or a cull cow program.

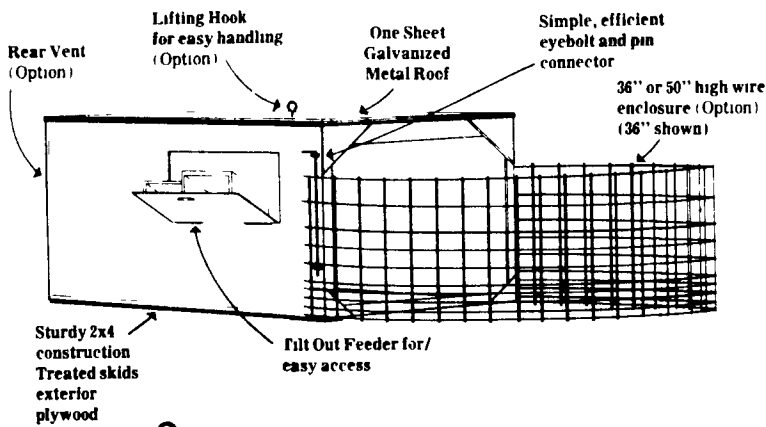
Organizations represented on the Farm Bill Committee are: Agri-Mark, Agway, Allied Federated Cooperative, Dairylea, Eastern Milk Producers, Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative, Lehigh Valley Farmers, National Farmers Organization, New York Farm Bureau, New York State

Grange, Niagara Milk Coop, NEDCO, Pennsylvania Farmer's Association, Pennsylvania State Grange, Pennsylvania Farmers Union.

"We are also very pleased to

have had participation by the Farm Credit System and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, including two sessions with Commissioner Joseph Gerace," said Rutherford.

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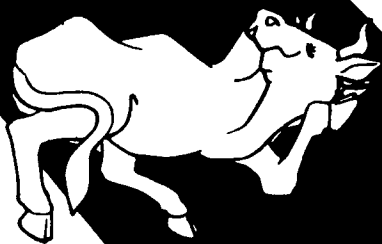
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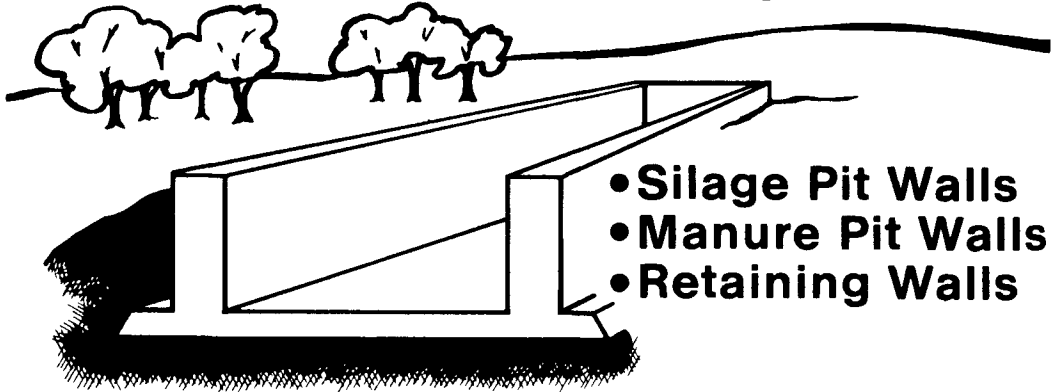
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